Assistant Professor of Sensory Science – Tenure Track

The Department of Food Science at The Pennsylvania State University is seeking to fill a newly created position for an Assistant Professor of Sensory Science. The Department has identified sensory science, food choice and consumer behavior as a priority research area and has hired multiple faculty and professional staff in this area over the last 5 years. Housed in the recently constructed Rodney A. Erickson Food Science Building, the department boasts state-of-the-science research and teaching facilities, including a 3500 square foot sensory facility with 12 isolated sensory booths and a large product preparation area with full time staff, as well as a separate qualitative research suite with a one-way observation room and digital audio-video recording capabilities. The department also has 3 specialized pilot plants, and the Berkey Creamery, the largest and most sophisticated University affiliated dairy manufacturing plant in the country. The successful candidate will join a productive, highly dynamic, and collaborative faculty in a vibrant and growing Department. For more information on the Department visit http://foodscience.psu.edu.

The candidate will develop and teach introductory and/or advanced courses in sensory science at the upper undergraduate or graduate level and provide leadership for a new hybrid residential/distance learning Masters of Professional Studies program focused on sensory science. The candidate is also expected to establish an externally-funded research program in an area related to sensory science (e.g., sensory methods, psychophysics, flavor perception, food choice, statistical modeling of sensory or consumer data). Current areas of strength in the department include applied psychophysics, individual differences, and eating behavior in children; preference will be given to individuals whose skills complement these strengths (e.g., applied statistics, qualitative research methods). The successful candidate will be expected to form productive collaborations with faculty in the Department, College (e.g., Animal Science, Plant Science, or Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education), and elsewhere at the University (e.g., The Smeal College of Business or the College of Health and Human Development, which includes the statistical Methodology Center and Department of Nutritional Sciences). In addition to teaching, the candidate will mentor graduate students on thesis research projects and advise undergraduate students. The candidate is also expected to participate in Extension and other outreach activities and programs of the Department, College and University as appropriate.

The successful candidate must hold a Ph.D. in a relevant field (e.g., food science, nutritional sciences, enology, neuroscience, statistics, chemometrics, sensometrics, human factors, consumer psychology, or behavioral economics). Preference will be given to applicants with a record of external funding, publications, and teaching. Demonstrated industrial or academic experience with foods, beverages or non-food consumer packaged goods is highly desirable. The applicant should possess a strong willingness to work as part of a collaborative, multidisciplinary team. An ability to relate to a diverse population of faculty, staff, and students is desirable.

Applicants should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and academic transcripts, and names of at least three professional references (including address, telephone, and e-mail address) at https://psu.jobs/job/56175. Review of applications will begin on 30 May 2015, and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. Questions regarding this position should be addressed to: Dr. John Hayes, Chair of Search Committee, email: jeh40@psu.edu

CAMPUS SECURITY CRIME STATISTICS: For more about safety at Penn State, and to review the Annual Security Report which contains information about crime statistics and other safety and security matters, please go to http://www.police.psu.edu/clery/, which will also provide you with detail on how to request a hard copy of the Annual Security Report.

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