

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Technical Officer (Animal Science)
Organisation Unit:	School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Position Number:	3004665
Type of Employment:	Full time, Continuing
Classification:	HEW Level 5
Location:	Gatton

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://uniquet.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 Agriculture and Food Sciences is part of the Faculty of Science and is located at UQ's St Lucia and Gatton campuses. It is one of the largest schools of its type in Australia, comprising research and teaching experts in agribusiness and rural development; animal, equine and wildlife science; plant and soil sciences; and food science and technology. The School contributes to UQ's high standing as one of the world's top 20 universities for agricultural sciences and Australia's leading agriculture institution.

The School is a dynamic multidisciplinary hub, maintaining strong partnerships with industry, government and community, and integrating fundamental and applied research to find innovative and technology-focused solutions to global challenges. It teaches into a high number of undergraduate, postgraduate coursework and higher degree by research degree programs that encompass agriculture and related disciplines.

Staff and students have access to UQ's world-class facilities, including the Food Science Innovation Precinct, which comprises laboratories for food grading and chemical and microbiological analysis, as well as the Queensland Animal Science Precinct and equine and poultry research units.

The School's diverse research expertise covers:

- **Agribusiness and rural development:** researchers investigate issues and emerging opportunities in industry and market development, agricultural development and food security, natural resource management, and rural community development. Focus areas include agribusiness, agricultural economics, resource economics, community development and systems analysis;
- **Animal, equine and wildlife science:** working with production animals (livestock and poultry), horses and wildlife, experts seek to address major contemporary issues such as sustainability, animal welfare, biodiversity, climate change and food/feed security;
- **Food science and technology:** colleagues aim to improve the taste, quality, appearance, nutritional value and safety of food, and ultimately to help enhance global health outcomes and economic benefits. They are affiliated with the UQ Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation's Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences and focus on food materials science and engineering, food microbiology, genomics, food sensory science, food chemistry and physical properties, and nutrition;
- **Plant and soil sciences:** aiming to develop cross-disciplinary solutions to the challenge of increasing food production while improving environmental outcomes, research activities span fundamental science that underpins innovation through to pragmatic field-based research that directly informs end-users and policy-makers.

For more information, visit the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences website: agriculture.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>

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To provide technical support for teaching and research in animal science. The position is responsible for supporting practical classes in the animal sciences and related disciplines as well as the supervision of facilities used by the Animal Science group. The role supports, maintains and operates laboratory and field equipment, and provides specialist, technical and OH&S advice to students and staff. Although a member of the Animal Science technical team, the role may be seconded to support teaching and research in other discipline areas.

The position is based at Gatton. Some travel to St Lucia or other remote sites for training and work purposes may be required.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Support

- Under general direction, carry out planning, coordination and delivery of technical support for practical classes in animal science and related courses. Regularly revise, update and modify practical manuals and assist with the development and trial of new practical elements. Support processes relating to the selection and training of tutors and demonstrators and participate in the delivery of practical course content.
- Provide high-level technical support, guidance and advice to course work and research postgraduate students in the execution of their projects. Induct and train students in laboratory and field sites, equipment, facilities and techniques, as required.
- Liaise with service providers on the Gatton campus to plan access to facilities and animals for teaching and research.
- Acquire and maintain consumable stocks, reference materials and specimens for use by students in practical teaching or by higher degree research students.
- Assist with the planning and coordination of excursions and site visits in accordance with the learning objectives of the course.

Facilities and Asset Management

- Under general direction, exercise responsibility for supervision and operation of teaching and research facilities shared by the Animal Science group. Establish and

maintain appropriate safe work procedures, tidiness and housekeeping in collaboration with users and in accordance with UQ and School procedures and relevant statutory guidelines.

- Actively engage in activities associated with the efficient and timely management of equipment, instruments and facilities shared by the Animal Science group including ordering, calibration, control and operation, and reporting, arranging and monitoring of planned and unplanned maintenance.
- Exercise responsibility for and manage the cost recovery process and, where applicable, act as budget holder for these funds ensuring responsible financial management and compliance with UQ policy and procedure.
- Support the School's asset management obligations by engaging in procurements, asset stocktakes and asset audits in accordance with UQ policy.

Occupational Health and Safety

- In areas of responsibility, assist staff and students to comply with their occupational health and safety responsibilities, monitor work practices in laboratories and field sites, address and report incidences or breaches of UQ policy.
- Provide support for staff and students in following UQ guidelines and safe work procedures related to the ordering, handling, storage and disposal of chemicals, and the testing, operation and maintenance of electrical and mechanical equipment.
- Where relevant, monitor and ensure compliance in relation to any statutory requirements applicable within areas of responsibility. Maintain awareness of the legislation and related UQ policies and procedures.

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 Technical Services Coordinator (Animal Science).

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Completion of a Bachelor degree with a specialisation in animal science or related disciplines; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education and training.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the fields of ecology and wildlife science.
- Knowledge and skills in relevant laboratory and field techniques, including wildlife handling and the operation and maintenance of a variety of associated equipment and software applications.
- Broad knowledge, experience and handling of companion and/or production animals would be desirable.
- Demonstrated understanding of the Australian Code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes - 8th Edition, as well as relevant guidelines, legislation and general community expectations.
- Skilled, or the ability to acquire and exercise skills, in managing laboratories and field sites for teaching and research, in accordance with internal and external policies, standards and guidelines.
- Able to support undergraduate and postgraduate students in their learning and to provide technical advice and training appropriate to students' needs.
- Experienced and skilled in Microsoft Office applications.
- Knowledge of the University's policies and procedures relating to Occupational Health and Safety, the Risk Assessment database, and the on-line Purchasing system, or the ability to acquire such knowledge.
- Open class C Queensland driver's licence (manual).
- Licensing and training for operating off road vehicles including 4WD would be desirable.

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 relevant HR officer.