

# **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Position Title:** Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Organisational Unit: School of Biomedical Sciences

Position Number: NEW

**Type of Employment:** Full time, Fixed term

Classification: Academic Research 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 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 45<sup>th</sup> 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://uniquest.com.au/our-track-record). UQ also has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

#### **Faculty of Medicine**

The University of Queensland's Faculty of Medicine is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. The research-intensive Faculty has a gross budget of almost \$300 million, employs approximately 1000 continuing and fixed-term staff (headcount), has a community of more than 4000 non-salaried academic appointees and around 3200 students (headcount).

The Faculty of Medicine offers Australia's largest medical degree program for graduates and school-leavers. Undergraduate and postgraduate programs are available in the disciplines of Medicine, Health Sciences, E-Health, Mental Health, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice in disciplines ranging from the basic sciences, biomedical research and development, to clinical trials and public health. Research projects within the Faculty have already led to discoveries with far-reaching social and economic impacts, including the revolutionary Gardasil (TM) vaccine for cervical cancer (Professor Ian Frazer) and a drug discovery EMA401 (Professor Maree Smith), a first-in-class oral treatment for chronic pain which through Spinifex Pharmaceuticals led to Australia's largest biotechnology commercialisation deal. Faculty staff include three highly cited authors, one Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), three Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) and 12 Fellows of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). The Faculty is a core member of Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners, the Brisbane-wide academic health science system.

Educational offerings in biomedical sciences, medicine and public health are informed and supported by research activity across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance including recognised strengths in cancer, skin diseases, brain and mental health, maternal and child health and genomics. Cutting-edge facilities such as the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR), our laboratories in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the new Centre for Children's Health Research (CCHR) enable outstanding research outcomes and sharpen our understanding of cancer, autoimmunity, mental disorders, infectious diseases and neurological disease. Further details are available at www.medicine.ug.edu.au.

#### **School of Biomedical Sciences**

The University of Queensland School of Biomedical Sciences is a distinguished centre for teaching and research in the academic disciplines of Anatomy, Developmental Biology, Physiology, Pharmacology and Pathology. The School has more than 40 full-time research and teaching staff and is one of the largest Schools of its type in Australia. It has links to other prestigious research centres on the St Lucia campus including the Queensland Brain Institute (QBI), the Institute of Molecular Bioscience (IMB) and the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN). Our diverse research provides an exciting environment for national and international research fellows and higher degree students. It is

concerned with advancing the understanding of how cellular mechanisms contribute to the function of the human body in health and disease. Details of the research interests of academic staff may be accessed on the school's web site at <a href="https://biomedical-sciences.uq.edu.au/">https://biomedical-sciences.uq.edu.au/</a>

In addition to its graduate research programs, the School teaches undergraduate students in Science, Medicine, and Health Sciences.

## **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 <u>Enterprise Agreement</u> outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

#### **DUTY STATEMENT**

The primary role of this position is to perform biochemical analysis on the regulation of mitochondrial quality control, and to conduct research under the supervision of the ARC Future Fellow. The project will investigate how ubiquitin ligases control cell processes like the cell cycle regulation, mitochondrial quality control, and DNA damage. Where directed, provision of routine laboratory tasks and related management tasks including supervision of more junior staff or students will also be expected.

#### **Duties**

Duties include, but are not limited to -

- Conduct internationally competitive research in the areas of mitochondrial quality control, ubiquitin ligases, and cell cycle regulation
- Present results of research at seminars, meetings, and conferences
- Work with the team (colleagues and students) towards the preparation of manuscripts (primary research and review articles) for peer-reviewed publication as both the lead author and supporting author
- Apply for relevant funding opportunities to further expand the research portfolio
- Assist with the training and supervision of research higher degree students
- Contribute to a safe and supportive laboratory working environment
- 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 <u>University's Code of Conduct</u>
- 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 sustainable practices in all work activities and compliance with associated legislation and related University <u>sustainability responsibilities and</u> <u>procedures</u>

 requirements of the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000, the National Code 2007 and associated legislation, and related <u>responsibilities and</u> <u>procedures</u> developed by the University

### Selection Criteria - Experience, Knowledge, Skills and Qualifications

#### **Essential**

- PhD in a relevant field (molecular biology, cell biology, or biochemistry)
- Broad scientific and technical knowledge, with areas of specialist knowledge in molecular biology or cell biology and cell signalling
- Experience with Tissue Culture, Western blotting, fluorescence microscopy, molecular biology techniques
- Demonstrated ability to publish research
- Demonstrated capacity to work effectively without direct supervision
- Capacity to liaise effectively and relate well to research staff and students
- Ability to maintain accurate, detailed records and experimental data and protocols. Provide progress reports in an organized, consistent manner.
- Ability to develop of risk assessments and standard operating procedures

#### **Desireable**

- Knowledge, experience and skills in confocal microscopy, superresolution microscopy, and image processing software (2D/3D/4D)
- Experience with biochemical techniques such as affinity purifications and preparation of samples for mass spectrometry analysis.

# **Organisational Relationships**

The position reports to the ARC Future Fellow.

#### **Qualification Verification**

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

# **Vaccinations and Immunisation**

It is a condition of employment for this role that, if you are required now or in the future, to work or interact in a Queensland Health clinical facility, or in an equivalent clinical health facility, or in a health care role, or will be required to perform work tasks that put you at risk of exposure to vaccine-preventable disease, you are required to be immunised against, and remain immunised against, certain vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs) in accordance with the University's Vaccinations and Immunisation Guidelines (PPL 2.60.08). The employee is required to provide evidence of immunisation against VPDs.

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 (<a href="http://www.uq.edu.au/equity">http://www.uq.edu.au/equity</a>) 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 recruitment team at recruitment@uq.edu.au