POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Animal Technical Officer (HEW 4)
Organisation Unit: University of Queensland Biological Resources
Position Number: 3020341
Type of Employment: Fixed Term, Full time
Classification: Hew Level 4

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://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.

Organisational Environment

The University of Queensland Biological Resources Unit (UQBR) manages the laboratory animal production and research facilities for the University of Queensland.

The role of UQBR is to provide UQ with world class Animal Research services within a best practice ethical framework.

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

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The primary purpose of this position is to provide a high quality care and monitoring of animals, and other duties as appropriate, take part in projects involving animal research conducted by researchers from The University of Queensland.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research and Technical Duties

- Staff/student supervision
- Specialised animal procedures
- Colony Management
- Liaising with the research staff
- Working in specialised animal areas
- Participation on the weekend/public holiday roster
- Checking the welfare and health of all animals
- Administration of any treatments.
- Sexing and weaning of animals as required
- Euthanasia of a variety of species by a variety of methods
- Ensuring the bio security of all animal holding facilities
- Ensuring the cleanliness of all areas and equipment
- Ensuring that all animals have been fed and watered
• Assist with the animal handling courses
• Work as an effective team member, encouraging a team approach in line with the facility operations

Administration
• Inducting staff and new users
• Maintaining animal movement sheets (legal document)
• Monitoring AEC numbers
• Maintaining Drug register
• PC2 training and adherence to OGTR guidelines
• 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 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
• Medical Clearance: Working with laboratory animals is an inherent requirement of the position. The appointment is therefore subject to, and conditional upon, satisfactory medical clearance(s), including disclosure of relevant medical history, to undertake such work without unreasonable risk to your health and safety. In addition, the Employee is required to fully comply with necessary ongoing health monitoring procedures and control measures associated with the position.

Organisational Relationships
The position reports to the Senior Facility Manager, UQ Biological Resources.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Completion of a Diploma or Certificate III level qualification in the animal technology industry or other related fields, or an equivalent combination of relevant work-related experience and/or Education/Training.
- Knowledge of "The NHMRC Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes".
- Understanding of basic laboratory and animal house occupational health and safety issues.
- Good organization skills and the ability to work relatively independently and meet deadlines.
- At least 4 years’ experience in small laboratory animal handling and surgical techniques.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Good written communication skills.
- Ability to work in a team environment

Desirable

- Demonstrated experience in managing complex GM rodent production and colony management
- Training and experience in handling biological specimens, toxic chemicals, or infectious agents.
- Basic computer literacy, especially use of MS Excel and MS Access.
- Laboratory experience in genotyping.

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 the contact person in the job advertisement