POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow/Research Fellow, Structural Biology

Organisation Unit: School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences

Position Number: TBA

Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term for 2 years

Classification: Research Academic Level A or 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 CWTS Leiden Ranking (32), the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (42), QS World University Rankings (48), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (69). Excluding the award component, UQ is now ranked 45th in the world in the ARWU, and is one of the only two Australian universities to be included in the global top 50.

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 52,000-plus strong student community includes more than 16,400 postgraduate scholars and more than 15,400 international students from 135 countries, adding to its proud 250,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 6,600 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and a $1.75 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://uniqest.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.

Organisational Environment

The Faculty of Science is recognised as a powerhouse for some of the world's leading scientists, teachers, science programs and commercial outcomes. The Faculty is one of the largest Science groupings in Australia, with approximately 1100 (equivalent full-time) staff, and about 7500 (equivalent full-time) students.

Throughout its Schools and Centres, the Faculty unites the disciplines of agriculture and animals, biomedical and biological sciences, chemistry, earth sciences, food sciences, geography, marine science, maths and physics, the environment and veterinary science.

With strong links between the enabling and applied sciences, UQ researchers and graduates are working on a wide range of groundbreaking projects from the molecular characterisation of drug resistant bacteria that affect piglets through to finding better treatments for illness and rehabilitation of the environment.

Information about the Faculty may be accessed on the Faculty's web site: http://www.science.uq.edu.au/

School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences

The School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences (SCMB) combines the disciplines of Chemistry, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Parasitology into a single academic unit. The School has modern research laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment and research infrastructure. The School includes over 50 academic staff, who are widely published internationally and have extensive research backgrounds. Information about the School and research interests of academic staff may be found on the web site http://www.scmb.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 main area of study will involve the characterization of three-dimensional structures of protein complexes involved in innate immunity pathways in plants, in a collaborative Australian Research Council-funded project. The primary focus will involve protein
production, structural characterization by cryo-electron microscopy, X-ray crystallography and other techniques, and protein-protein interaction analysis.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research**

- Conduct research in the area agreed with the supervisor and publish scholarly papers.
- Work with colleagues, postgraduates and undergraduates in the development of joint research projects.
- Work with colleagues in writing research grant applications.
- There is an opportunity for limited teaching and postgraduate student supervision.

**Service and Engagement**

- Perform a range of administrative functions in the School
- Foster the School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor

**For Appointment at Level B As per above, as well as:**

- Develop a leadership role in the research program including achieving national recognition in the research area.
- Contribute to the processes that forward the academic research effort of the school, including participation in decision-making and serving on relevant committees

**Other**

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including but not exclusive to:

- 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 of 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 Professor Bostjan Kobe, School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- PhD in the area of structural biology, biochemistry, cell and molecular biology or plant science.
- Experience in protein science, cell biology and plant science research.
- Aptitude for research as demonstrated by publications in high quality international journals.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of protein science, particularly protein structure.
- The ability to independently plan, execute and interpret experiments.
- The ability to rapidly adopt and adapt novel research techniques.
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.
- High-level communication, inter-personal and communication skills.
- The ability to write research publications and grant applications.
- Experience in structural biology (particularly cryo-electron microscopy), molecular biology and cell biology would be desirable.

Additional for appointment at Academic level B
- An established record of publication in high-quality outlets with national recognition within the field of expertise
- Experience as chief investigator in applications for external research funds

Qualification Verification

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

Vaccinations and Immunisation

It is a condition of employment for this role that if you are required now or in the future, to work or interact in Queensland Health clinical facility; or in an equivalent clinical health facility; or health care role; or will be required to perform work tasks that put you at risk of exposure to vaccine-preventable disease you are required to be immunised against, and remain immunised against, certain vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) in accordance with the University’s Vaccinations and Immunisation Guidelines (PPL 2.60.08). The employee is required to provide evidence of immunisation against VPDs.

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.

This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to contact person listed in the job ad.