

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Senior/Principal Research Fellow
Organisation Unit:	Centre for Plant Science, Toowoomba, Queensland
Position Number:	3018488
Type of Employment:	Full-time, fixed term until 30 September 2015 (with potential extension to 5-year term)
Classification:	Level C/D (The level of appointment will commensurate with the successful applicant's qualifications and experience)

BACKGROUND

Organisational Environment

The Federal Government's 2012 Excellence in Research for Australia survey confirmed The University of Queensland as one of the nation's top two universities, measured on a combination of research quality and breadth. ERA reported that research at UQ is above world standard in more broad fields than at any other Australian university: this reflects UQ's leading global role in many areas of discovery. UQ's outstanding critical mass offers researchers significant interdisciplinary capability.

UQ integrates its research strengths with excellent teaching and learning and has won more national teaching awards than any other Australian university. The *Times Higher Education-QS* table ranks UQ in the top 100 universities globally, and the *Shanghai Jiao Tong University World Rankings* names UQ as a top 20 Asia-Pacific institution. UQ is one of Australia's Group of Eight, and a founding member of Universitas 21, an international consortium of leading research-intensive universities.

UQ's 44,000-strong student community includes 10,000 postgraduate scholars and almost 10,000 international students from 134 countries. The University has 6300 academic and professional staff and a \$1.4 billion annual operating budget. Its major campuses are at St Lucia, Ipswich, Gatton and Herston, in addition to teaching and research sites around Queensland and Brisbane city. The University has six faculties and eight institutes. The institutes — funded by government and industry grants, philanthropy and commercialisation activities — have built scale and focus in research areas that UQ regards as strategically important.

The Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) is a unique research institute in Australia as it is a jointly funded initiative of UQ and Agri-Science Queensland and Biosecurity Queensland, part of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). QAAFI conducts research and development to benefit the food and fibre sector both nationally and internationally.

The Institute's strengths are reflected in its three research centres – the *Centre for Plant Science*, the *Centre for Animal Science* and the *Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences*. QAAFI brings together scientists from UQ and DAFF to conduct high-end science that delivers higher impact outcomes for industry and the community.

Details of the research interests of the Institute may be accessed on the Institute's web site at <http://www.qaafi.uq.edu.au>

Information for Prospective Staff

Information can be found at <http://www.uq.edu.au/uqjobs/>

Schedule 10 of The University of Queensland Enterprise Agreement 2010 – 2013 outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To engage, as a Senior/Principal Research Fellow, in Research for Industry outcomes, Postgraduate teaching and supervision, and further development of the Institute's research programs, as well as performing administrative and other activities associated with the Institute and its *Centres*.

This position will lead an applied Weed Science and Management Program within the Centre for Plant Science focussed on field crop weed issues in the northern grains region

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Develop an ongoing Independent and/or Team Research Program of Discovery, Applied and Contract Research in Weed Science and Management.
- Obtain and successfully manage external competitive research grants, and consistently lead successful applications for external competitive research funding
- Conduct research and publish scholarly papers in high quality outlets, and achieve national and international recognition in the research area.
- Contribute as a chief investigator to collaborations which yield new insights and opportunities, and have an international reputation for quality and impact of work through publication.
- Lead a research team and foster the research activities of others.

Industry Liaison & Community Service

- Foster the Institute's relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Write reports, develop and deliver original presentations (including educational material) for Industry.
- Show professional leadership and engage with the community and industry.

Student Training

- Participate in events to attract postgraduate students to the Institute
- Teach and supervise at honours and postgraduate level to contribute to the successful training of research higher degree students.
- Provide leadership within the Centre in research training and supervision.
- Have an active and effective record of principal supervision of research higher degree students.

Administration

- Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the Institute, including participation in Institute and Centre decision-making and serving on Institute committees.
- Perform a range of administrative functions, and higher level internal duties and provide strong contribution to activities relevant to the Centre and Institute and the external community – including industry.
- Make a strong contribution to the governance of the Institute, including mentoring less experienced staff

Other

- Comply with the University's Code of Conduct (see the University's web site at <http://www.uq.edu.au/hupp/?page=24987>)
- Comply with requirements of Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related OH&S responsibilities and procedures developed by the University or School. (see the University's web site at <http://www.uq.edu.au/ohs/index.html?page=133956>)
- Adopt sustainable practices in all work activities and comply with associated legislation and related sustainability responsibilities and procedures developed by the University (see the University's web site at <http://www.uq.edu.au/sustainability/responsibilities>)

Reporting Relationships

The position reports to the Director, Centre for Plant Science, QAAFI.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications

Essential

- PhD in the area of *Plant/ Agricultural Science*.

Knowledge and Skills

Essential

- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of weed science and management.
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote weed science and management at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and professional bodies.
- Track record of supervision of Honours and Research Higher Degree students to successful completion.
- Strong national and international industry liaisons and professional contacts.

Experience

Essential

- Evidence of high level success in gaining significant external grant funds.
- Experience in liaising and collaborating with external agencies to develop co-operative and successful research initiatives.
- Strong evidence of producing and delivering educational material for Industry, and publishing in internationally-recognised outlets.

Personal Qualities

Essential

- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.
- Ability to successfully lead a research team to deliver tangible outputs to industry.
- Ability to mentor less experienced Institute staff.

The University of Queensland is an equal opportunity employer.

Smoking is prohibited in all University buildings.