POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Fellow (Longitudinal Study of Low Back Pain)
Organisation Unit: School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Position Number: 3040333
Type of Employment: Full time, Fixed term appointment for 12 months
Classification: Academic Research Level B

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

The University of Queensland (UQ) contributes positively to society by engaging in the creation, preservation, transfer and application of knowledge. UQ helps shape the future by bringing together and developing leaders in their fields to inspire the next generation and to advance ideas that benefit the world. UQ strives for the personal and professional success of its students, staff and alumni. For more than a century, we have educated and worked with outstanding people to deliver knowledge leadership for a better world.

UQ ranks in the world’s top universities, as measured by several key independent ranking, including the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (52), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (65). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index and our Life Sciences subject field ranking in the Academic Ranking of World Universities was the highest in Australia at 20.

UQ has an outstanding reputation for the quality of its teachers, its educational programs and employment outcomes for its students. Our students remain at the heart of what we do. The UQ experience – the UQ Advantage – is distinguished by a research enriched curriculum, international collaborations, industry engagement and opportunities that nurture and develop future leaders. UQ has a strong focus on teaching excellence, winning more national teaching excellence awards than any other in the country and attracting the majority of Queensland’s highest academic achievers, as well as top interstate and overseas students.
UQ is one of Australia’s Group of Eight, a charter member of edX and a founding member of Universitas 21, an international consortium of leading research-intensive universities.

Our 50,000-plus strong student community includes more than 13,000 postgraduate scholars and more than 12,000 international students from 144 countries, adding to its proud 240,000-plus alumni. The University has about 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.8 billion annual operating budget. Its major campuses are at St Lucia, Gatton and Herston, in addition to teaching and research sites around Queensland and Brisbane city. The University has six Faculties and four University-level Institutes. The Institutes, funded by government and industry grants, philanthropy and commercialisation activities, have built scale and focus in research areas in neuroscience, biomolecular and biomedical sciences, sustainable minerals, bioengineering and nanotechnology, as well as social science research.

UQ has an outstanding track-record in commercialisation of our innovation with major technologies employed across the globe and integral to gross product sales of $11billion+ (see http://uniquest.com.au/our-track-record).

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

**Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences**

The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences is a strong faculty that has a coherent focus on health and well-being underpinned by a clear integrative theme related to preventive health and behaviour change. Furthermore, the Faculty provides the opportunity for the allied health sciences to have a strong voice and great visibility within the University.

The Faculty currently includes:

- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Psychology
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR)
- RECOVER Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS)
- Centre for Business and Economics of Health (CBEH)
School of Health and Behavioural Sciences

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences includes the professional disciplines of Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, and Speech Pathology. Undergraduate programs are available in Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech Pathology with graduate entry programs available in all disciplines. Students gain supervised professional experience as part of their academic program and graduates are ready for immediate entry to their profession on completion of their degree. Each of the undergraduate degree programs is of four years’ duration and includes both preclinical and clinical study offered in an integrated way. All of our programs place considerable emphasis on problem solving and diagnostic decision-making and students are guided in the processes of systematic and holistic assessment and the selection and effective implementation of management approaches. Each discipline prepares students to operate within the health, education and related systems and to contribute meaningfully to teams. There is an emphasis on interprofessional education and research in the School.

All disciplines within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences are active in research and are making significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge in their professions. The School offers Higher Degree Research programs in all disciplines. Further details about the School and its activities may be assessed on the School’s website at https://shrs.uq.edu.au/.

Information for Prospective Staff

Information about life at UQ including staff benefits, relocation and UQ campuses is available at - http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq

The University of Queensland Enterprise Agreement outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.
DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The purpose of this position is to work as a Research Fellow on a Program Grant funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia.

The role of the Research Fellow is to work with the Program Grant investigators to contribute to a range of tasks and to oversee the day-to-day conduct of the longitudinal study of low back pain within the Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Spinal Pain, Injury and Health (CCRE SPINE).

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Undertake research projects aligned with the goals of a Program Grant funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia.
- Coordinate data collection and database management for the longitudinal study of low back pain funded by the NHMRC.
- Develop and oversee data analysis and statistical analysis for longitudinal study of low back pain.
- Publish scholarly papers using data from the longitudinal study of low back pain.
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects related to the research plan of the CCRE SPINE.
- Conduct research, publish scholarly papers and disseminate research to both the scientific community and the general public and industry partners that build upon the research strengths and strategic directions of the primary Program Grant investigators.
- Supervision of honours and research higher degree students.

Other

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including:

- The University’s Code of Conduct.
- Requirements of the Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related OH&S responsibilities and procedures developed by the University or Institute/School.
• The adoption sustainable practices in all work activities and compliance with associated legislation and related University sustainability responsibilities and procedures.
• Requirements of the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000, the National Code 2007 and associated legislation, and related responsibilities and procedures developed by the University.

Organisational Relationships
The position reports to the Director of the NHMRC Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Spinal Pain, Injury and Health (CCRE SPINE), Professor Paul Hodges.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential
• The candidate must possess a Doctoral Degree in a Health Discipline (e.g. physiotherapy) or be nearing completion of a PhD.
• The research experience of the applicant should be in the field of musculoskeletal pain/injury/health.
• Demonstrated understanding of pain and pain processing, immune system function, and human motor control principles.
• Evidence of major contribution to research in the field of musculoskeletal pain, including publications in peer reviewed journals.
• Experience with management of large data sets.
• Experience with a range of statistical methods for dealing with large complex data sets including logistic regression, cluster analysis methods.
• Experience with collection and analysis of data from a range of methods including electromyography, movement analysis, cytokine analysis, and pain measures.
• Advanced organisational and administrative skills.
• Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.

Desirable
• Experience in computer programming using platforms such as Matlab.
• Evidence of capacity to work with human research participants.
• Strong analytical and/or statistical skills.
Qualification Verification

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion and actively encourages applications from those who bring diversity to the University. Please refer to the University’s Diversity and Inclusion webpage (http://www.uq.edu.au/equity) for further information and points of contact if you require additional support.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to Lloyd Swift, HR Advisor, Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences on habs-hr-advisory@uq.edu.au.