ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, EXTENSION FOOD SAFETY SPECIALIST
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

The Dairy Science Department at South Dakota State University invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor/Extension Food Safety Specialist. This position includes research resulting in information that can be applied toward processing and preservation technologies that are effective at controlling pathogens in food, while developing an extension education and outreach program that focuses on local food production and extends information toward various clientele (e.g., growers, food processors, food handlers, regulators, and consumers) including under-represented groups. The Dairy Science Department is a unit of the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences. The Assistant Professor reports to the Head of the Dairy Science Department and works collaboratively with other faculty members in the department. This is a tenure-track, 9-month, 95% extension and 5% teaching appointment. Faculty members can supplement salary for 10 weeks in the summer through extramural funds. SDSU is especially interested in candidates that can contribute to and/or coordinate course offerings that address the experiences of underrepresented minorities in organizations.

RESPONSIBILITIES: This position will be expected to develop a nationally-recognized program, and will participate in and/or lead Extension and research teams in integrated multidisciplinary projects among campus-wide collaborators. Specific aspects of duties may include:

- Develop training programs and workshops with supporting educational materials for FDA, USDA or state regulated food producers, processors, and Extension field staff at all levels of the food system from production to consumption.
- Research program will be expected to complement and support Extension programming to target audiences. Research may address basic and/or applied issues relative to food safety topics at any point from pre-harvest to post-harvest food system.
- Secure external Extension and research funds.
- Advise graduate and undergraduate research students, and contribute to the teaching of undergraduate and/or graduate level courses.
- Lead collaborative teams comprised of Extension Field Specialists and State Specialists in the development of Program Business Plans that are related to the Food Safety extension program.
- Create interest and enthusiasm for decreasing food safety risks from farm to table and coordinate efforts to increase visibility, marketing, and public relations; integrate iGrow and other forms of social media into these efforts.
- Develop effective working relationships with coalitions and networks in the field. Engage in state and national activities.
- Coordinate programs and resources with other related Extension and University departments and other agencies and organizations.
- Develop and implement formative and summative evaluation tools for measuring and reporting consistent state-wide program impact.
- Serve as appointed on Extension, College, and University Committees.
- Supports the SDSU Extension mission, strategic vision and planning assumptions, complies with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and all University policies, including Affirmative Action, and commits to the inclusion of diverse South Dakotans.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Ph.D. degree in Food Science, Microbiology, Nutritional Sciences, or other closely related field by the time of employment. Academic preparation and demonstrated scholarly mastery in a discipline relevant to food safety. Ability to communicate effectively with Specialists and wide range of clientele on food safety matters. Effective written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS: Demonstrated track record in producing extension publications and educational programs and materials. Extension experience in U.S. food systems will be considered a plus. Additional degrees that may enhance the work to be done in this position, include, but are not limited to Food Processing, Marketing, Business, Entrepreneurship, Public Health, and Education.

ORGANIZATION: SDSU is the state's largest and most comprehensive institution of higher learning. It is designated Carnegie Research University-High Intensity; it is the state’s land-grant institution with an enrollment of 12,583 students.
The Dairy Science Department includes undergraduate and graduate programs in Dairy Production, Dairy Manufacturing, and Food Science with 13 full-time faculty members and approximately 110 undergraduate students and 30 graduate students. Facilities in the Dairy Science Department include the Dairy Research and Training Facility with housing for 150 head of lactating cows in a free-stall barn and parallel parlor as well as a new state of the art dairy processing plant which has semi-commercial processing capabilities for most dairy products; http://www.sdstate.edu/ds.

LOCATION: SDSU is located in Brookings, South Dakota, a community of approximately 22,000 near the east central border of South Dakota on Interstate 29 and central to a growing dairy industry in South Dakota. The city has an excellent K-12 education system, is accessible to major medical facilities, has an active cultural and social environment, and has numerous lakes and parks within driving distance. It is 50 miles north of Sioux Falls, a city of close to 150,000.

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE: Full consideration will be given to applications received by June 15, 2016, however the position is open until filled.

APPLICATION PROCESS: SDSU accepts applications through an on-line employment site. To apply, please visit: https://yourfuture.sdbor.edu, search by the position title, view the job announcement, and click on “apply for this posting.” The system will guide you through the electronic application form and requires the attachment of a cover letter, which should specifically address how the candidate meets the qualifications as outlined in the advertisement; curriculum vitae; and a reference page with the contact information for three professional references. Email applications will not be accepted. Please contact SDSU Human Resources at (605) 688-4128 or HR@sdstate.edu if you require assistance with this process.

The department actively seeks to increase social and intellectual diversity among its faculty and staff. Women, minorities, veterans, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Any offer of employment is contingent on the university’s verification of credentials and other information required by law and/or university policies, including but not limited to, a criminal background check.

For questions on the position, please contact Suzanne Stluka, Search Chair at (605) 688-4038 or suzanne.stluka@sdstate.edu.

South Dakota State University is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its faculty, staff and students. Women, minorities, veterans, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Arrangements for accommodations required by disabilities can be made by emailing HR@sdstate.edu. SDSU prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, gender, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, age, disability, veteran’s status or any other protected class in the offering of all educational programs and employment opportunities. Individuals with concerns regarding discrimination should contact: Equal Opportunity Officer/Title IX Coordinator, Human Resources, Administration 100, SDSU, Brookings, SD 57007. Phone: (605) 688-4128.
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