

Position Title	Research Associate
Classification	Level A
School/Division	College of Schools
Centre/Section	School of Biological Sciences
Supervisor Title	Professor
Supervisor Position Number	FSR 313508
Position Number	FSR New

Your work area

The School of Biological Sciences is a large, multidisciplinary School with over 80 high-calibre staff delivering world-class education and research programs to approximately 600 undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students and is responsible for the supervision of ~100 PhD students. The School is research-intensive with expertise in the disciplines of Computational Biology, Ecology & Conservation, Evolutionary Biology, Neuroscience and Science Communication.

The Batley lab studies genetics and genomics on a range of crop and pathogen species, including subterranean clover, soybean, wheat, banana and chickpea, with other projects on a wide range of species including parasitic plants and pearl oyster, however our primary research focus is on the agricultural oilseed crop *Brassica napus* (canola), and its interactions with the disease-causing fungus *Leptosphaeria maculans* (blackleg). Related research projects include identification of blackleg disease resistance genes in canola using next-generation sequencing and high-throughput molecular marker approaches. New projects are investigating the role of structural variation in the *Brassica* genomes, specifically in relation to disease resistance and understanding the evolution of disease resistance genes. In conjunction with this our lab continues to work on development of genomes and pan genomes.

Reporting structure

Reports to: Professor

Your role

You, as the successful appointee, will be responsible for research projects investigating plant pathogen interactions and evolution of disease resistance genes and preparing and publishing scientific publications with a focus on crop plants. You will also be involved in project planning, execution of molecular experiments, data analysis and interpretation, preparation of scientific manuscripts for publication and participation in the supervision of other research personnel engaged in the projects.

Your key responsibilities

Plan and implement the preparation of scientific manuscripts for publication in peer reviewed journals

Manage research projects, including strategic planning and project execution, coordinate

data analysis and publications

Develop research methodologies and experimental design

Undertake applied molecular biology research as part of a specialised team with a focus on genomics and plant pathogen interactions

Assist in supporting the ongoing activities of the applied bioinformatics group, including development and maintenance of databases and websites

Other duties as directed

Your specific work capabilities (selection criteria)

Graduate or Postgraduate qualifications in the area of plant genomics, plant pathogen interactions or plant molecular biology or a combination of relevant experience and/or education/training

Advanced molecular biology skills

Substantial relevant experience in writing scientific manuscripts and reports

Highly developed written and verbal communication skills

Experience in plant genomics and mining of genomics data

Experience with plant genetic transformation and genome editing

High level competence in biological laboratory safety and best practice

Highly developed organisational skills with the demonstrated ability to set priorities and to meet deadlines

Demonstrated good workplace communication skills

Advanced computing skills

Ability to work independently, show initiative, problem solve and work productively as part of a team

Desirable: understanding of plant pathogen interactions

Special requirements (selection criteria)

There are no special requirements

Compliance

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including:

The University's Code of Conduct hr.uwa.edu.au/policies/policies/conduct/code/conduct

Inclusion and Diversity web.uwa.edu.au/inclusion-diversity

Safety, health and wellbeing safety.uwa.edu.au/