Tenure-track Assistant Professor in Plant Light Acclimation Research Group

Institute of Plant Science and Resources (IPSR), Okayama University, Japan

Applications are invited for a TENURE-TRACK ASSISTANT PROFESSOR position beginning on January 1, 2021 (or later) in the Institute of Plant Science and Resources (IPSR), Okayama University. The successful candidate will join the Plant Light Acclimation Research Group (Atmospheric Stress Unit), whose staff members are Wataru Sakamoto (Professor) and Ryo Matsushima (Associate Professor).

The Plant Light Acclimation Research Group is focusing on various aspects of chloroplast development and photosynthesis, including research on understanding photoinhibition and photoprotection of photosynthesis machineries. The successful candidate is expected to actively develop his/her own research in the relevant fields using innovative approaches. Additional responsibilities of tenure-track Assistant Professor include teaching and supervision of graduate students at the Graduate School of Environmental and Life Science.

This tenure-track position is a maximum five-year appointment with mid-term (3rd year) and final (5th year) examinations according to the criteria attached in this application form. The successful candidate who fulfills the criteria will be promoted as permanent Assistant Professor. If the candidate does not meet requirements in evaluation criteria, the contract will automatically expire after the tenure-track period.

Applications should be made using the form provided at www.rib.okayama-u.ac.jp. All application materials in English or Japanese should be sent as attached PDF files by Email to Professor Wataru Sakamoto, Director, Institute of Plant Science and Resources, Okayama University (Email address: see1201@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp). All materials should arrive by September 30, 2020. After an initial screening, shortlisted candidates will be interviewed on-line or in person.

Contact email address for inquiries regarding the application process:

see1201@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp.

[Application Forms to Tenure-track Assistant Professor]

Applicants should submit Forms 1–9 assembled into single PDF.

Form 1: Curriculum vitae

As of (date)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name Gender  Date of birth (age)  Nationality  Present home address  Telephone  Email address |  | |
| Photograph |  |
|  | |

Academic career

Date

Professional career and type of employment

Date

Awards

Date

Qualifications

Date

Signature of the applicant

Form 2: Two references for the applicant

Applicant name

Name Affiliation Address (Telephone, Email address)

Form 3: Publication list (books, original papers, others such as reviews and patents)

Applicant name

Include each title of paper, name of authors (underline name of the applicant), Journal name, volume, and page–page (year), arranged in the order of books, original papers and others. In-press papers in the list must be accompanied with a clear evidence for publication. Mark five major publications.

Form 4: List of grants awarded (from 2015)

Applicant name

Include name of grant, title, year, total amount of funds (currency), and name of PI

Form 5: Scientific achievements in the past (not more than 800 words)

Applicant name

Cite publications listed in Form 3 appropriately.

Form 6: Research proposal at IPSR, Okayama University (not more than 1000 words)

Applicant name

Include research plan and experimental strategies, along with possible outcome and social impact.

Form 7: International activities (from 2015)

Applicant name

Form 8: Membership in scientific societies

Applicant name

Form 9: Declaration of total impact factors to be earned during the tenure-track term

Applicant name

Declare the sum of impact factors to be earned (as either first or corresponding author) during the tenure-track term, along with a brief description of papers and journals to be submitted (see attached sheet describing promotion criteria).

Criteria for Assistant Professor Tenureship

Tenure-track assistant professors employed after April-1, 2020 will be examined according to the following criteria.

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| --- |
| １）Research proficiency   * The candidate must show his/her competency in developing his/her future research into plant genetic resources and/or stress science as a tenured faculty. * During the tenure-track (hereinafter referred to as “TT”) term, the candidate, as the first- or corresponding author, must acquire one or more papers accepted in journals indexed in Journal Citation Reports (JCR), and he/she must acquire a total of the same or higher cumulative impact factor (IF) as self-declared at the time of application. See ※ below for details. * The candidate must present in person at least one paper at an international academic conference or symposium during the TT term. * The candidate must serve as an organizer at internal or external research meetings, such as academic conferences, symposiums or workshops, at least once during the TT term. * Others |
| ２）Education skills   * During the TT term, the candidate must deliver at least one or more lectures or seminars to graduate students, or supervise them in writing their academic dissertations. * The candidate must actively contribute to international collaboration and human resource development promoted by the Institute during the TT term. See ※※ below for details. * At the time of his/her examination, the candidate must fulfil the graduate school requirements for qualification as a supervisor in the Master course. * Others |
| ３）Acquisition of research funds   * The candidate must apply for and acquire competitive external funds as a representative within the TT period. * Others |
| ４）Others   * The candidate must actively participate in the management of the Institute and make concrete proposals that contribute to the development of the Institute during the TT term. * Others |
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※ The cumulative IF of first- or corresponding author papers acquired from the appointment time to the time of the final examination should be self-declared in the application form (total IF = 10 or higher is expected)  
※※ Refers to seminars, lectures, research guidance, acceptance of internships, etc.

**Promotion schedule**

The candidate will be evaluated by nominated Institute committee composed of the internal and external members, based on the criteria specified in “Criteria for Assistant Professor Tenureship”, (i) two and a half years (mid-term review) and (ii) four and a half years (final review) after his/her initial appointment as TT Assistant Professor. For promotion to permanent (tenured) Assistant Professor position, the candidate has to fulfill all criteria specified above. In principle, promotion may be granted after successful completion of all criteria during his/her mid-term review.