

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE
Department of Food Science

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Assistant Professor of Food Microbiology and Food Safety Extension Specialist (12-month, tenure-track position; 70% Research, 30% Extension).

Location: Knoxville, Tennessee

Effective Date: Screening of applicants will begin **September 30, 2018** and will continue until the position is filled.

Overview: The successful applicant will develop a high-impact, nationally recognized integrated research and Extension program focusing on emerging issues in applied and/or fundamental food microbiology and food safety. Specific research areas in applied and fundamental food microbiology will depend on candidate's expertise and interest and will ideally complement current departmental expertise in food microbiology and food safety. This individual will also provide leadership in food safety Extension and outreach education that meets the needs of clientele regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or veteran status.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with other faculty by providing expertise in food microbiology and food safety.
- Secure extramural and internal funding.
- Publish research and other creative activities at scientific meetings and refereed journals.
- Mentor and advise students in research and Extension and post-doctoral researchers.
- Provide leadership in a statewide, county-based food safety Extension program by
 - Coordinating in-service training and support for Extension Agents.
 - Educating growers and others through the creation and delivery of workshops and short courses through a variety of platforms (in-person, distance delivery, and emerging technologies), including the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule and participate in other Food Safety Extension programs as appropriate.
 - Developing linkages between the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA), Tennessee Department of Agriculture, federal agencies, and the food industry.
- Provide leadership to state level, youth programs related to food safety as appropriate.
- Participate in service roles in the Department, UTIA, University and professional societies.

Required Qualifications:

- An earned doctorate in Food Science with a concentration in food microbiology, microbiology, or a related field with a focus on microbiological food safety by the time of appointment.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Desired Qualifications:

- Evidence of scholarship through scientific presentations and publications.
- Experience in grant-writing.
- Relevant Extension and/or research experience beyond the Ph.D. degree.
- Knowledge of food production systems.
- Evidence of the ability to collaborate with diverse audiences including faculty, stakeholders, and other clientele.

The University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) is the state's flagship research institution, a campus of choice for outstanding undergraduates and a premier graduate institution. As a land-grant university, it is committed to excellence in scholarship, learning and service and aims to enrich and elevate society.

Knoxville is situated in a valley between the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Cumberland Plateau, areas of great beauty and among the most bio-diverse in the USA. Knoxville is a city of 200,000 offering many amenities of urban life. Knoxville has a beautiful and walkable downtown, active neighborhoods, and eclectic cultural activities, restaurants, and shopping. Trip Advisor recently named Knoxville a Top Ten Destination on the Rise. Knoxville is located within easy driving distance to Asheville, Atlanta, and Nashville.

The Department of Food Science resides within the UTIA and adheres to the three-pronged mission of land grant universities by providing quality research, teaching and Extension, including outreach, to the citizens of Tennessee and elsewhere. The mission of the Department is "to address global problems in food safety, quality and health through fundamental and applied research, prepare graduates for the global food industry or health professional programs, and deliver effective outreach education to the citizens of Tennessee and beyond." The Department offers BS, MS, and PhD degrees. The Department currently has 12 full-time faculty members with expertise in diverse areas of food chemistry, food microbiology, food processing and engineering, and food sensory science. The successful candidate will have access to ten research and education centers located across the state and will have opportunities for collaboration within the Department and across UTIA and play an important role in the direction of growth of the Department. For more information about the Department, visit our web site at: <http://foodscience.tennessee.edu/>.

Salary and benefits are competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. Benefits available include group medical insurance, dental insurance, group and individual life insurance, long-term disability insurance, workers' compensation, retirement plan with UT contribution, sick leave, annual leave, paid holidays and administrative leave days, unemployment compensation, educational discounts, and use of University Services.

To apply, submit a single pdf file with 1) a letter of application, 2) a curriculum vitae detailing education background qualifications, experience, and publications, 3) a one-page statement each of research and Extension goals, 4) transcripts of all college course work, and 5) names and contact information (including e-mail addresses) of five individuals who will serve as references. Inquiries to the position and application materials can be directed to:

Dr. Qixin Zhong, Search Chair
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