The University of Guelph is seeking applications for the position of Director, Agriculture and Food Laboratory and Co-Executive Director, Laboratory Services Division, within the Office of Research. As Director of one of Canada’s premier agri-food laboratories, you will have the unique opportunity to lead and inspire a high-performing team to provide world-class client service in a rapidly evolving scientific environment and provide high-value analytical and diagnostic services to the agriculture, food and veterinary sectors.

THE ROLE

The Laboratory Services Division (LSD), comprised of both the Agriculture and Food Laboratory (AFL) and the Animal Health Laboratory (AHL), is a financially self-sustaining business. Operating within the University of Guelph, LSD is supported by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)-University of Guelph Agreement and by fee-for-laboratory analytical services provided to industry, government, researchers, and homeowners. Under the leadership of the Associate Vice-President Research, Agri-Food Partnership, the Co-Executive Directors (AHL & AFL) have overall responsibility for ensuring the operational and financial success of the entire Division and that the two laboratories remain viable entities within the greater agreement between the University and OMAFRA.

As Director of the Agriculture and Food Laboratory, you will be specifically responsible for all aspects of the management and operation of AFL, the core activities of which include analytical testing in support of numerous food safety and environmental programs comprised of a variety disciplines such as microbiology, analytical biology, chemistry and other related areas. The AFL is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (ISO/IEC 17025 and GLP) as well as the Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation Inc. (CALA – ISO/IEC 17025). Marketing and business development are crucial activities for AFL, and thus the staff responsible for these activities will report to you. As Director, you will also be responsible for the overall scientific direction of the Laboratory, approximately 130 employees and an annual budget of $15M.

THE REQUIREMENTS

As one of our ideal candidates, you must hold a PhD in a discipline relevant to AFL’s core activities or equivalent. Coupled with the educational requirements, you ideally have at least eight years of progressive experience leading the operation of, and teams within, a service analytical laboratory. In addition, you will have a track record of supporting and delivering exemplary client service, operational excellence, and people leadership, as well as proven relationship-building skills, collaboration, communication and presentation skills, and financial acumen.

Consideration of candidates will commence in early January.

Position Number          483-020
Classification            P15
Professional/Managerial Salary Bands [2]
At the University of Guelph, fostering a culture of inclusion [3] is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in employment, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.

Posting Date: 2021 11 22
Closing Date: 2022 01 31 - consideration of candidates will commence in early January


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