POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Laureate Fellow Postdoctoral Research Associate
Organisation Unit: School of Biological Sciences
Position Number: 3037086
Type of Employment: Full Time, Fixed Term (3 years)
Classification: Research Focussed Level A

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://unquest.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 School of Biological Sciences is part of the Faculty of Science and is one of the largest and most successful of its type in Australia, with 49 full-time academic staff, and over 200 enrolled PhD students. The School has broad expertise across ecology and evolution, molecular and quantitative genetics, paleobiology, developmental biology, behaviour, plant and animal physiology, and conservation biology. Our research programs involve a diverse array of taxa, ranging across microbes, animals and plants, including a particular focus in the areas of marine biology and entomology. Unique opportunities for biological research and teaching are provided by our proximity to a stunning array of marine and terrestrial subtropical habitats and their endemic biodiversity. A number of research programs in the School take advantage of major model-organism systems, including Drosophila, C. elegans, and Arabidopsis, and many include a strong quantitative and modelling focus.

The lab of ARC Laureate Fellow Prof Christine Beveridge, FAA, is embedded in the School of Biological Sciences, and benefits from collaborations with the school and with other schools in the Faculty of Science (https://science.uq.edu.au/) and QAAFI (https://qaafi.uq.edu.au/).

Further information and details of the research interests of academic staff may be accessed on the school’s web site at http://www.biology.uq.edu.au

Diversity and Inclusion

The School recognizes 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. The School 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. As part of the Georgina Sweet Laureate Fellowship, the Beveridge lab seeks to reach an outstanding reputation in this important aspect of science.

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

The Laureate Fellow Postdoctoral Research Associate will drive a program supported by the Laureate Fellowship and which addresses a central aim on the function of the sugar signalling metabolite, trehalose 6-phosphate on shoot branching. In addition to research, they will perform administrative and other activities associated with the Laureate Fellowship.

Applicants should also refer to the UQ Academic Criteria for Performance policy. This policy applies to staff at levels A to E, across all of the academic categories - Teaching and Research, Teaching Focused, Research Focused and Clinical Academic.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

• Undertake design of experiments, synthesis of data, new analyses, undertaking and reporting on literature searches.
• Preparation of scientific papers from the research
• Presentation of research at conferences where agreed
• Co-supervision of students and visitors working in this research area
• Assist in communication of research results by editing research papers from the lab and in liaising with press office, creating dissemination materials, improving the lab website where requested.
• Write project reports as needed.
• Editing and collaborative writing.
• See external funding including Fellowships where agreed

Service and Engagement

• Support Prof Beveridge in matters relating to research and enabling of teaching (plant development research/projects–related support of teaching).
• Advice and implement on policy relating to ethics, safety and compliance.
• 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

Organisational Relationships

The position reports to Professor Christine Beveridge.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- PhD in plant biology relating to plant development, specialising in trehalose 6-phosphate and shoot branching
- Competitive publication history and evidence of international collaboration (appropriate to stage of career)
- Demonstrated strong organizational skills and attention to detail including excellent English written and oral communication
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues, students and volunteers, including strong interpersonal skills and experience with working in and supporting a team environment
- Ability to prioritise own workload, work independently and meet deadlines including ability to exercise independent judgement
- Experience in showing leadership in research design and vision
- Experience in developing and/or maintaining international collaborations
- A strong commitment to ethics, safety and compliance and a commitment to upholding the University’s values, and with the outstanding personal qualities of openness, respectfulness and integrity

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 science.recruitment@uq.edu.au