POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Curriculum and Educational Designer
Organisation Unit: School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Position Number: TBC
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed Term for 5 years
Classification: Academic Level A or B (Teaching Focused)

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 School of Agriculture and Food Sciences is one of the largest Schools of this type in Australia, comprising research and teaching experts in agribusiness and the science disciplines of animals and wildlife, plants and soil sciences, food and nutrition science. With nearly 350 staff, 300 higher degree research students and over $33 million in operating and research income, the School has helped UQ to become recognised as one of the top 50 universities in the world for Life and Agriculture Sciences, and the leading agriculture university in Australia.

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 committed to finding innovative and technology focussed solutions to global challenges. The School offers a range of undergraduate postgraduate coursework and research degrees encompassing agriculture and related disciplines ranging from Bachelor Degree to Doctorate. With a diverse group of internationally regarded scientists, the School hosts six research concentrations, of which three are aligned with the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation – a joint initiative between The University of Queensland and the Queensland State Government. 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. Information about the Faculty and the School may be accessed on the Faculty’s web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/agriculture/

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.

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 engage as an Associate Lecturer or Lecturer in Agricultural and Food Sciences through the development, practice, evaluation and communication of improved pedagogies, learning processes, curricula, policies and learning materials for courses at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level including face to face, on-line and distance learning.

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

At Level A and B

- In collaboration with other staff undertake the development of course materials and curriculum.
- Maintain teaching quality and improve or innovate where appropriate and maintain currency with the discipline.
- Contribute to the design, development, implementation and evaluation of new educational projects across the school with a focus on initiatives relating to educational technologies and learning spaces.
- Provide consultative support and educational advice and guidance to academic and professional staff on the appropriate use of learning technologies to enhance and transform the learning and teaching experience, including advice on emerging trends in educational technologies and the use of these technologies.
- Develop an in-depth shared understanding of educational issues, educational methodologies and technology issues facing the school for internal and external students.
- Cultivate collaborative partnerships between the school, faculty and the Institute for Teaching and Learning Innovation (ITaLI) to develop tailored educational design solutions.
- Involvement in Honours and (where appropriate) Higher Degree by Research supervision would usually be expected.

At Level B

- Take responsibility for collaboration in curriculum design and delivery where appropriate.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

At Level A and B

- Develop a knowledge of effective discipline-specific pedagogical practices and collaborate in the development of quality projects which explore, test, practice and communicate improved pedagogies.
- Participate in internal and external teaching and learning grants for innovative pedagogy directed in blended learning where applicable.
At Level B

- Build on an established profile in the scholarship of teaching through the consolidation of high levels of discipline-related expertise and pedagogical content knowledge.
- Produce outputs that are innovative, able to be replicated and elaborated, documented and subject to peer review.
- Take an active role in the development of internal and external teaching and learning grants for innovative pedagogy directed blended learning.

Service and Engagement

- Facilitate discussions with other Educational Designers as part of an educational innovation community of practice, engage in collaborative work, share effective pedagogical approaches, methodologies, tools and applications with the wider school community.
- Play a key role in managing the ongoing improvement of courses and programs at an undergraduate and postgraduate level.
- Contribute to strategic planning, particularly with regard to the technology platforms, learning spaces, and pedagogy by acting as an advocate for pedagogical insight into design, configuration and implementation of the technological components.
- Support staff in their use of, and development of capability to use education technology, including the Blackboard and Canvas learning management systems, delivery of face-to-face and online training programs as required.
- Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the School, including participate in School decision-making and serve on School committees.
- 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 of School.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- Relevant degree with experience and expertise in educational/instructional design and educational technologies, or an equivalent combination of relevant knowledge, training and/or experience.
- Demonstrated commitment and capability to engage and facilitate learning and teaching and to deliver innovative course and program material for effective learning practices in the fields of agriculture, biology, ecology, food and environmental science.
- Expertise in two or more of the following areas, applied in an educational context:
  - Educational design for student engagement in learning
  - Professional education and work integrated learning
  - Flexible, online, mobile and/or blended learning
  - Specific educational technologies
  - Assessment and feedback.
- Experience in the pedagogy of using technologies to develop e-learning materials and programs coupled with proven experience in developing and delivering stimulating and engaging professional learning for teaching staff in both small group and workshop settings. Familiarity with established and developing educational software including Google Apps for Education, Moodle, Turnitin, EQUELLA.
- Effective oral and written communication skills, including the ability to foster inclusive, respectful and productive working relationships with staff, students and colleagues and to engage with the profession and stakeholder communities.
- Previous experience teaching in a tertiary education institution or in a role facilitating professional development for educators, and an understanding of the issues regarding the academic, research, administrative and social aspects of a university is highly desirable.

Additional Selection Criteria for Level B

- Demonstrated contributions to the scholarship of teaching and learning as evidenced by peer-reviewed publications in leading journals and success in attracting grants related to innovative pedagogical development.

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.

This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated. Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to the contact person listed in the job ad.