Research Chair in Food, and Director of the Food Institute
University of Guelph

The University of Guelph (U of G) is one of Canada’s top comprehensive universities with more than 21,000 undergraduate and 2,100 graduate students. U of G is a recognized research leader, with a specialization in connecting food research and expertise across all fields of study with Canadian and global partners to support sustainability, economic growth, and security in the food supply chain. U of G is dedicated to cultivating the essentials of our quality of life – food, water, environment, animal and human health, community, commerce, culture and learning. The University has a special mandate to deliver agricultural and veterinary programs and services to the province of Ontario.

The University is seeking a renowned scholar and interdisciplinary thinker to hold the newly-created Research Chair in Food. The Chair will provide leadership to the building of world class research across the broad spectrum of food and food-related issues, and will advance the University of Guelph’s global reputation for excellence in research, scholarship, and policy on food.

The Food Chair will also provide leadership to U of G’s Food Institute which provides a focal point for the diversity of food-related research conducted across the campus. Building on over a century of expertise across the agricultural production to human nutrition continuum, and spanning all seven colleges at the University, the Food Institute is an interdisciplinary think-tank, promoting food-related scholarship and knowledge mobilization. The Institute aims to provide solutions to some of the world’s most pressing problems, including food security, sustainability, safety, and health.

The ideal candidate will possess a proven track record as an international scholar in a relevant discipline, at a level commensurate with appointment at a senior academic rank. He/she will maintain an active research portfolio and have a deep commitment to, and experience in, building teams of collaborators and promoting interdisciplinary thinking and research. This visionary leadership role demands significant experience working with industry partners, organizations, and/or agencies, and a strong network of connections in, and understanding of, the agriculture and agri-business communities. The Chair and Director must be extremely skilled in external relations (working with governments, media, industry and other partners), and have the ability to motivate and inspire others to participate in advancing the University’s reputation as Canada’s Food University and as a global leader in food.

Consideration of candidates will commence in the late May, with the new Chair/Director to take office in the late summer or early fall 2016, or as soon as possible thereafter. Applications and expressions of interest may be submitted to Jane Griffith or Jason Murray at guelphfood@odgersberndtson.com

The University of Guelph is committed to equity in its policies, practices, and programs, supports diversity in its teaching, learning, and work environments, and ensures that applications for members of underrepresented groups are seriously considered under its employment equity policy. All qualified individuals who would contribute to the further diversification of our University community are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents will be given priority.