Insect Physiologist/Biochemist Specializing in Microbe-Insect Interactions, Assistant Professor (tenure track)

The Department of Entomology at Purdue University seeks to fill a tenure track position in Insect Physiology and/or Biochemistry specializing in microbe-insect interactions. This is a 9-month academic year appointment with an 80% Research - 20% Teaching split.

Responsibilities: Research and teaching. The successful candidate is expected to develop a nationally recognized, externally funded research program that may include research on:

- interactions of insects with beneficial, benign, and/or pathogenic microbes in/on their bodies and/or in their environment;
- the role of the microbiome in critical physiological processes, population ecology, or other determinants of fitness;
- or insect-associated necrobiomes as relates to forensic science.

Opportunities exist for microbiome science collaborations across the Purdue campus, including with a cluster of food, animal and plant science hires happening in parallel with this position. This individual would also contribute to the undergraduate and graduate curricula by teaching on topics that reflect their broad education and their specialized interests, e.g., insect physiology, insect biochemistry, insect pathology, and/or insect-microbiome interactions. Service at the department, college and/or university level is also expected for all faculty and is a component of promotion and tenure review.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a Ph.D. in a relevant field and prior post-doctoral experience is preferred. Candidates that can merge contemporary “omics” approaches with more traditional organismal, biochemistry and physiology approaches are of particular interest. Preferred skills include a documented ability to integrate modern molecular, genetic, genomic, biochemical and physiological tools to understand key interactions of insects with beneficial, benign, and/or pathogenic microbes. Prior teaching and collaborative experiences are highly desirable, as is a documented commitment to grantsmanship and publication. Successful candidates should possess specific competencies and demonstrated expertise in multicultural settings.

Application: The search committee will begin reviewing applications after 14 December 2015, but will accept submissions until the position is filled. Application materials should include: letter of application, curriculum vita, statements of teaching and research philosophies, and full contact information for three references. Please submit the application package as email attachments to:

Dr. Michael E. Scharf  
Search Committee Chair  
Department of Entomology  
Purdue University  
901 West State Street  
West Lafayette, Indiana, 47907 USA  
Tel: (765) 494-4554  
Email: mscharf@purdue.edu

Visit our web site at www.ag.purdue.edu/entm

The Department: Purdue’s Department of Entomology offers a comprehensive program of learning, engagement and discovery that meets the needs of Indiana, the Midwest, and the nation. There are 21 tenure-track faculty, 3 research faculty, 1 clinical faculty, 2 adjunct faculty, 1 continuing lecturer, 34 professional staff, and 13
administrative, clerical and service staff. Currently there are 24 undergraduate students, 43 graduate students, and 8 post-doctoral associates. Graduate degree programs at both the MS and PhD level are offered. The Department of Entomology’s research portfolio consists of basic science that builds on strengths in insect/plant interactions, and applied pest management research focused on stakeholder needs and priorities. We work on a range of insect and nematode problems using diverse tool-sets and varied disciplinary approaches. The department is committed to the development of a multicultural environment. We value input of multiple viewpoints and perspectives across the university; our goal is to create an academic community that is rich with cultural, social and intellectual diversity.

The College: The Department of Entomology is an integral part of the College of Agriculture, one of the world’s leading colleges of agricultural, food, life, and natural resource sciences and ranked number 5 globally in the 2015 QS World University Rankings. State-of-the-art core facilities for genomics, bioinformatics, microscopy, metabolomics and proteomics are also available. The College is deeply committed to the three land-grant missions (teaching, research, and extension), to international activities and perspectives that span all missions, and to supporting a diverse and inclusive environment focused on excellence in all we do. The College has 11 academic departments and includes 330 faculty, 2710 undergraduate students, and 685 graduate students. The College’s strategic plan can be accessed at https://www2.ag.purdue.edu/Pages/strategicplan.aspx.

Other information:

A background check is required for employment in this position.

Purdue University is an EEO/AA employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce. All individuals, including minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and protected veterans are encouraged to apply.