

Candidate Information

Position: Research Assistant - Spectroscopy
School/Department: Institute for Global Food Security
Reference: 21/108804
Closing Date: Monday 31 May 2021
Salary: £28,331 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 June 2021
Duration: Available until 30 April 2022

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the research team assisting in the detection of fraud and contamination in the food supply chain.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake research activities that may include laboratory experiments, sample analysis, method development, critical evaluation and interpretation of results, building databases, chemometric modelling, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research in consultation with the research supervisor.
2. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
3. Write up results of own work and contribute to the production of research reports, publications and proposals.
4. May contribute to introductory courses.
5. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g., arranging research group meetings, maintaining research group website.
6. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in risk management.
7. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager and which fall within the general ambit of the post.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research programme.
2. Contribute to the planning of research projects, reports and publications etc usually 1-6 months in advance.
3. Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
4. Assist with planning in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
5. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group over work progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters.
2. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. * Degree or equivalent in subject relevant to research activity.
2. *At least 1 years' recent relevant research experience.
3. *At least 1 years' experience working in an academic and/or industrial environment in the analytical science sector.
4. *Experience in laboratory screening methods such as spectroscopic techniques.

5. * At least 1 years' experience in the use of chemometric software and model generation.
6. * Practical experience in the validation of analytical methods.
7. Ability to carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the project.
8. Ability to undertake work across all sections of the laboratory.
9. Have excellent attention to detail, communication and team-working skills.
10. Ability to present scientific arguments and data in a clear, concise and confident manner.
11. Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.
12. Ability to present regular reports on results to members of the surveillance programme.
13. Ability to interview, analyse and communicate effectively.
14. Ability to interact with research colleagues and support staff.
15. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
16. Excellent problem-solving skills.
17. Willing to work outside normal office hours if necessary for the progress of the research project.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Masters or PhD in relevant area.
2. Experience in mass spectrometry techniques.
3. Published research papers.
4. Experience of the application of IT tools in data analysis.