POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Lecturer in Rural Development and Agricultural Extension
Organisation Unit: School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Fixed Term (3 years) Part-time (0.5 FTE)
Classification: Teaching and Research Academic Level B

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://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

The Faculty of Science is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. A research-intensive Faculty, with a gross budget in excess of $300M, employs approximately 1,500 continuing and fixed-term staff and teach around 6,000 full-time equivalent coursework students (EFTSL).

The Faculty teaches agriculture, biology, chemistry, earth sciences, food science, geography, marine science, mathematics, physics, planning, both environmental sciences and management and veterinary science, to undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students enrolled in a range of degree programs including science, engineering and health and medicine. The Faculty provides the community with the next generation of professionals and graduates who are sufficiently scientifically literate and numerate to be effective in understanding, managing and addressing complex problems, including those in energy, food supply, health, environment and sustainability.

Research conducted in the Faculty of Science includes fundamental research across a wide range of scientific disciplines and a vibrant portfolio of applied research, well linked to industry and government, particularly in its areas of Agriculture and Food Sciences, Geography and Earth Sciences, Ecology and Environment, and Veterinary Sciences.

The Faculty comprises six Schools: Agriculture and Food Science, Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Mathematics and Physics, and Veterinary Science.

The School of Agriculture and Food Sciences is one of the largest Schools of this type in Australia, comprising research and teaching experts in plant and soil science, animal science, agricultural business, agricultural and resource economics, environmental science, nutrition, food science and technology, and rural development. With a diverse group of internationally regarded scientists, our experts deliver knowledge, skills and research that provide solutions to world issues in climate change, feeding the world, managing the environment, replacing fossil fuels with biofuels, maintaining biodiversity and supporting economic and community development.

Located at St Lucia and Gatton, the School is a large and dynamic multidisciplinary hub focused on applied research and teaching within the Faculty of Science, and committed to finding innovative and technology-focused solutions to global challenges. The School offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate coursework and research degrees encompassing agriculture and related disciplines ranging from Bachelor Degree to Doctorate. Quality laboratories and facilities and strong partnerships with industry, community and government bodies, provide an environment that enables world-class research and research training in a collaborative and cooperative spirit for postgraduate students and researchers.

The Rural Development group, within the Agribusiness and Rural Development Group in the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, is an interdisciplinary social sciences group devoted to social and cultural dimensions of food and agricultural systems, especially with a development focus. The group is responsible for teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses into Agricultural Science, Agribusiness, and Environmental Management degree programs, as well as advising a diverse cohort of Research Higher Degree students from many countries. The group has a vibrant research culture, focused particularly on participatory
projects with communities and other stakeholders. Typical projects are multidisciplinary, in collaboration with biophysical and social scientists within and beyond the School, and are funded from government, industry and international sources. Current projects are in Australia, South East Asia, and the Pacific.

Further information on the School’s teaching programs, research foci and community activities can be accessed at www.uq.edu.au/agriculture. Faculty of Science information covering 6 Schools and 19 Centres is available at http://www.uq.edu.au/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

To contribute to teaching, research, and service as a Lecturer in Rural Development and Agricultural Extension. The appointee will be responsible for teaching into the undergraduate and postgraduate programs in Rural Development and Agricultural Extension and will be expected to supervise research students and maintain a research program.

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:

Teaching and Learning

- Teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the area of Rural Development and Agricultural Extension and other areas of the School as required
- Take responsibility for the preparation and delivery of substantial course modules
- Coordinate one or more courses including collaboration in curriculum design and delivery where appropriate
- Enhance teaching of Rural Development and Agricultural Extension through the development of innovative teaching tools and approaches, including field teaching and flexible delivery
- Effectively supervise, foster and mentor undergraduate, postgraduate and Higher Degree by Research students

Research

- Develop a program of research in Rural Development and Agricultural Extension
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects
• Take a chief investigator role, potentially in collaboration with more experienced researchers, in applications for external research funding
• Develop an established record of publication in high quality outlets
• Achieve national recognition in a chosen research area

Service and Engagement

• Efficiently manage allocated internal service roles, in order to contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the School
• Be active in making external contributions to the Rural Development and Agricultural Extension community
• Foster the School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community

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 the Head, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences.

SELECTION CRITERIA

• A PhD in the social sciences or a field closely related to the position.
• Evidence of contributions to research, including peer-reviewed publications in leading multi-disciplinary journals and success in attracting external research grants and/or fellowships.
• Evidence of effective teaching practices and an ability to provide high level teaching and learning outcomes.
• Demonstrated experience in team-based and collaborative research and teaching, including with external agencies.
• An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote Rural Development and Agricultural Extension within the university and more widely.
• Research interests that complement those of other staff members as outlined on the School website would be desirable.
• International experience, especially in developing countries would be highly regarded.
Seminar

Applicants invited for interview may be expected to present a seminar in conjunction with the selection interview process.

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 the contact person listed in the job advertisement.