POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Technical Officer
Organisation Unit: Faculty of Science, Office of the Executive Dean
Position Number: 3044823
Type of Employment: Full Time, Continuing
Classification: Hwe Level 5

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.

Organisational Environment

The Faculty of Science is recognised as a powerhouse for some of the world’s leading scientists, teachers, science programs and commercial outcomes. The Faculty is one of the largest Science groupings in Australia, with approximately 1100 (equivalent full-time) staff, and about 7500 (equivalent full-time) students.

Throughout its Schools and Centres, the Faculty unites the disciplines of agriculture and animals, biomedical and biological sciences, chemistry, earth sciences, food sciences, geography, marine science, maths and physics, the environment and veterinary science.

With strong links between the enabling and applied sciences, UQ researchers and graduates are working on a wide range of groundbreaking projects from the molecular characterisation of drug resistant bacteria that affect piglets through to finding better treatments for illness and rehabilitation of the environment.

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

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The primary purpose of this position is to provide technically-orientated support to workshop clients. This will involve undertaking complex R&D projects, and providing consultative and design support.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Provide combined on-location mechanical and/or electrical infrastructure support services within the Faculty’s teaching and research laboratories.
- Machine a wide variety of complex and/or repetitive components in workshops.
- Manufacture, install and commission a wide range of research support equipment and teaching aids, ranging from highly complex to very simple, for undergraduate and research programs; constructed from either drawings (detailed or otherwise) and/or verbal instructions.
- Assist project leaders in an advisory capacity in conceptual stages of projects. Personally manage numerous projects with minimal supervision. Duties include
providing technical and design support, receiving jobs directly from clients and sourcing relevant materials for projects.

- Consult with UG’s, PG’s, academics, research staff and commercial clients. Design, devise and implement efficient and cost-effective construction methods for a wide range of research and development equipment using an accumulation of advanced skills and knowledge. This may include working from limited information supplied verbally and/or by means of drawings (detailed or other otherwise) or other documents.
- Report equipment issues and perform routine stocktake on consumable materials.
- Routine reporting of work activities, accurate and timely updates of work projects in the Archibus system.

Customer Service and Quality Assurance

- Liaise with clients (teachers, academics, researchers and education coordinators) to ensure client objectives are met.
- Ensure a high level of client focus (internally and externally) with due care and attention to client priorities, demonstrating a high level of client services and communications.

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 Workshops Manager but will be coordinated operationally by the relevant Workshop Coordinator.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- A degree, diploma or relevant mechanical and electrical trade qualifications with at least 4-5 years subsequent relevant experience, or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Aptitude for creativity in the design of new equipment for teaching laboratories or research projects
- Extensive experience in the maintenance and repair of electronics and electrical equipment
- High level communication and consulting skills when interacting with clients from diverse backgrounds
- Sound knowledge of occupational health and safety requirements
- Relevant work experience in a research laboratory/workshop environment using a diverse range of equipment (mechanical, electrical or otherwise).

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 science.hr@uq.edu.au.