Department of Nutritional Sciences

Research Assistant Professor
Faculty Position

**Application Due:** Review of applications will begin on January 5, 2015

**Type:** Twelve month, Research Assistant Professor, Non-tenure-track

**Position Availability:** Immediately (Negotiable)

**Salary:** Competitive and commensurate with qualifications

**Position Description:**
The Department of Nutritional Sciences (NS) seeks an energetic research faculty member to join a well-established program with 16 full time faculty. The successful applicant will contribute to the university's mission primarily through research by serving as a research faculty member in our accredited graduate program that includes approximately 60 students in doctoral and master's degrees. NS also offers a cutting edge growing undergraduate program of over 700 students. The candidate will have the opportunity to mentor both graduate and undergraduate students' research. The candidate will be able to engage as relevant to their position, in service activities with the department, college, university, community, and the profession. The candidate is expected to engage and contribute to advancing the Nutrigenomics, Inflammation & Obesity Research (NIOR) laboratory directed by Dr. Moustaid-Moussa who will also serve as a mentor for the selected candidate. Funding for this position is provided for up to three years pending successful performance as documented in the annual evaluation process.

**Minimal Qualification:**
Ph.D. in nutrition, biomedical sciences or related fields. Candidates should demonstrate evidence of scholarship as demonstrated by peer reviewed publications and evidence and/or potential for external funding. Candidates are expected to demonstrate high potential to engage in externally funded collaborative research projects primarily with their mentor and across the college/university.

**Preferred qualifications:**
- Postdoctoral experience
- Evidence or potential for leadership
- Evidence or potential for training/mentoring graduate and undergraduate students.

The candidate is expected to conduct original research in areas that complements the NIOR laboratory and expands the TTU's capabilities in the nutri-biome, nutri-genomics, immune-metabolism, and/or epigenetics of nutrition and obesity, thus enhancing collaborative research and funding within the President Cluster Hires in (1) Obesity and (2) Bioinformatics and Biostatistics.

Dr. Moustaid-Moussa’s research program focuses on nutrient-gene interactions and adipose-related inflammation, which is a key component of the pathogenesis of obesity and immune dysfunction. The ideal candidate will have expertise in areas that potentially links obesity and inflammation to diet/genetics such as immune-metabolism, nutrition and the gut microbiome, epigenetic changes related to diet and development of obesity, obesity-cancer interactions, and diet-gene interactions using various genomics tools such as RNA Sequencing, miRNA profiling, DNA modifications and omics tools to dissect metabolic changes and/or genetic variability to diet and environmental factors.

Candidate is expected to demonstrate excellent written and oral communication skills and demonstrated ability to work with others in a collegial team atmosphere are expected.
Responsibilities:
• Develop and maintain a high impact scholarly research program via publications and external funding as well as graduate and undergraduate student training.
• Contribute to developing a strong interdisciplinary research program.
• Be able to work in multidisciplinary teams utilizing cutting edge tools in research (especially omics, microbiome and genetic tools).
• Engage in service to the department, college, university, and the profession through national and or international professional associations as relevant to their research and expertise.

Environment:
This is a unique opportunity to join a newly formed and expanding department that is committed to educating future leaders in nutritional sciences, and promoting basic translational, clinical, and community research excellence. More information can be found at this link: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/ns/ We offer several infrastructure and collaborative resources within the department and College of Human Sciences (COHS) and the Texas Tech System:
• The NIOR Laboratory directed by Dr. Moustaid-Moussa has a dynamic research team focused on inflammation, adipocyte biology and metabolic regulations with emphasis on anti-inflammatory mechanisms of bioactive food components. NIOR members include a research assistant professor, a lab manager/research technician, six doctoral students, one Master student and several undergraduate research assistants. The Lab houses state of the art instrumentation for cell, molecular and animal research. More information can be found at this link: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/ns/research/niор/index.php
• The Obesity Research Cluster (ORC) was founded in 2013 by Dr. Moustaid-Moussa as a catalyst to foster and enhance interdisciplinary collaborations in obesity-related research. ORC members conduct both basic, clinical and community research that will inform and advance strategies to prevent, treat and reduce obesity and its metabolic complications. ORC researchers use diverse state of the art approaches to address the complexity of obesity from the biological, behavioral, environmental and societal aspects. Ongoing research ranges from cellular and molecular studies, to animal models of obesity and metabolic disorders and human subjects for clinical interventions as well as community-based participatory research. The ultimate goal of the ORC is to increase productive collaborations within the TTU System and other state and national partnerships, increase student training in interdisciplinary research related to obesity and other associates diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer. More information can be found at this link: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/obesityresearch
• The Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Cluster Hire is led by the Center for Biotechnology and Genomics (CBG), with participation from the department of Nutritional Sciences & Animal and Food Sciences. The cluster and the CBG provides extensive research and education services and collaborations across TTU campuses in Lubbock. CBG is a highly collaborative core facility which houses state of the art instrumentation for genomics, metabolomics and proteomics research. More information can be found at this link: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/biotechnologyandgenomics/
• Opportunities for partnerships and collaborations are possible with the Texas Tech University Health Science Center and other hospitals in the area such as Covenant Health and Bariatric Surgery Centers. More information can be found in the following website: https://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/ns/.
Please apply online at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hr/workatxastech/ using requisition number 6107BR.

As an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, Texas Tech University is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment. We actively encourage applications from all who can contribute, through their research, teaching and/or service, to the diversity and excellence of the academic community at Texas Tech University. The University welcomes applications from minorities, women, veterans, persons with disabilities and dual career couples.

For Additional information contact
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