

Professor in Microbe-Plant Interactions
Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences
Faculty of Science
University of Copenhagen

Industry and society are turning to microbiological solutions as tools to obtain sustainable production systems, which leave limited environmental footprints. In particular, the importance of microorganisms for promoting plant growth and health is increasingly recognised by researchers, industry, and society. A full exploitation of microbial solutions for improved plant growth requires research activities providing in-depth understanding of microbial function in complex soil systems, detailed understanding of signalling between beneficial microbes, pathogenic microorganisms, and plants, and insight into environmental factors shaping microbial communities in soil and rhizosphere.

The Department of Plant and Environmental Science is offering a professorship in Microbe-Plant Interactions at the Section for Microbial Ecology and Biotechnology emphasising interactions between plants, beneficial and pathogenic microorganisms, and the soil environment at both organism and community levels. The research programme of the candidate should focus on generating a deep mechanistic, molecular-level understanding of the interactions between microorganisms and plants. The research area covered by the professorship is expected to fuel existing as well as future collaborative initiatives both within the Department and in particular internationally. Finally, the new professor is expected also to be a major player in developing the microbial biotechnology profile of the Department by engaging in developing biotechnological technologies and in strengthening the bioinformatics platform at the section.

The candidate must have an international reputation within the field of microbe-plant interactions, and preferentially with documented skills in microbial biotechnology and bioinformatics. The candidate must have a proven record of research at the highest international level, with the potential to substantially impact the future direction of the field. The candidate should have a proven track record of the ability to attract external funding, leadership experience, and the ability to build strong research consortia and collaborations. Furthermore, the candidate is expected to have a strong network within the research area including partners in academia as well as relevant industrial stakeholders, nationally and/or internationally.

Qualifications

Applicants are required to have university level teaching experience, documented teaching competencies and must be able to explain and reflect upon own teaching practice and portfolio. Teaching areas to be covered include, but are not limited to, general microbiology, plant-microbe interactions, microbial biotechnology, molecular microbial ecology and bioinformatics. As for the research programme, the candidate is expected to participate in strengthening the microbial biotechnology profile at the teaching level.

Duties include management of the applicant's own research, development of the field, assessment tasks, grant applications, and research supervision and training of research fellows and other staff. The successful applicant must also teach, supervise, prepare and participate in examinations, and fulfill other tasks requested by the Department.

The Section for Microbial Ecology and Biotechnology at Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences conducts research in the areas of microbial ecology, environmental microbiology and microbial biotechnology. The Section works to obtain in-depth understanding of environmental and genetic drivers for microbial community assembly, stability and functioning in natural environments, to decipher mechanisms behind microbe-microbe and microbe-plant interactions at the molecular level, and to exploit microbial diversity for biotechnological solutions.

Further information on the Department can be found at <http://www.science.ku.dk/english/about-the-faculty/organisation/>. Inquiries about the position can be made to Head of Department Svend Christensen, e-mail svc@plen.ku.dk or. tel. +45 51489421

The position is open from 1 December 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The University wishes our staff to reflect the diversity of society and thus welcomes applications from all qualified candidates regardless of personal background.

Assessment of applicants will primarily consider their level of documented, original scientific production at an international level, including contributions to developments in their field, as well as their documented teaching qualifications. Managerial and out-reach qualifications of applicants including ability to attract external funding will also be considered.

Terms of employment

The position is covered by the Memorandum on Job Structure for Academic Staff.

Terms of appointment and payment accord to the agreement between the Ministry of Finance and The Danish Confederation of Professional Associations on Academics in the State.

Commencing salary is currently for Professors - DKK 605.528 including annual supplement (+ pension DKK 103.545).

Negotiation for salary supplement is possible.

The application including all attachments must be in English and submitted electronically by clicking APPLY NOW below.

Please include

- Curriculum vitae including information about external funding
- Diplomas (Master and PhD degree or equivalent)

- Research plan – description of current and future research plans
- Description and documentation of teaching experience and qualifications [according to university guidelines](#)
- Complete publication list
- Separate reprints of 5 particularly relevant papers

The deadline for applications is 19 April 2018, 23:59 GMT +1.

After the expiry of the deadline for applications, the authorized recruitment manager will select applicants for assessment on the advice of the Interview Committee.

You can read about the recruitment process at <http://employment.ku.dk/faculty/recruitment-process/>.

Interviews/trial lectures will be held on 11 September 2018.

Please refer to the following no. in future communication in this case: 211-0554.