Assistant Professor of Wildlife Health

The Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville invites applications for a 12-month tenure-track faculty position as an Assistant Professor of Wildlife Health (80% research, 20% teaching). The successful candidate will be responsible for developing a nationally recognized and independent research program capable of attracting graduate students and significant external funding in their area of expertise. We especially seek to attract an individual with expertise in epidemiology and spatial analyses, but other areas of wildlife health that complement existing faculty will be considered, such as disease ecology, toxicology, immunology, and pathogen genomics. Because the University of Tennessee is a U.S. land grant institution (1862 Morrill Act), it is expected that the individual’s research program will have applied implications, especially for this position related to identifying management strategies that thwart disease outbreaks. Broadly trained individuals that have an interest in working across host-pathogen systems and at multiple biological and landscape scales are encouraged to apply. The individual also will be responsible for teaching at least one undergraduate and one graduate course in their area of expertise. Other expectations include publishing high-impact journal articles, serving on institutional committees, participating in professional societies, and organizing outreach activities to wildlife or One Health stakeholders.

We are seeking candidates who have the ability to contribute in meaningful ways to the diversity and intercultural goals of the University. This individual will join a diverse department of 27 faculty, with expertise spanning the range of natural resources. The successful candidate will become a member of the UT Institute of Agriculture Center for Wildlife Heath composed of >30 interdisciplinary faculty across eight departments studying various aspects of wildlife health and zoonotic diseases. The faculty member also will have the opportunity to be part of a new One Health Initiative at the University of Tennessee that is building transdisciplinary partnerships within and outside of the university to address the most urgent issues facing Tennessee and our nation in environmental, animal, and public health sectors. The southern Appalachian and southeastern regions of the U.S. host some of the greatest species biodiversity in North America, including many species that are threatened by emerging pathogens and invasive species. Some recent and ongoing disease invasions in Tennessee include chronic wasting disease, white-nose syndrome, and various vector-borne pathogens with zoonotic potential. The faculty member will have access to a state-of-the-art diagnostics and genomics laboratory, a controlled animal research facility, and 10 properties owned by the University of Tennessee to conduct research. Other resources at the university available to facilitate wildlife health research can be found within the UT College of Veterinary Medicine (e.g., diagnostic services), the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (e.g., expertise in disease modeling), and at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (e.g., supercomputing).
A competitive start-up package will be provided to the successful candidate. Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. Information about the University of Tennessee’s extensive benefits package can be found online at https://hr.tennessee.edu/benefits/.

Required Qualifications: Ph.D. or equivalent terminal degree in wildlife ecology, disease ecology, epidemiology, or a related discipline by the time of faculty appointment.

Preferred Qualifications: Post-doctoral and teaching experience, demonstrated success with publishing journal articles and grant acquisition, and previous transdisciplinary collaborations. Strong quantitative skills as well as experience with conducting pathogen surveillance and field research. Experience and desire to work with government agencies, private organizations, and other stakeholders to address applied disease research and management issues. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Review of applications will begin on 24 January 2020 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Start date is negotiable but ideally during summer 2020. To apply, please email a single PDF file containing a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statements of research and teaching philosophies, copies of official transcripts, and contact information for at least three references to Jennie Swanson (jswans10@utk.edu). In addition, please have three letters of recommendation emailed separately on your behalf to Jennie Swanson, Administrative Specialist, University of Tennessee, Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, 274 Ellington Plant Sciences Building, Knoxville, TN 37920-4563. For questions about the position, please contact the search committee chair, Dr. Matt Gray (mgray11@utk.edu, 865-974-7126).

Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries: https://ag.tennessee.edu/fwf/
UTIA Center for Wildlife Health: https://ag.tennessee.edu/cwh/
UT College of Veterinary Medicine: https://vetmed.tennessee.edu/
UTIA Research and Education Centers: http://agresearch.tennessee.edu/centers/
UTIA JARTU Facility: http://east.tennessee.edu/JARTU_unit.asp
UTIA Genomics Hub: http://www.plantbiotech.utk.edu/genomicshub.html
NIMBioS: http://www.nimbios.org

All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admissions without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

Eligibility and other terms and conditions of employment benefits at The University of Tennessee are governed by laws and regulations of the State of Tennessee, and this non-discrimination statement is intended to be consistent with those laws and regulations.

In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, The University of Tennessee affirmatively states that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, and this policy extends to employment by the University.

Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), ADA (disability), Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (OED), 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone (865) 974-2498 (TTY available) or 974-2440. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Equity and Diversity.