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 (52), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (65). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index and our Life Sciences subject field ranking in the Academic Ranking of World Universities was 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,

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: Sustainable Minerals Institute, Centre for Mined Land Rehabilitation
Position Number: 3041580
Type of Employment: Fixed term, full time
Classification: Research Academic Level A

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

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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

One of UQ’s eight research institutes, the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI) consists of some 200 staff and postgraduate students covering the areas of mining and geology, mineral processing, environment and rehabilitation, social responsibility, safety and risk, water and unconventional gas. SMI is industry-focused and consequently works with many leading global resources companies and many small-medium enterprises and suppliers. SMI interacts strongly with governments and community. A priority for SMI is the development of talent and providing an environment for successful and rewarding careers.

SMI was founded in 2001 and since its inception has established a reputation as a unique institution for integrated sustainable development research in the resource sector. SMI is a truly global institute with staff and students from around the world. SMI’s people are also diverse in their discipline backgrounds, which range across disciplines including anthropology, geology, soil science, sociology, hydrology, environmental science, engineering and mine management.

The Institute recognises and values equity and diversity, and encourages applications from any individual who meets the requirements of this position irrespective of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age or other protected attributes. SMI strives to provide an inclusive working environment, and along with the University is committed to supporting staff with family and caring responsibilities by providing policies, programs and initiatives to help balance work and family responsibilities.

Information about the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/smi

SMI comprises seven major research Centres:

- SMI’s Production Centres are the:
  - WH Bryan Mining and Geology Research Centre
  - Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre
- SMI’s People Centres are the:
  - Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining
  - Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centre
- SMI’s Environment Centres are the:
  - Centre for Mined Land Rehabilitation
  - Centre for Water in the Minerals Industry
- International Centre of Excellence in Chile

The Centre for Mined Land Rehabilitation (CMLR) is one of the research centres within the Environment Centre pair within SMI. The CMLR collaboratively engages in a broad spectrum of environmental research and education activities for the mining and mineral processing industries and associated government departments, at both national and international levels.
CMLR has core disciplinary strengths in the basic and applied biological, chemical and physical sciences, working at scales and technologies from the microbial to the catchment and regional. The majority of the research agenda is presently encompassed within the four key themes of Environmental Geochemistry, Landform Stability, Soil-Plant Systems, and Landscape Ecology, with complementary collaborative research programs currently in the areas of ecotoxicology and fauna ecology.

Further information on the CMLR may be accessed via http://www.cmlr.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

To undertake research on hyperaccumulation of trace elements in Australian native flora at CMLR, as well as performing administrative and other activities associated with the ongoing research of the Ecosystem Assessment, Restoration and Resilience Program at CMLR.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research
  • Develop a program of applied and contract research in the area of metallophytes and hyperaccumulator plants
  • Apply for external funding, including a substantive postdoctoral grant
  • Conduct research and publish scholarly papers
  • Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects.

Teaching and Learning
  • Supervise students at honours and postgraduate level

Service and Engagement
  • Perform a range of administrative functions at CMLR
  • 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
- 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 ARC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dr Antony van der Ent.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in the area of biogeochemistry or plant sciences.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of ecophysiology of metallophytes and hyperaccumulator plants, especially in the tropical context.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of phytotechnologies using hyperaccumulator plants.
- 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.
- Evidence of a contribution to research, including successful grant applications.
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.

Desirable

- Experience in liaising and collaborating with external agencies to develop co-operative research initiatives.

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.
Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to smihr@uq.edu.au