POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term
Classification: Academic Level A (Research focused)

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

QAAFI is a unique research institute in Australia as it is a jointly funded initiative of UQ and Agri-Science Queensland and Biosecurity Queensland, part of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF). QAAFI conducts research and development to benefit the food and fibre sector both nationally and internationally.

The Institute’s strengths are reflected in its four research centres – the Centre for Horticultural Science, the Centre for Crop Science, the Centre for Animal Science and the Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences. QAAFI brings together scientists from UQ and DAF to conduct high-end science that delivers higher impact outcomes for industry and the community.

Details of the research interests of the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at http://www.qaafi.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

In this role you will have the opportunity to make a substantial contribution to the Indian dairy industry, the largest dairy industry in the world. As many dairy producers in India are smallholder farmers, this is also the chance to contribute to a reduction in poverty in Indian rural communities. Together with our Indian partners, in the role you will apply genomic technologies in dairy cattle and buffalo improvement, with improvements in milk production, fertility and other key drivers of productivity anticipated. You will develop efficient pipelines to assemble, analyse and deliver results from large genomic and phenotypic data sets. Whole genome sequence data will be used to improve accuracy of predictions from the genomic information.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Work closely with Indian scientists to develop efficient pipelines to assemble, analyse and deliver results from large genomic and phenotypic data sets.
- Develop algorithms and pipelines for efficient analysis of whole genome sequence data to identify variants that improve accuracy of predictions.
- Train scientists and students in the analysis of sequence data and genomic prediction.
- Assist the supervisor to help manage students working on these projects.
- Conduct research and publish scholarly papers.
- Foster QAAFI’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider global community.
- Participate in events to attract postgraduate students to the Institute.
- 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

**Organisational Relationships**

The position reports to the Professorial Research Fellow.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in an area related to genetics or genomics, in animal breeding, statistics, plant breeding, human genetics or computer science.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in development of pipelines for analysis of large SNP array genomic data sets.
- Demonstrated ability to analyse whole genome sequence data.
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote genetic improvement at a university and wider community level, including industry.
- Evidence of a contribution to research, including scholarly publications commensurate with experience.
- Ability to write and present clearly and succinctly in a variety of communication styles.
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues, students and volunteers, with strong interpersonal skills.

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 gaafihr@uq.edu.au