

Position Statement

Faculty:	Faculty of Science, Agriculture, Business and Law	Position Number:	0000015564
School:	School of Environmental and Rural Science – Animal Science	Classification Level:	Level A
Reports to:	Associate Professor in Animal Genetics	Location:	Armidale
Number of direct reports:	Nil		

University of New England

The University of New England (UNE), Armidale is a regionally based, globally networked university that is renowned for the quality of its student experience and the excellence of its research specialisations. UNE pioneered teaching to external students making it the most experienced provider of distance and innovative online education. Currently there are over 26,000 students (84% of whom are distance/online students) and approximately 1,200 academic and general staff. The UNE decadal strategic plan 2021-2030, Future Fit, has been developed to guide the University to deliver on its enduring vision to support the aspirations of individuals in communities, and communities within regions, in a digital age.

- [Future Fit 2021-2030](#)

The Faculty

The Faculty of Science, Agriculture, Business and Law (SABL) is an innovative collaboration of scientists, researchers, and academics designed to deliver cutting edge education and real-world learning (see [Faculty of Science, Agriculture, Business and Law Strategic Plan 2019-2025](#)). The Faculty consists of over 700 staff and postgraduate students with international reach and active industry collaborations with partners across Asia, the Indo-Pacific and Africa. Teaching and learning in Agriculture, Environmental Science, Biomedical Science, Science and Technology, Economics, Business, and Law enables unique opportunities to build both deep domain-specific and broad trans-disciplinary knowledge; consolidate real-world experience with higher-education skills, and extend undergraduate expertise with globally recognised discipline mastery that accelerates careers and demonstrates value in an ever-changing world. This position is in the Animal Science theme within the School of Environmental and Rural Science (ERS). This is a research-intensive group that attracts competitive funding to support research at the leading edge of agricultural and biological research nationally and internationally.

The School

The School of Environmental and Rural Science (ERS) is a research-intensive School that attracts external competitive funding to support research at the leading edge of agricultural, ecological and biological research, nationally and internationally. The School spans seven disciplines: Agronomy and Soil Science, Animal Science, Zoology, Botany, Earth Sciences and Ecosystem Management.

The Role

The research fellow in Animal Genetics will be working on project funded by Meat& Livestock Australia, the University of New England and the Department of Primary Industries and Angus Australia to aid in the development of a “Genetic improvement pipeline to reduce methane and improve productivity in the Australian beef industry”. You will be a core member of the research

project and have an important role undertaking genetic analysis of data on methane emissions and productivity, as well as genomic data, as collected in the project, and you will be estimating relevant genetic parameters and modelling strategies for genetic improvement of those traits. You will be part of a multi-institutional and multidisciplinary team and a proactive and collaborative approach to research as well as an ability to communicate effectively with industry partners and farmers is expected.

Diversity Statement

The University of New England strives to be an equal opportunities employer, and supports a diverse and equitable workplace through a range of policies and support mechanisms. These include, but are not limited to, support for Indigenous people, LGBTQIA+ identifying people, people with disabilities, people of diverse genders, and people from any ethnic background. If you would like to talk to a representative about support for a diverse group at UNE, please ask your recruiting manager.

Specific Duties

Specific duties required of a Level A research-only academic may include:

- The conduct of research under limited supervision either as a member of a team or, where appropriate, independently, and the production or contribution to the production of conference and seminar papers and publications from that research.
- Involvement in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance at conferences and seminars in the field of expertise.
- Limited administrative functions primarily connected with the area of research of the academic.
- Development of a limited amount of research-related material for teaching or other purposes with appropriate guidance from other staff.
- Occasional contributions to teaching in relation to his/her research project(s).
- Experimental design and operation of advanced laboratory and technical equipment or conduct of advanced research procedures.
- Attendance at meetings associated with research or the work of the organisational unit to which the research is connected and/or at departmental and/or Faculty meetings and/or membership of a limited number of committees.
- Advice within the field of the employee's research to postgraduate students.

A Level A research-only academic will work with support, guidance and/or direction from staff classified at Level B and above and with an increasing degree of autonomy as the research academic gains in skill and experience.

Skill Base

A Level A research-only academic will normally have completed four years of tertiary study in the relevant discipline or have equivalent qualifications or research experience. In many cases a position at this level will require an honours degree or higher qualifications or equivalent research experience. Research experience may have contributed to or resulted in publications, conference papers, reports or professional or technical contributions which give evidence of research potential.

How you will be assessed for the role

The UNE Core Capability Framework describes six core capabilities for all staff at UNE. Your merit will be assessed based on the demonstration of all or most of the following UNE core capabilities as they relate to the role:

- Shapes and Supports Strategy
- Leads and is Open to Change
- Acts with Courage and Integrity
- Delivers and Achieves Results
- Develops and Maintains Relationships
- Communicates with Influence

You will also need to exhibit the knowledge, educational requirements, skills and attributes required for the position.

Selection Criteria

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1. Appropriate qualifications and research training relevant to the duties, including completion or near completion of a PhD degree in animal science or quantitative genetics.
 2. A strong record of research output (relative to opportunity), including publications in high quality, peer-reviewed journals.
 3. Experience with analysis based on complex mixed model analysis and modelling and large-scale data analysis, preferably with grazing livestock.
 4. Some computer programming experience and the ability to communicate with databases and to handle large data files.
 5. Demonstrated ability to using science to deliver useful outcomes that address industry need.
 6. Strong communication skills with the ability to effectively communicate research outcomes and research ideas with primary producers, industry advisors and other industry stakeholders.
 7. A commitment to a diverse and inclusive academic environment and willingness to contribute and support a team effort.
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Desirable

8. A good understanding of Australian extensive livestock production systems.
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