POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 00037050
Requisition # 82136

Title: Assistant Professor of Nutritional Sciences

Location: Food Science & Human Nutrition (FSHN) Department
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: 29 September 2021

**Duties and Responsibilities**
The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences is committed to creating an environment that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity and expression. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service. We strongly encourage historically underrepresented groups to apply.

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD) or visit Accessibility at UF.

A 9-month, tenure-accruing Assistant Professorship is available in the Food Science & Human Nutrition Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. The position will be 50% teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences) and 50% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station). Tenure will accrue in the Food Science & Human Nutrition Department. This assignment may change in the future in accordance with the needs of the unit.

The teaching assignment will require significant engagement in scholarly activities related to instruction, including: 1) developing online and in-person courses; 2) teaching a graduate level course in bioinformatics or statistics as related to ‘omics’ analysis; 3) participating in and leading seminars; 4) advising and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students; 5) participating in curriculum revision and enhancement; 5) seeking funding to support innovative teaching initiatives; 6) supervising undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral research, supervising thesis and dissertation research, and serving on graduate student committees; 7) publishing teaching related scholarship, producing learning tools, and engaging in professional development activities related to teaching and advising. Faculty are encouraged to participate in the CALS Honors Program, distance education, and international education.

The research assignment will include seeking contract and/or extramural grant funding to support research and graduate student training activities, developing and training AI methods applied to human health and nutrition. It is expected that selected candidate will develop strong collaborations with other UF Departments, such as the

*The Foundation for The Gator Nation*
An Equal Opportunity Institution
UF Diabetes Institute, UF Genetics Institute, UF Informatics Institute, Animal and Molecular and Cell Biology Graduate Program, or departments in the College of Medicine. External funding prospects are very strong in this area, with numerous substantial opportunities in federal agencies with large and growing research portfolios, private foundations and donors, and industry support. External funding for Omics ‘related research include DOE (BES, BER, ARPA-E), NSF (IOS, PGRP, MCB), USDA (NIFA, SCRI), DOD (DARPA), FFAR, NIH (R01, including NIDDK, NCI, NIA, NIAID, and NHLBI), and foundation support (e.g., American Heart Association).

Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are expected to be supportive of and engaged in all three mission areas—Research, Teaching and Extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description.

**Qualifications**

**Required:**
A doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in nutritional sciences, biochemistry, molecular biology, bioinformatics, physiology, epidemiology, or a closely related discipline is required. Candidates should have demonstrable skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and a track record of procuring extramural research funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

The selected candidate is expected to have expertise in the ‘omics of human (or experimental animal) nutrition in health and disease’, and to utilize approaches such as ‘big data’ analysis, artificial intelligence, or machine learning.

The successful candidate should have superior accomplishments and relevant experience, a strong publication record, and the ability to develop and sustain an extramurally funded research program.

**Preferred:**
Postdoctoral experience is desirable. Also, previous university- or college-level teaching experience will be considered a plus but is not absolutely required.

**Background Information:**
The Food Science and Human Nutrition Department is a large, interdisciplinary unit within IFAS, and is comprised of three undergraduate majors: Food Science, Nutritional Sciences, and Dietetics. Faculty in FSHN conduct research, teaching and extension programs in a broad range of areas, including micronutrient metabolism, phytochemical nutrition, diet and immune function, and pre-and pro-biotics. Graduate level programs are competitive and provide the opportunity for graduate student mentorship. Please consult the departmental webpage for additional information (https://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/).

Strengths in Nutritional Sciences at UF include micronutrient research, molecular nutrition, human physiology and pathophysiology. The department has ~30 full-time faculty members including a significant group of federally funded researchers with a rich history of national research awards. The department currently has three open faculty searches. The graduate program enrolls over 70 MS and Ph.D. students in Nutritional Sciences, Dietetics, and Food Science. The doctoral program in Nutritional Sciences is interdisciplinary and includes faculty from different departments across campus (http://nutritionalsciences.centers.ufl.edu/faculty.aspx). The undergraduate student enrollment in Food Science and Human Nutrition is 545, with three majors in Nutritional Sciences, Food Science and Dietetics.
Within walking distance are superb opportunities to participate in basic and translational research with the UF Diabetes Institute, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, and collaborate with faculty from the Colleges of Medicine, Health and Human Performance, Public Health, Pharmacy, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Agricultural and Life Sciences. The Center for Nutritional Sciences sponsors a vibrant seminar series.

The University of Florida (http://www.ufl.edu) is a Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 56,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (http://ifas.ufl.edu) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (http://cals.ufl.edu), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (http://research.ifas.ufl.edu), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu), the College of Veterinary Medicine (http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu), the Florida Sea Grant program (http://www.flseagrant.org/), and encompasses 16 on-campus academic departments and schools, 12 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. UF/IFAS employs nearly 4,500 people, which includes approximately 990 salaried faculty and 1,400 permanent support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation’s largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

Employment Conditions
This position is currently available and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

Nominations
Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # 82136
James F. Collins
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Food Science and Human Nutrition
P.O. Box 110370
Gainesville, FL  32611

Telephone:  352-294-3749
Electronic Mail:  jfcollins@ufl.edu

Application Information
- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to http://apply.interfolio.com/94582 and submit the following documents:
  - Cover letter that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above.

The Foundation for The Gator Nation
An Equal Opportunity Institution
The University of Florida is committed to building a culturally diverse educational environment. Applicants are thus requested to also include in their cover letter information about how they will further this goal.

- Curriculum vitae
- Contact information (including email addresses) for 4 individuals willing to write letters of recommendation
- Unofficial transcripts

Selected candidate will be required to provide an official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered “official” if a designation of “Issued to Student” is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES).

Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. The University of Florida is a public institution and subject to all requirements under Florida Sunshine and Public Record laws.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The University and greater Gainesville community enjoy a diversity of cultural events, restaurants, year-round outdoor recreational activities, and social opportunities.