POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Research Technician
Organisation Unit: Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences
Position Number: 
Type of Employment: Full time, Fixed Term (2 years)
Classification: HEW 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 CWTS Leiden Ranking (32), the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (40), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (42), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (54), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (66). 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 53,000-plus strong student community includes more than 16,400 postgraduate scholars and more than 17,000 international students from 135 countries, adding to its proud 260,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 6,600 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and a $2.15 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+.

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

**Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences**

The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences (HABS) is a world-class Faculty that has a coherent focus on health, well-being and behaviour change, underpinned by a strong commitment to interprofessional education and interdisciplinary research.

The Faculty presently consists of six schools and six research centres, viz.:

- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Psychology
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR)
- RECOVER Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS)
- Centre for the Business and Economics of Health
- POCHÉ Centre for Indigenous Health
- Southern Queensland Rural Health (SQRH)

More information about the Faculty is available at [habs.uq.edu.au](http://habs.uq.edu.au).

**Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences**

The Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS) is a multidisciplinary research Centre committed to world-class research across the environment health sciences. These include environmental toxicology, epidemiology, microbiology, health risk assessment and communication, and state-of-the art monitoring and analytical technologies to quantify emerging environmental health risks.

QAEHS is funded by Queensland Health and The University of Queensland and works closely with Queensland Health to develop its research directions. The Centre pursues research excellence through competitively funded research, as well as government and industry consultancies, and has a successful track record in interdisciplinary collaborative research with international and other Australian institutions.

Information about the Faculty and the School may be accessed on the Faculty's web site at [https://qaehs.centre.uq.edu.au/](https://qaehs.centre.uq.edu.au/)

**Information for Prospective Staff**

Information about life at UQ including staff benefits, relocation and UQ campuses is available online.
DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To work as a Senior Research Technician in a team based environment by supporting the group’s activities in passive sampling research and related consultancy projects. The role will provide both laboratory and field based technical support and administrative assistance to research projects.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

• Extract and process samples for trace organic analysis
• Manage stocks of native and labelled chemical standards and mixtures
• Develop standard operating procedures for laboratory tasks associated with projects
• Prepare passive samplers for environmental monitoring of trace organic chemicals
• Manage the dispatch of sampling equipment to sampling sites/field operational teams by courier
• Other wet chemistry and analytical tasks as required

Administration

• Establish and maintain sample and project records (including sample tracking and related analytical data)
• Assist with ordering and maintaining laboratory consumables for the research group
• Maintain inventories of sampling equipment
• Assist in the preparation and review of scientific reports, technical documents and presentation of data to clients

Other

• Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including but not exclusive to:
  o the University’s Code of Conduct
  o 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
  o the adoption of sustainable practices in all work activities and compliance with associated legislation and related University sustainability responsibilities and procedures
  o 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 Laboratory Team Leader.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential
- Completion of an undergraduate degree in a science related discipline
- Sound laboratory skills, including experience of wet chemistry methodologies and relevant QA/QC, as well as a demonstrated ability to follow Standard Operating Procedures and meet OH&S requirements, including preparing and adhering to University risk assessments
- High level of organisational, communication and inter-personal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively with team members, collaborators and clients by telephone, email and in person and to write reports on experiments
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously, adaptability to plan your work to meet changing priorities/deadlines and flexibility to contribute to other projects as and when needed (occasionally requiring flexible work hours)
- Motivation to work independently as well as within a team to meet deadlines with an emphasis on accuracy and attention to detail.
- Extensive experience in the use of a range of computer applications in a network environment (particularly Microsoft Excel and Word)

Desirable
- Relevant work experience in a laboratory preferably in a research environment would be an advantage.
- Demonstrated knowledge in trace organic chemistry and environmental sampling technologies or the ability to rapidly acquire such knowledge.
- An understanding of the University’s financial management and research administration systems and procedures or the demonstrated ability to rapidly acquire such knowledge.

Vaccinations and Immunisation

It is a condition of employment for this role that if you will be required to perform work tasks that put you at risk of exposure to vaccine-preventable disease (VPD) you are required to be immunised against, and remain immunised against, certain VPDs in accordance with the University’s Vaccination 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 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 recruitment@uq.edu.au.