

Opening for Associate Professor (Tenure Track) in the Department of Environment Conservation at Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology

1. Overview

Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology (TUAT) invites applications for one (1) associate professor for the tenure-track position in the field of natural environment conservation and data science. Preference will be given to candidates with a strong publication record and evidence of ability to conduct original research together with willingness to collaborate with existing faculty members. We are particularly interested in candidates whose research focuses on conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, and sustainable use of natural resources. The tenure-track period is five years. The appointee will be affiliated to the Institute of Agriculture and will run their independent research laboratory as a Principal Investigator. The appointee who makes outstanding achievements during the tenure-track period will be promoted to tenured position. The appointee will receive favorable treatment in the allocation of start-up funds for the initial launch of their laboratory, administrative support, etc. Furthermore, an environment in which they can focus on their research is provided with fewer duties in teaching and administrative work during the tenure-track period. They are expected to give lectures in their field of expertise at the affiliated department and graduate school and to supervise graduate students for their thesis research. Tenure reviews are conducted in the third and fifth years of the tenure-track period by the review committee. If the evaluation indicates that the appointee is appropriate, they will be promoted to tenured position. If they make a significant achievement, they may be promoted to the tenured position in the third year. Evaluation criteria will be established within six months after the appointment. As described below, salary and benefits of this tenure-track appointee is about the same as tenured faculty with similar ranks.

2. Recruitment Field

The Division of Environment Conservation of Graduate School of Agriculture is engaged in research and education aimed at fostering innovation and advancing knowledge for the conservation and restoration of nature, and sustainable use of natural resources. The division places particular emphasis on soil, air, wildlife and plants, and people in forests, mountains, freshwater, and cities, as well as reconciling production and conservation in the changing world. This position is open to an enthusiastic researcher who is highly motivated to contribute to one or more of the following areas: 1) biodiversity conservation,

2) sustainable uses of natural resources, and 3) digital information technology and data science technology in the field of environmental and/or biodiversity conservation. We are seeking a faculty member who is open-minded and willing and able to collaborate with various disciplines, including vegetation and wildlife management, ecology, forestry and forest sciences, and relevant field of social and health sciences, and contribute to teaching and supervising master and Ph.D. students. Preference will be given to candidates with a strong publication record and evidence of ability to conduct original research together with strong willingness to collaborate with existing faculty members.

3. Qualifications

Applicants need to meet all of the following qualifications.

- 1) Ph.D. (or degree before date of hire) in a discipline related to nature conservation.
- 2) Meets at least either of the following criteria:
 - A) Obtained Ph.D. in countries other than Japan
 - B) Approximately 5 years of research experience at research institutes in countries other than Japan.
- 3) Approximately less than 10 years from Ph.D. completion at the time of appointment
- 4) Ability to conduct international collaborative research and to lead international co-authored publications.
- 5) Evidence of, or clear potential for, acquisition of external funding (joint research funds, etc.).
- 6) Willing to give undergraduate and graduate level lectures in Japanese language after tenured. *1, *2
- 7) Willing to participate in administrative duties when tenured.
 - *1 At the time of appointment, Japanese language skill is not required.
 - *2 Sufficient opportunity for learning Japanese will be provided from the university.

4. Selection policy

Our selection process emphasizes the following elements:

- Solid and internationally recognized record of research and publication in nature conservation and closely related fields.
- Ability and potential to conduct international joint research and lead outstanding international co-authored publications after appointed.
- High potential and willingness for collaboration with existing faculty at TUAT.
- Ability to effectively contribute to education in our division and graduate school (i.e., in the field of conservation and management of nature).

- Willing to actively contribute to the administration and management of the university after being tenured.
- To promote diversity and inclusion at TUAT, we are going to recruit researchers from countries other than Japan proactively in this selection.

5. Startup and Research Budgets, Research Space

The appointee will be provided with 9 million yen (4.5 million yen for the first year, the other 4.5 million yen for the second year) as a startup fund. For the remaining years, annual research budget which is similar to that of the tenured faculty members will be provided. Independent research space will be allocated at the time of appointment.

6. Additional Duties and How Tenure is Granted

The tenure-track associate professor in this call is desired to accomplish advanced research achievements through international collaborative research and international co-authored publications. Mid-term evaluation will be conducted during the third year of the appointment; tenure will be granted if they accomplishes outstanding achievements. A final evaluation will be conducted in the fifth year. Those who fail to pass the final evaluation will resign at the end of the tenure-track term, but will be permitted to enroll at TUAT as a specially appointed associate professor, up to a maximum of one year.

7. Teaching

They will be required to give lectures in their field of expertise at the department and the graduate school, and to supervise undergraduate and graduate students for their thesis research project.

8. Salary

Annual salary will be from about 6.3 to 7 million Japanese Yen depending upon the appointee's previous experience. This is roughly equivalent to the salary of tenured associate professors. The salary is determined based on TUAT's regulations taking into account the appointee's previous career and research achievement.

9. Institute of Affiliation and Place of Work

Affiliation: Institute of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology

Institution name: Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology

Type of institution: National University Corporation

Location: 3-8-1 Harumi-cho, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo 183-8538, Japan

Place of work: Fuchu Campus, 3-5-8 Saiwai-cho, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo 183-8509, Japan

Type of job: Associate professor

Working arrangements: Full time (flex-time)

10. Duration of Tenure-track Period

Five years from the time of appointment (If the appointee is found to satisfy preset criteria in the tenure evaluation based on their research and teaching performance during the tenure-track period, they will be promoted to a tenured position)

11. Time of Appointment

As early as possible after April 1, 2025.

12. How to Apply and Documents Required

Please apply by attaching the following set of documents via the web form, a link is given below. All the documents must be prepared in English language. We will not accept any applications by postal mail or email. Please be sure to read the following instruction carefully before applying. Personal information related to applications will be handled in accordance with the Personal Information Protection Law and TUAT's regulations. Although the fact of application will not be disclosed, we may make inquiries to the extent necessary for the selection process. Note that the application materials will not be returned.

<Application Form (Online System)>

To apply this position, please submit all the necessary documents listed below from the following web form (<https://forms.gle/7oj89oRjBWDiGbLj9>) or through the JREC-IN portal site (<https://jrecin.jst.go.jp/seek/SeekTop>). Please search with the key words “Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology” to find the advertisement of this particular position.

<Application Documents>

- 1) Curriculum vitae including all of your previous relevant experiences with a full publication list (PDF) <see the link for the template:
https://www.tuat.ac.jp/en/outline/kyousyoku/kyouin/curriculum_vitae.html >
- 2) PDF of your major publications (up to 5; at least 1 is required)
- 3) Summary of past research (up to two A4 pages including figures)
- 4) Overview of research plan at TUAT (PDF) (up to two A4 pages including figures)

- 5) Educational achievements and plan (PDF) (up to one A4 page)
- 6) Names and contact information of two references (PDF)

Points to Note

- 1) All documents must be prepared in English.
- 2) The size of each file is limited to maximum of 10 MB.

13. Deadline for Application

September 30, 2024, 5 pm (Japan Standard Time or JST)

The application site will be closed at this time and date.

14. Selection Schedule

First selection (application document review) by October 25, 2024

Interview for those short listed: by November 29, 2024 (tentative)

Appointment: As early as April 1, 2025 (tentative)

15. Inquiries (including contacts for general questions on application)

For any inquiries, please contact the chair of the search committee via email.

Prof. Hiroto Toda

Department of Environment Conservation

Institute of Agricultural Science

Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology

Email: todah<at>cc.tuat.ac.jp (please replace <at> with @)

16. Others

- 1) Please refer to the university's application website
(https://www.tuat.ac.jp/en/outline/kyousyoku/kyouin/20240930_02_en.html) for details of this call for applications.
- 2) The university actively promotes gender equality.
- 3) Based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act, TUAT conducts security checks when hiring new staff. We, therefore, ask you to provide information necessary for the security check. As a result of reviewing the information, if the applicant falls under any regulatory requirements, we may ask you to change the scope of your desired education and research. Additionally, if the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry disapproves TUAT's request to approve your acceptance, our offer to you may be cancelled.