

Job Opening Research Professor

Biotechnology and Environmental Bioengineering

**Department of Environmental Sciences (DES)
Instituto Potosino de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (IPICYT)
San Luis Potosí, Mexico**

The Instituto Potosino de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (IPICYT) is a federally funded interdisciplinary research center in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. IPICYT consists of five research departments, 1) Advanced Materials, 2) Applied Mathematics, 3) Applied Geosciences, 4) Environmental Sciences, and 5) Molecular Biology. IPICYT offers Master and PhD programs; despite of its close to 20 years of existence, it is still a growing research center with state-of-the art infrastructure.

The Department of Environmental Sciences (DES) at IPICYT (www.ipicyt.edu.mx) invites applications for the equivalent of a tenure-track position at the Research Professor level in Biotechnology and Environmental Bioengineering.

We are interested in candidates who

- 1) Demonstrate strong interests and skills in basic and applied research in biotechnology and/or environmental bioengineering.
- 2) Complement research areas that are currently developed at the DES; these include biotechnology, environmental engineering, ecology and global environmental change, and complex environmental systems.
- 3) Demonstrate experience and strong interest in interdisciplinary collaborations.

Specific Requirements

- The candidate should have a doctorate degree in Biotechnology, Bioengineering, Bioprocesses, Chemical Engineering, Biochemical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, among others. Independently of the particular degree, the candidate is expected to have ample experience in **Biotechnology and Environmental Bioengineering**
- Solid experience in biotechnology, bioprocessing or environmental bioengineering; for example, biodegradation and biotransformation of organic or inorganic pollutants in water, soils, sediments or emissions, treatment of micro-pollutants and emerging pollutants, application of membranes, bio-electrochemical systems, biofilms, high salinity systems, among others
- Count with at least two years of demonstrated research and teaching experience after having completed the doctorate degree
- Solid experience in multi- and interdisciplinary research and publications in indexed, high-impact factor scientific journals of the Journal Citation Reports and/or have patents
- Profile of at least 'Investigador Nacional' level I of the 'Sistema Nacional de Investigadores' or the equivalent (i.e. count with 10-15 publications). However, all suitable candidates are encouraged to apply
- Previous involvement/participation in student training at the graduate level (Masters and PhD) is welcomed
- Active participation and/or leadership in national and international research projects or technological development is desirable
- Capacity to work both independently and/or in research teams
- Interest in working in laboratories, industrial settings or remediation projects and ability to scale laboratory results to pilot studies and prototypes
- Preferentially demonstrate experience in multi-stakeholder projects including the public, private and social sectors
- Strong Spanish language skills

- In case of IPICYT Alumni considering graduate programs in Environmental Sciences, candidates should demonstrate clear leadership and independence and their curriculum should reflect the equivalent of a Research Professor (IPICYT Researcher Level B or Level 2 of the National System of Researchers (Sistema Nacional de Investigadores, SNI)).

PLEASE NOTE: only applications that fulfill all requirements will be considered

Required documents

The interested candidates are requested to send the following documents in electronic version (in PDF format):

- Letter of application including statements of research interests and teaching philosophy
- *Curriculum vitae* including all supporting documents (academic certificates, work contracts, publications, patents, grants, certificates of graduated students, among others).
- Proposal of working plan (maximum three pages) that links directly to the research foci of the DES indicating short-, mid-, and long-term goals considering research, student training, and outreach skills with the public and private sector. The proposal should explicitly indicate, which new research lines the candidate will develop and demonstrate how they avoid overlap and demonstrate potential complementarity with already established research lines at the DES
- Three recent letters of recommendation from researchers associated with academic institutions sent confidentially (from the email address of the recommending person) (for details see below)
- Copies of Birth Certificate, passport, FM2, or equivalent
- Certificates of all degrees obtained

- For non-native Spanish speakers a certificate of fluency in Spanish language is desirable

Academic Responsibilities

The successful candidate will be expected to establish an internationally renowned, externally-funded research program with national and international financial support and to publish the research results in high impact scientific journals. Besides, he/she must show strong skills in student training at the master and doctorate level.

The candidate will actively participate in the Environmental Sciences graduate program by offering 1-2 courses per year in his/her specialty and in obligatory courses; in addition, he/she will serve as master and PhD student advisor. The qualified applicant will be expected to establish strong collaborative relations with state, national and international environmental agencies.

Finally, the successful candidate will actively participate in outreach activities including publishing research results and on highly debated environmental topics for the general public.

Evaluation of candidates

The evaluation process will be conducted by the academic community of the DES.

The evaluation process consists of two phases:

- 1) *Revision of applicants' documents*: after having carefully examined all applications, the academic community of the DES will select a minimum of three candidates assuring they all comply with the criteria established in this call for applications. All selected candidates will be informed about the date and schedule of the interview.

- 2) *Extended interview*: each candidate will be queried in an in-person interview, on the agreed-upon dates considering the following activities:
- a. Research seminar for the whole research community of IPICYT: each candidate will present a research seminar in his field of expertise focusing on two aspects:
 - i. Global overview of his/her trajectory including the most recent research results
 - ii. Presentation of working plan to be implemented as a new member of the DES
 - b. Graduate level class for the whole research community of IPICYT: each candidate will present a sample class on a topic of interest and along the lines of his/her expertise
 - c. In-person interview with the academic community of the DES: each candidate will be personally interviewed

During their visits, candidates will be introduced to the installations and laboratories and have the opportunity to get to know researchers from DES and other Departments.

Following the extended interview of all candidates, the academic community of the DES will take a decision by consensus based on the curricular profile, seminar, class taught, and interview of each candidate and generate a ranked list of candidates to occupy the position. This decision will be presented to the Department Head of the DES, who in turn will proceed and present the results of the selection process to the Internal Evaluation Committee (IEC) of IPICYT. The IEC will present the final recommendation to the General Director of IPICYT. The final decision confirmed by the General Director will not be subject to appeal.

For more information and inquiries concerning applications and recommendation letters, please always contact both persons mentioned below.

Key dates:

- Publication of position announcement: September 17, 2019
- Applications will be received until October 15, 2019
- Review of applications until October 22, 2019
- Invitation of successful candidates: October 22, 2019
- Interview and presentations: October 29-31, 2019
- Tentative date of hiring: November 15, 2019

Academic Community of DES

C/o Dr. Elisabeth Huber-Sannwald and Maria Guadalupe Arriaga Castillo

Instituto Potosino de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica A.C.

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