POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Centre Administration Officer
Organisation Unit: Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Full time, Continuing
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 $11 billion+.

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 Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) is a research institute of the University of Queensland (UQ) which was established in 2010 and comprises of four research centres – the Centre for Crop Science, the Centre for Horticultural Science, the Centre for Animal Science and the Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences.

QAAFI’s team of 450 researchers, postgraduate students and support staff undertake high impact science for agriculture and food industries. The institute’s strong partnership with the Queensland Government provides our researchers with a direct link to the agriculture industry in Queensland, and world-class field research facilities throughout Queensland. Agriculture is one of UQ’s highest ranked research fields nationally and internationally and QAAFI is a global leader in agricultural research in subtropical and tropical production systems.

QAAFI scientists are driven to make a difference to the agriculture and food industries and have over 150 collaborators worldwide.

Details of the research interests of the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at http://www.qaafi.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

Provide high level assistance and administrative support to the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation Institute Staff.

The appointee will work with academic and administrative staff at all levels. There will be a need to liaise with senior University staff and staff in other Central Administration divisions, Faculties, schools, Institutes and external agencies.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Provide executive assistance to Centre Directors as required;
- Provide support to the Centre Directors and other staff including drafting non-standard correspondence, word processing, photocopying, recording and distributing correspondence and filing;
- Refer correspondence or enquiries, for action or advice, to relevant officers and seek timely follow up and resolution of issues as required;
- Undertake reception duties as necessary, including receiving and assisting visitors;
- Coordinate travel arrangements and accommodation bookings for the Centre Directors, Centre staff and their visitors as required;
- Handle all aspects of event planning and coordination of corporate events including booking venues, catering, producing seminar materials and promotion;
- Assist with maintenance of research databases, publications, grants, conference presentations etc. for the Centre staff;
- Assist research staff and students with locating and interpreting University policies and University related requests;
- Reconciliation of corporate purchasing cards for Institute Staff as approved proxy according to the relevant University policies;
- Processing accounts receivable (raising invoices and receipting payments) according to the relevant University policies;
- Assisting research staff and students with the completion of cash passport requests and after travel reconciliations;
- Providing research staff and students with training in financial processing;
- Assist in securing operational data required to achieve successful reporting objectives as required;
- Other duties as assigned by the Centre Directors, and 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

Organisational Relationships

This position reports to the Operations Manager.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- Completion of an undergraduate degree; or completion of an associate diploma and at least 2 years subsequent relevant work experience or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training;
- Demonstrated competence in the conduct of high-level administrative work including executive assistance and simple finance and personnel administrative duties;
- Interpret financial reports and information or the demonstrated ability to rapidly acquire such knowledge;
- Excellent interpersonal skills including the ability to communicate effectively with clients across all levels of an organisation by telephone, email and in person;
- Knowledge of the use of a wide range of computer applications in a network environment (particularly Microsoft Excel) in a large to medium sized organisation or the demonstrated ability to rapidly acquire such knowledge;
- Demonstrated ability to work autonomously and within a team environment to ensure that goals are achieved;
- High level of accuracy and attention to detail;
- Ability to prioritise own workload and meet deadlines.

Desirable

- Experience using the UQ Unifi system

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.