POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Research Officer
Organisation Unit: School of Clinical Medicine, Greenslopes Clinical School
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Part-time, Fixed-Term
Classification: HEW 8

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 $11billion+.

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

Organisational Environment

Faculty of Medicine

The University of Queensland’s Faculty of Medicine is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. The research-intensive Faculty has a gross budget of $330 million of the total $2.0B UQ budget. The Faculty employs over 1000 of the 6,600 UQ staff total, with a community of more than 4,200 non-salaried academic appointees and around 3,200 students.

The Faculty of Medicine offers Australia’s largest medical degree program for graduates and school-leavers. Undergraduate and postgraduate programs are available in the disciplines of Medicine, Health Sciences, E-Health, Mental Health, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice in disciplines ranging from the basic sciences, biomedical research and development, to clinical trials and public health. Research projects within the Faculty have already led to discoveries with far-reaching social and economic impacts, including the revolutionary Gardasil (TM) vaccine for cervical cancer (Professor Ian Frazer) and a drug discovery EMA401 (Professor Maree Smith), a first-in-class oral treatment for chronic pain which through Spinifex Pharmaceuticals led to Australia’s largest biotechnology commercialisation deal. Faculty staff include three highly cited authors, one Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), three Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) and 12 Fellows of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). The Faculty is a core member of Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners, the Brisbane-wide academic health science system.

Educational offerings in biomedical sciences, medicine and public health are informed and supported by research activity across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance including recognised strengths in cancer, skin diseases, brain and mental health, maternal and child health genomics and health services. Cutting-edge facilities such as the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR), our laboratories in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the Children’s Health Research Centre (CHRC) enable outstanding research outcomes and sharpen our understanding of cancer, autoimmunity, mental disorders, infectious diseases and neurological disease. Further details are available at www.medicine.uq.edu.au.

The School of Clinical Medicine

The School of Clinical Medicine has a strong focus on the delivery of both phases of the Medicine program across a number of sites within the Brisbane metropolitan area, including but not limited to, the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Herston; the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba as well as QE2 and Redlands Hospitals; the Prince Charles Hospital, Chermside as well as Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospitals; Mater and Queensland Childrens Hospitals, South Brisbane; Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich; Greenslopes
Private Hospital, Greenslopes; the Primary Care Clinical Unit, Herston and the St Lucia Campus. Leadership at each site is provided by an experienced academic with responsibility for budget and financial matters, human resource matters and facility management. The School consists of academic staff members across all clinical disciplines and more than 2500 academic title holders.

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

The Senior Research Officer will:

- Support and project manage Nontuberculous Mycobacterial and bronchiectasis research within the Gallipoli Medical Research Institute and the NTM Research Australia Consortium
- Facilitate an environment that encourages quality respiratory research, multidisciplinary collaboration, and translation of new knowledge into better clinical practice;
- Build and strengthen Queensland’s respiratory research capacity to develop a sustainable research environment.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Project Management

- Initiate, progress, monitor and evaluate as a project manager for the Bronchiectasis and NTM Research group;
- Develop and maintain internal and external research partnerships and collaborations that benefit the Bronchiectasis and NTM Research Group of the Gallipoli Medical Research Institute and the NTM Australia Research Group, encouraging a multidisciplinary approach and resource sharing;
- Liaise with relevant stakeholders to ensure project management, ethics, governance, project funding and contractual matters are conducted in line with Queensland Health and GMRF policies and guidelines and enable optimal outcomes from research activities;
- Support other research and clinical staff in the NTM Team based at GMRI and be a resource for study design, research methodologies, ethics, governance and data analysis;
- In conjunction with the NTM Research Team and other key stakeholders, develop and facilitate a sustainable research environment by securing further funding and dedicated infrastructure for research, including identifying and obtaining external revenue from commercial and competitive sources;
- Support a positive culture within the NTM Research Team which encourages and recognises high performance, builds leadership capabilities and supports staff to maximise their health and wellbeing;
- Oversee and ensure all clinical research activities adheres to laws and regulations of the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), in accordance with operating procedures, ICH Good Clinical Practice regulations, the National Statement on
Ethical Conduct in Human Research and the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research;

- Actively participate in a working environment supporting quality human resource management practices including employment equity, anti-discrimination, occupational health and safety, and ethical behaviour.

### Research

- Management and coordination of several research projects being conducted by the group
- Provide lab-based support for research projects including those that may utilise the NTM biobank
- Perform patient sample collection and processing, including blood, Ficoll separation and storage of peripheral blood mononuclear cells, bronchoalveolar lavage and operative theatre specimens in accordance with biobank protocols
- Undertake routine laboratory and project management tasks such as ordering and maintenance of inventories.
- Writing and maintenance of detailed work documents such as ethics submissions, amendments and annual reports
- Review and revise laboratory biobank SOPs as necessary
- Maintenance of Redcap and Freezer pro databases.
- Work under the direction of supervisors and in collaboration with other members of the research group to achieve project milestones.
- Maintain Good Clinical and Laboratory Practice Guidelines and abide by the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research.
- Contribute to publication of research manuscripts and scientific review articles relevant to projects.
- Maintain confidentiality on research and commercial projects with industry partners.
- Other duties as reasonably directed by the supervisor.

### 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, at Greenslopes Clinical Unit.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

- Post-graduate research qualification in health / healthcare or other relevant discipline; a PhD would be highly desirable;
• Extensive experience in successfully managing research projects.
• Ability to maintain detailed work records and document processes for quality management and reporting regulatory standards.
• Ability to analyse and interpret research data and learn new research techniques.
• Excellent organisation and time management skills with the ability to work towards deadlines and maintain a high level of detail.
• Proficient written and verbal communication skills.

Desirable
• Venesection competency
• Processing of blood and bronchoalveolar lavage samples
• Ficoll separation for peripheral blood mononuclear cells
• Mycobacterial laboratory techniques desirable but not essential
• Experience with Redcap and Filemaker pro databases
• Experience with ethics submission requirements

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 is a part-time position, however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to recruitment@uq.edu.au.