POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences
Position Number: TBA
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term (1 year)
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 (45), QS World University Rankings (48), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (69). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index, and our Academic Ranking of World Universities result in the field of Life and Agricultural Sciences is 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 preventative health and behaviour change. Furthermore, the Faculty provides the opportunity for the non-medical health sciences to have a stronger voice and greater visibility within the University.

The Faculty currently includes six schools and five research centres:

- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing and Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Psychology
- Centre for the Business and Economics of Health
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research
- Recover Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences
- Poche Centre for Indigenous Health

Information about the Faculty may be accessed on the Faculty’s web site at http://www.habs.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.

Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences

The Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS) is a research Centre, funded by Queensland Health and The University of Queensland that is committed to establishing and maintaining multidisciplinary research expertise across a range of environment health sciences. These include environmental aspects of toxicology, human health epidemiology, microbiology, health risk assessment, health risk communication, identification and analysis of emerging environmental health risks, and state-of-the art
monitoring and analytical techniques, methodologies and technologies for environmental hazards and exposures. The Faculty is strongly committed to the advancement of quality inter-professional education and genuine inter-disciplinary research in the health sciences. Further information is available at [www.health.uq.edu.au/habs](http://www.health.uq.edu.au/habs).

QAEHS will work closely with Queensland Health to develop its research directions, and to provide expert opinion and advice, as well as relevant training for Queensland Health staff. In addition, staff will pursue research excellence through competitively funded research and government or private consultancies. Supervision of research students and some coursework teaching are other core components of QAEHS’ activities.

**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](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq)

**DUTY STATEMENT**

**Primary Purpose of Positions**

The role of the Research Fellow is to conduct independent research within one or more of Professor Kevin Thomas’ group’s main fields of activity. This role will include development and application of target and non-target trace analytical methods for emerging contaminants in biotic and abiotic matrices, such as water, air, dust, blood and urine, using LC-MSMS, LC-QTOF, GC-HRMS and/or GC-MSMS methods.

This position will supervise students engaged in these activities and will also be expected to apply for both independent and collaborative funding to support the research focus.

Applicants should also refer to the [UQ Academic Criteria for Performance policy](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq). This policy applies to staff at levels A to E, across all of the academic categories - Teaching and Research, Teaching Focused, Research Focused and Clinical Academic.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research**

- Actively facilitate and conduct research related to monitoring and characterisation of trace organic pollutants in humans and the environment through analytical method development.
- Publish in high-quality international scientific journals, and present research at national and international conferences and seminars.
- Manage and/or actively contribute to research and consultancy projects on a day-to-day basis, including literature reviews, data analysis and interpretation, analytical method development and quality control and quality assurance.
- Contribute to the effective supervision of professional research staff undertaking duties relevant to the research process and management of the research projects.
- Contribute to training, scientific mentoring and supervision of students.
- Take a lead role with applications for supporting funds from government and industry bodies.
Service and Engagement

- Perform a range of administrative functions necessary to support project work.
- Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of QAEHS, including serving on QAEHS committees.
- Foster QAEHS’ relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor.

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 positions report to Professor Kevin Thomas, QAEHS.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in environmental or analytical chemistry or related area, with experience in the research context.
- Knowledge of, and interest in, analytical approaches to monitor and characterise trace organic pollutants in humans and the environment.
- Strong laboratory skills (including experience of extraction and purification techniques for a range of organic contaminants in biotic and abiotic matrices) and extensive demonstrated experience with operating and troubleshooting LC-MSMS, GC-MSMS, GC-HRMS and/or LC-MS QToF instruments.
- Demonstrated supervisory skills of professional research staff and/or students.
- Strong written and oral communication skills, including a track record of publishing first-authored and collaborative research in high-quality international scientific journals.
- Demonstrated experience in developing research proposals and other funding applications, including with external agencies.
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote your research at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and professional bodies.
- An ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team.
- A high level of motivation, initiative and enthusiasm.

**Qualification Verification**

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

It is a condition of employment for this role that you will be required to provide evidence of immunisation against certain vaccine preventable diseases.

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](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 [recruitment@uq.edu.au](mailto:recruitment@uq.edu.au)