

USDA National Needs Graduate Fellowships in Foods, Health and Obesity available at Purdue University

The Department of Food Science in coordination with the Food Science Graduate Program at Purdue University is now accepting applications for qualified students who have an interest in pursuing a graduate research program in food science with a focus on *Exploring Foods to Enhance Health and Reduce Obesity*.

“*Foods for Health*” is an ongoing area of collaborative research at Purdue University involving several individual faculty members from diverse departments and programs including Food Science, Nutrition Science, and Agricultural and Biological Engineering. The food matrix is central to delivery of nutritional benefits and bioactive food components. With historic strength in the areas of Food Chemistry, Food Microbiology, and Food Processing and strong interdisciplinary collaborations, the Food Science graduate program is well positioned to investigate how ingredient technology, food formulation, and/or food processing may impact measures of physical and chemical stability of health-promoting food components, as well as their bioavailability and biological activity. Fellows educated in this program will work at the interface of food and nutrition sciences and become integral in developing and assessing product concepts and strategies for improving the nutritional quality and health-promoting properties of foods.

Four positions are available for students seeking a Ph.D. or M.S. degree offered in the Department of Food Science. Each position is offered at a stipend of \$24,500/year for Ph.D. or \$18,500/year for M.S. students. Funding is available for a duration of up to 3 years for Ph.D. students and 2 years for M.S. students. Students who have an interest in *Exploring Foods to Enhance Health and Reduce Obesity* and an exceptional academic record are encouraged to apply.

A competitive application should meet the following criteria:

- A letter of intent, addressed to Dr. Mario Ferruzzi, expressing interest in the fellowship opportunity
- Must be U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- High undergraduate and/or graduate school GPA
- High GRE scores – 1200 (320 if GRE taken after 8/2011) or above combined score of verbal/quantitative, and 4.5 or above for analytical
- Strong recommendation letters
- Background, experience, and/or demonstrated interest in some of the following disciplines: food science, nutrition science, bioactive food components

Review of the applications will begin starting February 15, 2012, and continue until the fellowships are filled. For more information related to the application process, contact Mitzi Barnett at mbarnett@purdue.edu or 765-494-8256.

For more information related to the technical aspects of the fellowship, contact Dr. Mario Ferruzzi
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