

## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Professor (AC5)/Associate Professor (AC4) of Food Safety Systems</b>  (Research career pathway)	<b>Grade:</b>	<b>AC4/AC5</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Food and Markets	<b>Date of Job Evaluation:</b>	
<b>Role reports to:</b>	Director of NRI and Head of Department		
<b>Direct Reports</b>	To be decided.		
<b>Indirect Reports:</b>	To be decided.		
<b>Other Key contacts:</b>	Director/Deputy Director of NRI, FaNSI Partnerships Director, Leaders of FaNSI Programmes, NRI colleagues, Funders, Research Partners		
This role profile is non-contractual and provided for guidance. It will be updated and amended from time to time in accordance with the changing needs of the University and the requirements of the job.			

### PURPOSE OF ROLE:

The Natural Resources Institute (NRI) of the University of Greenwich is currently expanding its interdisciplinary research excellence to address food and nutrition security, especially in Africa. This expansion in capacity is funded by Research England as part of their highly competitive “Expanding Excellence in England” scheme, where NRI has received funding to appoint 22 members of staff, recruit 20 PhD students and enhance our research facilities.

Using a food systems approach, NRI and partners will focus on climate change, sustainable agricultural intensification, food loss and waste, and improved nutrition. More information on NRI’s Food and Nutrition Security Initiative can be found at [www.nri.org/FaNSI](http://www.nri.org/FaNSI).

Sustainable improvements in human nutrition require efficient and equitable food systems, which enable access to safe and nutritious food for all. Food security not only requires that people have continued access to sufficient quantities of food, but also extends to issues of nutrient content, food safety and quality. The health burden of foodborne disease is comparable to that of malaria, HIV/AIDS or tuberculosis, with disproportionately affects low- and middle-income countries. This position is a key role within the NRI’s integrated food systems approach to improving nutrition, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations, including infants and young children, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age. Food safety challenges are diverse ranging from considerations during trade though to issues of resilience for consumers on the edge of food and nutrition security.

The post holder will have a proven track record in food safety and food policy as it relates to equitable, healthy and sustainable food systems at global, national and local levels. Knowledge of and experience of research and capacity-building with actors in food value chains to address complex food safety challenges (e.g. aflatoxin contamination, foodborne pathogens) will be important. This position will require an ability to address social, behavioural and economic drivers of change, both to devise context-appropriate strategies to improve food safety in resource-poor settings and to influence high-level policy.

As an authority and lead figure in the international academic community, the successful candidate will

provide strategic leadership across the university in achieving a complex set of outcomes for research funders, academics, students and employers. Significant income generation is critical as an enabler, as well as the ability to add value to the NRI's Food and Nutrition Security Initiative.

The post holder is expected to have and maintain strong stakeholder relationships at regional, national and international levels, within their research discipline and relevant sectors; with a proven track record of publishing at the highest level and obtaining research funding. The post holder will be expected to provide strong leadership and mentorship and to set standards of excellence.

This post is mainly focussed on research and enterprise activities, but a contribution to teaching of up to 10% in the specialist area of the jobholder could be required.

An appointment may be made at the Associate Professor (AC4) level for this role where a suitable candidate has relevant skills, experience and profile.

*Note:* The University of Greenwich is committed to promoting equality and diversity, and to providing an inclusive and supportive environment in which all individuals have the opportunity to contribute to their full potential. The University welcomes applications from candidates from diverse backgrounds.

## **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:**

### **Team Specific:**

- Lead subject or professional research resulting in the publication and/or dissemination of original work of world-leading/international excellence quality
- Lead the acquisition and management of substantial research resources from a variety of funding sources
- Development and leadership of research or innovation consortia with external partners
- Lead research at Institute, Faculty or University level including the development and implementation of strategy, policy and plans
- Acquire and maintain a portfolio of research and enterprise projects or contribute to teaching to achieve full personal commissioning within two years of appointment
- Develop, mentor and lead a significant research group including research students, research assistants/fellows and possibly early career academics
- Lead the supervision of research students at various levels including doctoral
- Accountability for the integration of leading research and enterprise work or expert input into widely used published teaching or professional training materials
- Lead the development of research training programmes or novel taught programmes, at the leading edge of the discipline
- Contribute to the development of the academic discipline, within an interdisciplinary research environment

### **Generic:**

- Clear recognition and esteem as an authority and leading figure by the international academic community in their disciplinary area
- Overall accountability for the acquisition and management of external research resources
- Integration of research and scholarship into published teaching or training materials

- Maintain high professional standing in their discipline and further develop their own scholarly profile, including a programme of high quality research, disseminated primarily in high quality peer-reviewed academic journals or similar avenues appropriate for the subject
- Efficiently implement approved policies, guidelines and standard operating procedures in relation to own academic duties.
- Maintain an overview of the welfare, progression, examination and assessment of allocated students
- Keep abreast of development within their discipline and profession and seek continuous improvement of own professional practice.
- Undertake other such duties as may from time to time be directed by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor or Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise.

#### **Managing Self**

- Develop expertise in research led teaching with an increasing degree of autonomy
- Actively participate in established professional development framework activities
- Behave in a manner which reflects the University values and creates a positive environment for work and study
- Maintain a high standard of student engagement and satisfaction
- Seek to maximise the learning outcomes of students

#### **Core Requirements**

- Commitment to key strategic priorities of the Faculty and University
- Adhere to and promote the University's policies on Equality and Diversity and Information Security. Ensure compliance with Health and Safety regulations and Data Protection legislation.
- Support and promote the University's Sustainability policies, including the Carbon Management Plan, and carry out duties in a resource efficient way, recognising the shared responsibility of minimising the university's negative environmental impacts wherever possible.

#### **Additional Requirements:**

Any other duties commensurate with the post and grade as agreed with the Director of the Natural Resources Institute/Head of Department.

#### **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

Performance Indicators will be established in consultation with the Director of NRI, Head of Department and Programme Leader as part of the post holder's annual Appraisal and Professional Development Review and with due regard to the University's KPIs.

#### **KEY RELATIONSHIPS (Internal & External):**

- Leaders of relevant NRI programmes.
- FaNSI leaders
- Colleagues in the Natural Resources Institute
- Colleagues in the Faculty of Engineering and Science and wider University
- Donor/funding agencies
- Research partners

PERSON SPECIFICATION	
Essential	Desirable
<p><b>Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International credibility within the field of food safety, in the context of low- and middle-income countries, developing markets and smallholder farming systems (crop and/or livestock)</li> <li>• Experience of identifying and developing context-appropriate strategies to address constraints to food quality and safety, in value chains of varying levels of development and complexity</li> <li>• Proven track record in evaluating and supporting individual, institutional and societal responses to food safety risks, with a focus on nutrition and health</li> <li>• Evidence of research-based policy development and significant impacts in the field of food safety policy</li> <li>• Extensive knowledge of developing and testing socioculturally-appropriate communication strategies related to food choice</li> <li>• Leadership of large-scale research projects in low- or middle-income countries</li> <li>• Proven track record of publishing a significant and sustained (Professor)/sustained (Associate Professor) body of research outputs with impact at the highest levels of international excellence, including as leading, corresponding or senior author (Professor)</li> <li>• Proven, sustained track record of successful supervision of research activities of students at various levels, including PhD (Appropriate to level Professor/Associate Professor)</li> <li>• Proven track record of leading research or professional teams in complex and challenging environments (Appropriate to level Professor/Associate Professor).</li> <li>• Proven track record of leading and winning external funding bids (Appropriate to level Professor/Associate Professor).</li> <li>• Experience of teaching or training in food safety.</li> <li>• Experience of and willingness to undertake regular short-term international travel to low- and middle-income countries</li> </ul>	<p><b>Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of attitudes and behaviours related to food, including microbiological hazards and consumer preferences to novel food products</li> <li>• Thorough understanding of HE in the UK and in a business enterprise role</li> <li>• Extensive knowledge of key policy issues at institutional, national and sector-wide level</li> <li>• Working knowledge of quality assurance/ enhancement and academic standards</li> <li>• Extensive knowledge of key policy issues at institutional, national and sector-wide level</li> </ul>

<p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding knowledge of the mechanisms for funding research and enterprise</li> <li>• Well-developed organisational and management skills</li> <li>• Well-developed interpersonal skills and ability to motivate others</li> <li>• Excellent written and oral communication skills</li> <li>• Commitment to the promotion of high standards and excellence</li> <li>• Ability to think strategically and conceptually</li> <li>• Capacity to listen and consult, good negotiation skills</li> <li>• Capacity to make informed decisions</li> <li>• Ability to work effectively and deliver under pressure</li> <li>• Able to use IT effectively</li> <li>• Well-developed project management skills</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD degree in a relevant subject</li> <li>• Appropriate level of Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy or willingness to achieve this.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are looking for people who can help us deliver the <u>values</u> of the University of Greenwich: Excellence, Determination, Inclusivity, Ambition and Creativity</li> </ul>	<p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working knowledge of a second language of relevance to NRI's work.</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postgraduate teaching qualification</li> </ul>
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