Assistant Professor - Food Safety Biologist

We seek applications for an Assistant Professor --Food Safety Biologist which will be a full-time (1.0 FTE), 9-month tenure track appointment: 60% Research, 30% Teaching and 10% Service. The successful applicant will be expected to apply contemporary molecular, genomic, and bioinformatic approaches to increase the understanding of food safety issues relevant to food production, food processing, or public health in Oregon and the nation. This position will build upon the existing food safety teaching, research and outreach enterprise at Oregon State University. The successful candidate will train a new generation of scientific leaders grounded in modern biological approaches to solve food safety and related public health problems. OSU has the potential to become a leading center for food safety research. While the Oregon food industry seeks guidance from OSU based on current expertise in applied aspects of the field, additional expertise in the use of new and more quantitative tools in basic food safety research will facilitate our ability to provide pertinent information to lead the field. OSU has relevant expertise with functional genomics, bioinformatics, and computational biology (Center for Gene Research and Biocomputing), pathogenic microbiology (Veterinary Medicine/ Microbiology) and a toxicology-based food safety program (Environmental & Molecular Toxicology) as important components. This position will complement the current campus expertise to increase competitive funding in comparison with peer institutions throughout the U.S.

The incumbent will substantially strengthen the food safety program within the OSU Department of Food Science & Technology by the addition of skills that will provide a fundamental anchor and basis for the more applied food safety activities and outreach programs currently in place. Such a position will provide a much needed resource for the department’s graduate research endeavor by providing a more genomic approach to food safety research priorities. The primary focus will be investigating basic research questions and generating outcomes that provide innovative approaches to address industrially relevant problems in food safety. Teaching activities will be centered on molecular/genetic/genomic approaches to ensuring food safety. An emphasis will be on the understanding of how pathogens persist in food environments, genetic technologies to identify and determine pathogen prevalence with a focus on data management to provide best practices for risk assessment.

The incumbent will work with other FST faculty on campus and at branch OSU Experiment Stations as appropriate. It is envisioned that the incumbent will also pursue working relationships with OSU faculty in other departments within the colleges of Agricultural Sciences and of Science. This position reports to the Head of the Department of Food Science & Technology.
Oregon State University’s commitment to student success includes hiring, retaining, and developing diverse faculty to mentor and educate our undergraduate and graduate students from entry through graduation. The incumbent must be aware of, sensitive to, and demonstrate the ability to work well with diverse students and with a diverse workforce. Our Strategic Plan (http://oregonstate.edu/leadership/strategicplan/phase3) articulates the strategies we believe critical to advancing and equalizing student success. College of Agricultural Sciences faculty are committed to enhancing student success by engaging students in quality academic, research, internships, global studies, and other experiential learning opportunities. Positions with primary responsibility for extension and outreach are likewise committed to learner success through programming appropriate for diverse audience.

**Required qualifications**
PhD degree in Food Science, Food Microbiology, Microbiology or related field by start date of employment.
Teaching experience and demonstration of teaching effectiveness in food safety / food microbiology.
Ability to communicate with and relate well to a diverse body of students and to communicate complex regulations while maintaining discretion, diplomacy, and confidentiality.
Ability to assess situations independently and determine what steps are required.
Excellent oral and written communication skills. Excellent interpersonal skills.
A demonstrable commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity and inclusiveness, including the ability to work with diverse faculty, students, and stakeholders.

**Preferred qualifications**
Related experience in food safety and food microbiology.
Teaching experience in laboratory environments.
Advising experience at the college or university level.
Demonstrated ability to work accurately and confidentially with student records.
Record of/commitment to work with underrepresented/underserved students or other audiences.

To create a user profile and apply, go to website: http://oregonstate.edu/jobs - search OSU jobs/upper left/search postings, enter posting 0016969. This posting opens on January 8, 2016. For full consideration, apply by February 29, 2016. Recruitment closes March 7, 2016. Include 1) curriculum vitae; 2) a cover letter explaining your interest in this position; 3) a statement of teaching, outreach, and research interests (attach as Other Document 1); and 4) full contact information for 3 professional references. If your references are not included in your curriculum vitae, attach them as Other Document 2. Letters of application must speak to each required qualification. Applications will only be accepted through the online site. For more information about the position, contact Mark Daeschel, Search Committee Chair, at Mark.Daeschel@oregonstate.edu. Oregon State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.