POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Crop Biotechnology
Organisation Unit: School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Type of Employment: Full time, Fixed-Term (5 years)
Classification: Teaching and Research Academic Level B or C

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. The School of Veterinary Science has a rich history, having been founded in 1936, and with a reputation for graduating highly capable veterinarians. The Veterinary Science program at UQ has full accreditation with the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council, the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the American Veterinary Medical Association. The School also contributes to programs in veterinary technology and animal & veterinary bioscience. The respected QS World Rankings recently ranked UQ as 22nd in the world in the field of Veterinary Science.

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/

The School of Agriculture and Food Sciences is one of the largest Schools of this type in Australia, comprising research and teaching experts in plant and soil science, animal science, agricultural business, environmental science and food, nutrition and technology. With nearly 350 staff, 300 higher degree research students and over $33 million in operating and research income, the School has helped UQ to become recognised as one of the top 20 universities in the world for Agricultural Sciences, and the leading agriculture university in Australia.

Located at St Lucia and Gatton, the School is a large and dynamic multidisciplinary hub focused on applied research and teaching within the Faculty of Science committed to finding innovative and technology focused solutions to global challenges. The School offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate coursework and research degrees encompassing agriculture and related disciplines ranging from Bachelor Degree to Doctorate. Quality laboratories and facilities and strong partnerships with industry, community and government bodies, provide an environment that enables world class research and research training.

Further information on the School’s teaching programs, research focuses and community activities can be accessed at www.uq.edu.au/agriculture. Faculty of Science information covering 7 Schools and 19 Centres is available at http://www.uq.edu.au/science and information on the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation – a joint initiative between The University of Queensland and the Queensland State Government,
which the School is closely aligned with, is available at www.qaafi.uq.edu.au.

**Plant Sciences** in the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences are a highly productive research group with a strong track record of linkage to Australian agricultural industries, and of involvement in agricultural research for development in the Asia-Pacific region. The spectrum of research involvement of the group staff spans from fundamental discovery science, through to the delivery of pragmatic solutions to industry problems. This appointment is to enhance the group’s capacity to optimize crop productivity and quality in the context of our changing agricultural and environmental setting. This position is based at the St Lucia campus, but the associated teaching and research activities extend to the Gatton campus (and beyond).

**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)

The University of Queensland **Enterprise Agreement** outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

**DUTY STATEMENT**

**Primary Purpose of Position**

The position of Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Crop Biotechnology is responsible for undertaking undergraduate and postgraduate teaching including course coordination and program development; Higher Degree Research (HDR) student supervision; research; and professional activities in the field of plant science at St Lucia and Gatton Campus. The appointee will be expected to contribute to the national and international research profile of the School, establish a research program, and obtain external grant funding. A proven track record with cereal and grain crops would be looked upon favourably.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Teaching and Learning**

*Level B and C*

- Teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the area of plant sciences and plant biotechnology and genetics and other areas of the School as required
- Take responsibility for the preparation and delivery of substantial course modules
- Enhance teaching of plant science through the development of innovative teaching tools and approaches, including field teaching and flexible delivery
- Effectively supervise, foster and mentor undergraduate, postgraduate and Higher Degree by Research students

*Level C*

- Continually improve curriculum, teaching resources and approaches
- Successful coordination of a significant component of the plant science program
**Research**

*Level B and C*

- Develop a program of research in plant sciences and crop biotechnology and genetics
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects
- Take a chief investigator role, potentially in collaboration with more experienced researchers, in applications for external research funding, eg. contract research
- Develop an established record of publication in high quality outlets
- Achieve national recognition in chosen research area

*Level C*

- Undertake independent research
- Obtain and successfully manage external research funding
- Develop an international profile in the chosen area of plant science research

**Service and Engagement**

*Level B and C*

- Efficiently manage allocated internal service roles, in order to contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the School
- Be active in making external contributions to the plant science community
- Foster the School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community

*Level C*

- Effectively perform higher level internal duties
- Make a strong contribution to external roles

**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 Head of School, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- A PhD in the area of plant science with relevant experience in plant molecular biology, plant biotechnology, genetics or genomics are essential
- Evidence of contributions to research, including peer-reviewed publications in leading multi-disciplinary journals and success in attracting external research grants and/or fellowships
- Evidence of effective teaching practices and an ability to provide high level teaching and learning outcomes
- Demonstrated experience in team-based and collaborative research and teaching, including with external agencies
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote academic discipline at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and professional bodies
- An understanding of and ability to grow research in plant science and grain crop biotechnology would be desirable
- Research interests that complement those of other staff members as outlined on the School website would be highly regarded
- Additional selection criteria for Level C
  - Demonstrated capacity for independent research, with a track record of experience as a chief investigator or lead on substantial externally-funded research projects
  - Experience in crop biotechnology and plant molecular genetics courses at undergraduate and/or postgraduate levels resulting in continuous improvement of curriculum, development of teaching resources and implementation of innovative pedagogies that foster critical and strategic thinking
  - Active and effective record in principal supervision of higher degree by research

Seminar

Applicants invited for interview may be expected to present a seminar in conjunction with the selection interview process.

Qualification Verification

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

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 listed in the advertisement.