



The [University of Helsinki](#) is a multidisciplinary research university which ranks among the leading universities in the world and the top ten universities in Europe. Some 36,000 students are currently pursuing an undergraduate or postgraduate degree at the University, which employs a staff of more than 8,500. The University's current annual budget is EUR 600 million.

The [Viikki Campus](#) is an internationally recognised centre for life sciences. The Faculties of Agriculture and Forestry, Biological and Environmental Sciences, Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy are located at Viikki. In addition, the campus is home to such administratively independent units as the Institute of Biotechnology and the Neuroscience Center. Research groups are served by the University's core facilities including laboratories for DNA sequencing as well as genomics, metabolomics, electron microscopy, light microscopy, protein chemistry and structural biology. Along with state-of-the-art greenhouses, growth chambers and experimental fields are available for shared use. The campus brings together more than 6500 students and almost 1800 staff members.

The University of Helsinki has introduced a

TENURE TRACK

for teaching and research personnel, intended to increase the predictability, competitiveness and attractiveness of academic careers while promoting internationalisation at the University.

A person may be chosen to the tenure track system, if no more than 10 years have elapsed since he or she took a doctoral degree and if the person in question has achieved promising scientific and other merits. In addition to research work and teaching experience, additional merit will be granted for international experience as well as experience in acquiring research funding.

An appointee to Finnish-language teaching and research position is required to be proficient in Finnish. He or she must also have at least satisfactory spoken and written skills in Swedish. Foreign citizen, non-native Finnish citizen or citizen who has not been educated in Finnish or Swedish may be exempted from this requirement without a separate application. To successfully attend to the duties of the position, appointee must have good English skills.

A person who is employed as assistant professor for a fixed-term employment of three to five years, depending on his or her background and previous experience. During the employment period the appointee's performance will be monitored and evaluated according to the criteria defined when concluding the employment contract. Success in the evaluation will lead to new fixed-term employment as an associate professor with the aim of eventually obtaining the tenure of a professor.

The Faculties of Agriculture and Forestry and Biological and Environmental Sciences invite applications for a joint tenure track position in

MOLECULAR AND TRANSLATIONAL PLANT SCIENCE

The Viikki Molecular Plant Science community is a strong, internationally recognised and well-connected research unit that forms the core of the Viikki Plant Science Center (ViPS) research and teaching unit. The research community includes approximately 30 research groups employing close to 120 researchers at two faculties and three departments (Departments of Biosciences, Agricultural Sciences and Forest Sciences). The joint tenure track position will operate within the Viikki Plant Science Center and will aim to promote high-quality basic research in the field of plant molecular biology, and in particular to translate genomic knowledge into practical applications. The appointee will work within the facilities of the [Department of Agricultural Sciences](#).

Molecular and translational plant science follows the research focus areas of both faculties. The Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry promotes the sustainable use of natural resources and seeks solutions to future challenges in agriculture, food production and forestry (e.g. climate change, protection of the environment, food safety and energy production). One of the research focus areas at the Faculty as well as at the Department of Agricultural Sciences is named 'From genomes to practice'. The aim of this focus area is to utilise the genomic knowledge of plants and microbes at the practical level, for example in plant production and forestry. Strong basic research in the fields of plant physiology, as well as plant molecular biology and developmental biology is carried out at the Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences. The research focus area 'Genes and environment' emphasises plant signalling and developmental biological research as well as their potential use for biotechnological applications. The appointee for the assistant professorship will be charged with bolstering this work.

Plant molecular biology is taught in both faculties at undergraduate and postgraduate levels (major subjects being plant production science, biotechnology and plant biology). The appointee will teach joint courses in the fields of plant physiology, plant molecular biology and plant biotechnology, and participate in developing these teaching areas.

The assistant professor in molecular and translational plant science will carry out research, provide teaching, supervise theses and dissertations, obtain external research funding and promote community relations. The appointee is expected to be active in the research area of molecular and translational plant science that focuses on the role of biotic and abiotic factors as well as the plant genome on the growth, development and adaptation of plants to different environments. Translational research aims at putting basic scientific knowledge into practical application. Due to the broad scope of this field, research can be directed and targeted to relevant sectors, depending on the appointee's research interests.

The starting salary for the position will be EUR 4.000 – 5.000 per month, depending on the appointee's qualifications and work experience.

Applications must be accompanied by four copies of the following documents in English:

- 1) A CV and a brief report on the applicant's experience and qualifications, as follows:
 - Research and other scientific activities as well as the supervision of theses and dissertations
 - Merits which the applicant deems relevant to the evaluation of teaching skills
 - Other activities which the applicant wishes to bring to the Faculty's attentionor, alternatively, an academic portfolio containing the above-mentioned documents (see instructions at <http://www.helsinki.fi/academic-portfolio>).
- 2) A numbered list of publications containing the following information:
 - Applicant's name and date of birth
 - Articles in refereed scientific journals
 - Articles in refereed scientific compilations and printed conference proceedings
 - Published monographs
 - Other scientific publications
 - Textbooks and other research publications
 - Popularised articles, and radio or television programmes related to researchFull references (including the names of authors and publishers and the titles of articles or other publications) should be provided for all publications.
- 3) A maximum of 10 publications and/or manuscripts accepted for publication
- 4) A report (max. 2 pages, in English) on how the applicant intends to develop research in his or her field, if appointed.

Applications addressed to the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, together with the required enclosures, must be delivered to the following address: Registry of the University of Helsinki, P.O. Box 33 (Yliopistonkatu 4), 00014 University of Helsinki, Finland; or hykirjaamo@helsinki.fi. The closing date for applications is 19.10. 2012 (the Registry of the University of Helsinki will be closed at 15.45 local Helsinki time).

Further information about the position can be obtained from Professor Paula Elomaa (Department of Agricultural Sciences), paula.elomaa@helsinki.fi, tel: +358-9-19158431 and Docent Kurt Fagerstedt (Head of Plant Biology), kurt.fagerstedt@helsinki.fi, tel: +358-9-19159438 (<http://www.helsinki.fi/recruitment/tenuretrack.html>).

International Staff Services at the University of Helsinki provides a wide range of services to employees from abroad to facilitate their relocation and adjustment to Finland. For further information, please visit <http://www.helsinki.fi/intstaff/>.

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