



SPECIFIED PATHOGEN FREE (SPF) UNIT MANAGER

Research Animal Facility Faculty of Health Sciences

The main purpose of this position is to oversee the efficient management of the UCT Research Animal Facility's Specified Pathogen-Free (SPF) Unit, including all SPF operations and facility management, the management of various SPF programmes, the management and refinement of the SPF quality systems, and the line-management of SPF staff, in order to humanely produce highly standardised genetically-modified rodents of certified high health status for biomedical research, in South Africa's largest and most complex academic research animal facility.

Requirements include:

- Registered with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) to practice as a veterinary or para-veterinary professional
- If not registered with the SAVC as a laboratory animal technologist (LAT), the candidate must be willing to complete the Institute of Animal Technology distance-learning course during the initial 3 years of employment at UCT, as well as the practical training required in order to allow registration as LAT with the SAVC
- Minimum of 5 years experience working as an SAVC-registered professional
- Minimum of 5 years experience working in a research animal facility, clinical animal facility, research animal ethics or related field, with evidence of good practice
- Minimum of 3 years experience in the management of staff. Strong leadership skills, analytical thinking, problem solving and willingness to assume high levels of responsibility
- Fluency in written and spoken English, good communication skills and professional report compilation
- Understanding of quality management systems, quality assurance and quality control processes
- Ability to work diligently, responsibly, efficiently and unsupervised
- Good planning, organising and decision making skills
- Ability to work independently and within a team
- Experience in MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint

Advantageous:

- Experience in managing the breeding of genetically modified rodents or SPF animals
- Experience in managing people as well as an understanding of relevant labour legislation
- Experience in the management of a rodent laboratory animal facility
- Experience in the management of an SPF animal breeding facility
- Experience managing or working in an ISO or SANAS accredited or GLP compliant or comparable scientific facility
- Good understanding of the principles, standards, procedures and ethics of animal care and use for scientific purposes
- Experience in conducting biological research, including lab work, literature reviews, study design, data analysis, publications, conference presentations and using referencing software
- Experience in the development, implementation and assessment of skills-based training programmes
- Experience working in or managing BioSafety Laboratories or Specified Pathogen-Free units
- Knowledge of reproduction biotechnology (e.g. cryopreservation, embryo transfer)
- Experience in creating or maintaining relational databases (e.g. MS Access)
- Experience serving on institutional animal ethics committees
- Degree in an appropriate scientific discipline
- Presentation of talks, workshops or posters
- Experience in audits of animal facilities
- Project management experience

Responsibilities include:

- Oversee the efficient management and appropriate functioning of the SPF rodent breeding facility
- Manage SPF breeding programmes, genetic monitoring, health monitoring and quarantine programmes
- Line-manage SPF staff in relation to their responsibilities and activities to ensure that they render high quality work
- Manage, maintain, monitor and continually refine the SPF standard operating procedures and Quality Management System
- Perform specialised para-veterinary procedures competently on live rodents without assistance or supervision

The annual remuneration (including benefits) for 2015 is between R370,020 and R435,267 (*The 2016 CoE is still under review*), depending on qualifications and experience.

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Ms Sithini Ngozi at recruitment05@uct.ac.za:

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Motivational cover letter, and
- Full Curriculum Vitae (CV)

The successful candidate may be required to undergo a pre-placement medical assessment.

An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Telephone: +27 21 650 2220
Reference number: E16035

Website: <http://www.health.uct.ac.za/>
Closing date: 29 March 2016

UCT is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving its equity targets. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at <http://www.uct.ac.za/downloads/uct.ac.za/about/policies/eepolicy.pdf>. For this post we seek particularly to attract black South African candidates (i.e. Coloured, African, Indian). UCT reserves the right not to appoint.