POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Veterinary Support Officer
Organisation Unit: UQ Biological Resources
Position Number: 3046325
Type of Employment: Full time, Fixed term
Classification: Hew Level 7

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 the role is to provide veterinary support for research facilitated within the University of Queensland Biological Resources (UQBR). The role is responsible for the provision of high quality husbandry care, research support, assistance and training of clients in aspects of animal use and animal ethics. The position also carries out relevant administrative tasks including record keeping and the drafting of operating procedures and risk assessments.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Technical and Research Support

- Provide specialised animal welfare support including transfers, animal health assessments, administration of treatments, euthanising of species using a variety of methods and performing necropsies as required
- Demonstrate advice and support researchers, students and other clients in animal husbandry and surgical techniques. Ensuring safe practices and procedures are in place
- Assisting the veterinary team with drafting of standard operating procedures and other relevant documents, carry out risk assessments, training and supervision
- Advise and assist researchers e.g. in the preparation of animal ethics applications.
- Liaise with the Animal Welfare Unit where necessary to refine research protocols and procedures
- Assist with the review of UQBR SOP in conjunction with the training committee
- Actively participate in furthering Veterinary knowledge and as it pertains to Lab animals on an industry wide basis
• Work as an effective team member, encouraging a team approach in line with the UQBR operations
• 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 UQ Biological Resources, Veterinarian

SELECTION CRITERIA
• Qualifications equivalent to an Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree with at least (4) years subsequent relevant experience; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training
• Demonstrated experience in veterinary skills in rodent surgical or advanced reproductive techniques. Hands-on experience in the veterinary care of lab animals
• An understanding and knowledge of veterinary medicine, surgery and animal care as it applies to laboratory animals
• An understanding and knowledge of a wide range of laboratory species not limited to Rodents, Rabbits, Zebrafish, Sheep, Pigs and Wildlife
• Ability to work co-operatively with colleagues and research staff
• Excellent inter-personal and communication skills including verbal and written skills
• Demonstrated ability to prioritise own workload, work independently, and effectively in and a team environment, and meet deadlines
• High level administration and record keeping skills
• Commitment to upholding the University’s values, and with the outstanding personal qualities of openness, respectfulness and integrity.
Desirable

- Experience with complex animal monitoring systems used in research, for example in radio telemetry and or metabolic phenotyping
- Management and administrative experience in an animal research environment
- Experience in providing training and skills acquisitions

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.