Position: Assistant Professor of Grain Science & Industry (70% Research and 30% Teaching)

Responsibilities: The Department of Grain Science and Industry is seeking applications for a 9-month tenure-track research and teaching position at the Assistant Professor level in the area of applied environmental and feed/pet food microbiology, feed and pet food technology, and feed/pet food safety, with the expectation for summer appointment. The expectation is the candidate will provide leadership and utilization of the BSL-2 Cargill Feed Safety Research Center (FSRC) and toxicology/microbiology lab. The candidate is expected to work with the feed and pet food industries to develop feed/food safety plans, which will include hazard analysis of potential physical, chemical, and biological hazards present in feed mills and pet food plants and implementation of preventive controls. The candidate is expected to conduct research to identify critical practices that minimize hazards through prerequisite programs, preventive controls, and establishment of critical control points. The individual is expected to develop an innovative teaching program, and teach existing and new undergraduate and graduate courses covering subject matter related to feed science and management, and animal feed and pet food safety. The successful candidate is expected to develop standard operating procedures, validate operational procedures, and oversee the operation of the FSRC when conducting research under BSL-2 operating conditions and relate these protocols to industry. The candidate is expected to establish and obtain extramural support for nationally and internationally recognized research programs relevant to the needs of the global feed and animal agriculture industry including funds for the summer months to supplement salary. Potential areas of research include, but are not limited to, development of microbial methods in feed and pet food safety, development of techniques to enhance feeds and by-products, microbial based health and animal nutrition concepts, and bio-industrial processing for control of pathogens. The candidate shall create an environment that fosters diversity, collegiality, and must have the ability to work in a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary setting.

Required Qualifications: Must have an earned Ph.D. in microbiology, grain science, food science, agricultural/biological/food/chemical engineering, or relevant discipline. Must possess excellent oral and written communication skills, the ability to speak English clearly, and a strong commitment to fostering and expanding diversity in the feed and pet food industries. Must be knowledgeable in feed and pet-food production processes and have the ability to develop food safety plans for ingredient suppliers, integrated and commercial feed mills, and pet food manufacturing facilities. Must understand commercial thermal processing of inedible meat products, canned pet foods, and dry pet food production.

Preferred Qualifications: First-hand working knowledge of advanced microbiological techniques with a strong emphasis on applied environmental and food processing microbiology and a focus on pathogen mitigation and mycotoxin detection and control. Knowledge of HACCP fundamentals and experience applying HACCP in an industry setting. A minimum of 3 years of commercial feed and/or pet food technical support or equivalent industry experience.

Application Procedure: Qualified persons are requested to submit all application materials electronically to grains@ksu.edu including a letter of application summarizing qualifications relevant to the position description, resume (including a complete list of publications with complete citations), official academic transcripts for undergraduate and graduate work; one to two page summary of teaching philosophy, research interests, and engagement/outreach philosophy; copies of relevant publications, teaching materials; and have three letters of reference sent to grains@ksu.edu. Nominations of outstanding potential candidates and inquiries regarding this position are welcome, and should be directed to the chair of the search and screening committee.

Contact information: Dr. Charles Stark, Animal Feed and Pet Food Processing Safety Faculty Search and Screening Committee Chair, Department of Grain Science and Industry, Kansas State University, 201 Shellenberger Hall, Manhattan, Kansas 66506-2201. Telephone: (785) 532-4082; Fax: (785) 532-7010, E-mail: grains@ksu.edu.

Review of applications will begin: October 1, 2014 and continue until the position is filled. For additional information see http://www.grains.ksu.edu.

Kansas State University is an EOE of individuals with disabilities and veterans status and actively seeks diversity among its employees. Background check is required.