POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Lead Research Analyst
Organisation Unit: Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences
Position Number: TBA
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term (3 years)
Classification: HEW8

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.

**Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences**

The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences is a strong faculty that has a coherent focus on health and well-being underpinned by a clear integrative theme related to preventive health and behaviour change. Furthermore, the Faculty provides the opportunity for the allied health sciences to have a strong voice and great visibility within the University.

The Faculty currently includes:

- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Psychology
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR)
- RECOVER Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS)
- Centre for Business and Economics of Health (CBEH)
- UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health
- Southern Queensland Rural Health (SQRH)

More information about the Faculty is available at: [http://habs.uq.edu.au/](http://habs.uq.edu.au/).

**Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences**

The Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS) is a research Centre, funded by Queensland Health and The University of Queensland that is committed to establishing and maintaining multidisciplinary research expertise across a range of environment health sciences. These include environmental aspects of toxicology, human health epidemiology, microbiology, health risk assessment, health risk communication, identification and analysis of emerging environmental health risks, and state-of-the art monitoring and analytical techniques, methodologies and technologies for environmental hazards and exposures. The Faculty is strongly committed to the advancement of quality inter-professional education and genuine inter-disciplinary research in the health sciences. Further information is available at [www.health.uq.edu.au/habs](http://www.health.uq.edu.au/habs).

QAEHS works closely with Queensland Health to develop its research directions, and to provide expert opinion and advice, as well as relevant training for Queensland Health staff. In addition, staff pursue research excellence through competitively funded research and government or private consultancies. Supervision of research students and some coursework teaching are other core components of QAEHS’ activities.
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](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq)

**DUTY STATEMENT**

**Primary Purpose of Positions**

The role of the Lead Research Analyst is to manage the quality and delivery of analytical activities for the Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS). This role will include management of the development and the application of target and non-target trace analytical methods for contemporary and emerging contaminants in biotic and abiotic matrices, such as water, air, soil, blood and urine, using LC-MSMS, LC-QTOF, GC-HRMS and/or GC-MSMS methods.

This position will supervise research professional staff engaged in these activities and will manage the training of staff, visitors and students and analytical quality control and quality assurance (QA/QC) for the Centre and individual research groups.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research**

- Actively facilitate and coordinate research related to monitoring and characterisation of trace organic pollutants in humans and the environment through analytical method development, aiming to define and implement strategies to develop validated new methodologies, high throughput analysis where necessary and adherence to best practise standards.

- Manage and contribute to the analytical aspects of research and consultancy projects on a day-to-day basis, including methodology literature reviews, analytical method development, quality control and quality assurance (QA/QC), and data analysis and interpretation.

- Remain up-to-date with the scientific literature on emerging contaminants, analytical method developments and analytical best practice, and support the Theme Leaders and other academics to identify and drive research focus into new areas.

- Manage the maintenance of the Centre’s analytical instruments, including liaising with instrument vendors, negotiating maintenance contracts, organising repairs and replacement parts.

- Lead the development, improvement and monitoring of analytical quality control and quality assurance (QA/QC) (laboratory and instrument) for the Centre.

- Manage and contribute to training staff, visitors and students to use the Centre’s analytical instruments and analyse/interpret analytical data.

- Liaise internally with academics and staff at all levels of the Centre to ensure analytical objectives of the Centre are met, including, for example, training needs of staff, students and visitors, equitable allocation of instrument time, planning for new and replacement instruments, participation in inter-laboratory testing, adequate QA/QC processes to ensure consistent and defendable data are produced.

- Liaise with external clients who are contracting the Centre to undertake analytical work for them; manage the projects to ensure deliverables and milestones are met.

- Prepare and manage an annual budget for instrument maintenance, service contracts
and instrument consumables.

**Staff Management**
- Supervise professional research staff undertaking analytical duties for the Centre and individual research groups, including managing the employee lifecycle.
- Coordinate the delegation of tasks to professional research staff to achieve project and reporting deadlines.
- Conduct and/or oversee performance planning and review in accordance with the Recognition and Development Program, examining training needs and coordinating staff development for support staff.

**Service and Engagement**
- Perform a range of administrative functions necessary to support the analytical team’s core functions and other project work.
- 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:
- 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 positions report to Professor Jochen Mueller, QAEHS.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

**Essential**
- PhD in environmental or analytical chemistry or related area, with experience in the research context.
- Knowledge of, and interest in, analytical approaches to monitor and characterise trace organic pollutants in humans and the environment.
- Ability to lead the development and interpretation of new analytical methods and protocols for contemporary and emerging organic contaminants, including the suite of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), in biotic and abiotic matrices.
- Demonstrated experience in the use and maintenance of analytical instruments for target and non-target compound identification, including High Resolution Mass Spectroscopy (HRMS) and Tandem Mass Spectroscopy (MS/MS) instrumentation, and specifically UHPLC-QToF (accurate mass).
• Demonstrated ability and experience in the analysis and interpretation of analytical data for both target and non-target approaches.
• Strong laboratory skills (including experience of extraction and purification techniques for a range of organic contaminants in biotic and abiotic matrices).
• Ability to manage staff to achieve a high standard of staff performance, skills development and productivity.
• Demonstrated supervisory skills of professional research/analytical staff and/or students.
• Strong written and oral communication skills.
• An ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team.
• A high level of motivation, initiative and enthusiasm.

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

It is a condition of employment for this role that you will be required to provide evidence of immunisation against certain vaccine preventable diseases.

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 recruitment@uq.edu.au