Responsibilities. The National Institute for Microbial Forensics & Food and Agricultural Biosecurity (NIMFFAB) at Oklahoma State University has an opportunity for a far-seeing individual with talents and interests in exploring and exploiting massively parallel sequence determination and related methods for plant bioforensic and food biosecurity applications in innovative ways. The person chosen will be able to design their research directions within the framework of NIMFFAB’s mission, and participate, under faculty supervision, in mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students. Cooperative research with members of the NIMFFAB team, and vigorous publication and other dissemination of results are expected.

Qualifications. The successful candidate will have earned a Ph.D. degree in bioinformatics, plant pathology, food science, molecular biology, microbiology, biochemistry, botany, plant science or a related field. Familiarity with massively parallel sequencing and/or other metagenomic methods is required, as is experience in handling and processing large datasets. Candidates must show evidence of commitment, creativity and research excellence as well as strong oral and written communication skills. They should enjoy working in a multi-cultural setting, and have demonstrated collegiality and the ability to work independently and cooperatively in a team. Due to program-related security, security checks and clearances may be required for some work.

Position Details. This Assistant Research Scientist position, which is a non-tenure track research faculty position within the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, is available July 1, 2010. Given satisfactory performance, it will be available for multiple years. The position is funded by the university in anticipation of a future faculty hire with this program focus. The salary, which is competitive, will depend on the experience of the incumbent. Information about Oklahoma State University can be found at http://osu.okstate.edu/, about the NIMFFAB at http://www.ento.okstate.edu/nimffab/, and about the Department at http://biochemistry.okstate.edu.

To Apply. Please send curriculum vitae, university transcripts, and a letter of application describing your interest in the position and explaining how your previous training and experience relate to it. Be sure to indicate your date of availability. Please request letters of reference from three individuals who can address your potential in research and professional skills relevant to this position. The target date for receipt of all application materials is May 15, 2010, but applications will be considered until a suitable candidate is identified.

Send application materials to: Dr. Ulrich Melcher, Chair, Search & Screen Committee, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078. Phone: 405-744-6210. Fax: 405-744-7799. Email: ulrich.melcher@okstate.edu

OSU is an AA/EEO/E-verify Employer committed to Diversity, and OSU Stillwater is a tobacco-free campus.