POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Scientist (toxicology)
Organisation Unit: TetraQ
Position Number:
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term, 12 months
Classification: HEW Level 6

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 (40), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (42), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (54), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (66). 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 53,000-plus strong student community includes more than 16,400 postgraduate scholars and more than 17,000 international students from 135 countries, adding to its proud 260,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 6,600 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and a $2.15 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 $11 billion+

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

Organisational Environment

Operating within the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research (ODVCR), the TetraQ mission is to provide best practice Preclinical and Clinical testing services for University of Queensland researchers and fee-for-service external clients. The core services and expertise comprise a drug development ‘tool-kit’ which includes the capacity to conduct pharmacokinetics, toxicology and bioanalytical studies.

TetraQ has world-class state-of-the-art physical infrastructure encompassing purpose renovated space and leading-edge equipment including LC-tandem mass spectrometry and immunoassay platforms within its bioanalytical facility located on UQ’s Herston campus. Toxicology and pharmacokinetics studies are completed in a well-equipped rodent animal facility on the UQ St Lucia campus.

All studies are performed within quality assured laboratories according to OECD Good Laboratory Practice by NATA (National Association of Testing Authorities) standards. This accreditation means that data generated by the TetraQ is conducted to industry pharmaceutical and biotechnology standards and will be accepted for review by international regulatory agencies.

Information about TetraQ may be accessed at http://www.tetraq.com.au

Information for Prospective Staff

Information about life at UQ including staff benefits, relocation and UQ campuses is available online.
DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To support the conduct of preclinical studies for the evaluation of drug candidates within a Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) regulated laboratory environment. In particular, this position will provide assistance with the conduct of in-vivo toxicology and pharmacokinetic studies in rodents, working under the supervision of a TetraQ principal scientist.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Manage all aspects of the TetraQ animal facility (as Office in Charge), including infrastructure and maintenance activities
- Supervision and day-to-day management of Animal Technician staff including allocation of tasks and duties and organisation of rosters
- Maintaining the study schedule including organising staff resources and study procedures
- Supporting the conduct and reporting of rodent toxicology and pharmacokinetics studies, including management of staff schedules, animal handling, test item formulation, test item administration, tissue dissection and collection of study data including animal observations and body weight. Undertake data analysis and draft report preparation
- Conduct animal facility inductions for new users, staff, and contractors, and organize training and development on study procedures, animal handling and animal welfare
- Act as a Study Director for non-GLP studies as required
- Perform equipment and facility maintenance tasks (including pipette and balance performance checks)
- Responsible for administrative activities such as drafting and management of animal ethics applications, mandatory annual reports and the use of relevant UQ financial and ordering systems to support operations
- Supporting the application, maintenance and continuous improvement of the Quality Management System and participating in internal and external quality audits as required
- Applying safe working practices within the TetraQ work environment by observing the University of Queensland’s and TetraQ’s Workplace Health and Safety policies
- Performing other tasks as required by senior management

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 the Head of Toxicology at TetraQ.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- A degree with subsequent relevant experience or extensive experience and specialist expertise or broad knowledge in technical fields or equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training. Relevant work experience with basic laboratory tasks, including use of analytical balances, centrifuges and pipettors.

- Relevant experience in animal handling, injection techniques and behavioural observations relating to toxicological symptoms as well as rodent surgical methods including i.v. and i.a. cannula placement.

- Experience drafting animal ethics applications and mandatory annual reports.

- Experience managing animal technician staff to maintain all aspects of the animal facility.

- Extensive tissue dissection experience including all relevant tissues for full toxicological evaluation.

- Ability to maintain a facility schedule and allocate procedures for multiple studies.

- Ability to manage multiple tasks efficiently and adapt to changing priorities.

- Relevant experience in a GLP-accredited animal facility.

- Excellent laboratory skills and high standards of laboratory safety.

- Ability to maintain accurate documentation of experiments.

- Possess good interpersonal and leadership skills.

- Awareness of and adherence to standards of laboratory safety (such as biohazard and chemical safety).

- Awareness of and adherence to standards of Occupational Health and Safety.

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 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 recruitment@uq.edu.au.