

Professor in Intestinal Microbial Ecology

DTU National Food Institute at the Technical University of Denmark invites applications for a position as professor in intestinal microbial ecology.

DTU National Food Institute is a Department with the overall mission of contributing to research, development, science-based decision support and education within the following scientific areas: Biotechnology, nutrition, food quality, food safety, food technology and environment & health – all key elements to public health and food production.

The professor will be attached to the division for Food Microbiology, one of the 6 divisions within the Department employing approx. 50 persons including presently a faculty of 4.

Responsibilities and tasks

In recent years, our understanding of the impact of the intestinal microbiota on human and animal health has dramatically increased. New findings – including findings from the National Food Institute – suggest that microorganisms in the human gut can have profound influence on health, not only in relation to communicable, but also to non-communicable diseases, including diabetes and coronary heart disease. The Institute promotes research in this area with the potential to move our understanding significantly and enable further health-promoting regulatory or industrial initiatives. The scientific impact of new discoveries in this area shows an area of significant scientific importance and potential, an area with interesting prospects in Denmark, with its world-leading food ingredients industry.

The professor in intestinal microbial ecology will head a research group with currently 10 employees incl. 5 PhD students, three scientists and one laboratory technician in addition to the professor.

It is important for the National Food Institute to continuously be able to provide novel, science-based decision support for governmental regulatory authorities as well as for relevant industries. The research group in question has a focus on the effect and safety of microbiologically based substances added to food/feed for different purposes as it pertains to gut microbial ecology. In addition, the group is responsible for teaching and developing new courses in food microbiology with specific focus on 'positive microbiology' including supervision of students at BSc, MSc, PhD and postgraduate level.

The professor in intestinal microbial ecology is expected to lead and perform research within the following areas:

- Impact of food/feed and substances added hereto on gut microbial ecology
- Impact of the intestinal microbiota on human (and animal) health
- Development and application of in vitro and in vivo gut models
- Application of molecular methods to study the gut microbiome.
- Influence of food ingredients on the gut microbiome and human health status

Due to the cross-disciplinary research approach, collaboration with e.g. epidemiologists, chemists, toxicologists, statisticians, modellers and food technologists at the Institute and from other DTU departments, is expected.

The successful candidate is expected to take a lead position in teaching at the bachelor-, master- and PhD levels.

Qualifications

The candidate must demonstrate international-level recognition within food microbiology and have a solid background in gut ecology, biotechnology, animal models and risk assessment. Documented experience in management of complex and multidisciplinary projects and fundraising capability is necessary. The candidate must show a documented ability to collaborate with authorities, industry and international research groups.

Assessment

In the assessment of the candidates consideration will be given to

- the ability to teach
- scientific production at international level, research potential and ability to lead and develop a research team
- the ability to promote and utilize research results
- experience with innovation activities
- an all-round experience basis, including international experience
- the ability to contribute to the development of the Department's internal and external cooperation
- track record in attracting funding to the research area
- visions within the research area

For the specific position consideration will also be given to:

- Solid experience with cooperation with the risk managing systems – nationally and internationally and with industry
- Extensive national and international networks and experience.
- Visions and ideas to address research gaps and to initiate and facilitate research at a high scientific level

Salary and terms of employment

The appointment will be based on the collective agreement with the Confederation of Professional Associations. The allowance will be agreed with the relevant union.

Further information

Further information may be obtained from Head of Department Jørgen Schlundt , +45-23674748 or Head of Division Dorte Lau Baggesen, +45 3588 6207.

You can read more about the National Food Institute at www.food.dtu.dk

Application procedure:

Please submit your online application no later than **XXX 2014**. Apply online at www.career.dtu.dk.

Applications must be submitted as **one pdf file** containing all materials to be given consideration. To apply, please open the link "Apply online," fill in the online application form, and attach **all your materials in English in one pdf file**. The file must include:

- Application (cover letter) addressed to the President
- CV
- List of publications indicating scientific highlights
- Documentation of teaching experience
- A plan for future research

All interested candidates irrespective of age, gender, disability, race, religion or ethnic background are encouraged to apply.