

University of Miyazaki

Call for application for a tenure track researcher in 2018

Deadline extended to July 17th, 2018

(Research field: Sustainable polymer materials based on computational chemistry and data science)

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Dean of Organization for Promotion of Tenure Track

President of University of Miyazaki

● General Information

University of Miyazaki has set up an organization titled “Organization for Promotion of Tenure Track (OPTT)” for promoting a tenure track (TT) system.

This time, we provide one tenure track position for young scientists and decided to extend the deadline for the application in order for more researchers to apply to our call. Research fund and independent research environments will be provided to a successful applicant. The employed researcher will be expected to effectively and successfully develop his/her research during a 5 year period. Appointed TT researcher achieving excellent performance during the term of employment will be promoted to an associate professor position, in principle, in the related faculty or institute through the tenure examination in the fifth year. Please read the following application guidelines. We expect that you will apply to this call.

● Research and education area / Related institute for the candidate

Research areas: Sustainable polymer materials based on computational chemistry and data science. (Agriculture/Environmental Science, Chemistry, Informatics)

Successful candidates will be expected to conduct the research areas of structures and functionalities of the polymer materials including biopolymers, and their design. The applicants with expertise in materials informatics using the computational modeling and simulation and/or materials properties databases are welcome. The applicants must promote the teaching as well as the research related to applied chemistry.

Position: tenure-track assistant professor

● Application guidelines

1. Qualifications

- (1) Applicants should have research experience in the above-mentioned research area or related fields. In addition, applicants should be able to work independently and be highly motivated in

their pursuit of original and innovative research in their own area of interest. Furthermore, applicants are expected to contribute actively to the education of undergraduate and graduate students.

- (2) The applicants must be able to communicate in English. The TT researcher will be expected to develop the ability to communicate in Japanese during the period. This is because he/she will have to teach students after promoting a tenured position.

2. Research funds and environment, participation in education, and other support systems

To enable the TT researcher to develop all round academic capabilities, the conditions given below will be provided.

(1) Research funds

An annual research fund is 2.5 million yen including a start-up fund for the first fiscal year (if a successful applicant is already a staff member of the University of Miyazaki, this will be 2 million yen), 1 million yen for the second, third and fourth years and 600 thousand yen for the fifth year. If the starting day of employment is a middle of the year, this fund is supplied quaternary in the first and the last year. If the applicant succeed to be a Leading Initiative for Excellent Young Researcher (LEADER) in MEXT, the program by MEXT will provide the research fund during the first two years.

(2) Research environment

- (a) The TT researcher belongs to the OPTT during his/her TT term.
- (b) The TT researcher can concentrate on his/her research with the effort more than 60%.
- (c) Dedicated research space will be provided to the TT researcher.
- (d) The TT researcher has free access as a user to all experimental equipment that has already been set up at the Frontier Science Research Center and the Center for Collaborative Research and Community Cooperation in the University.
- (e) Mentoring is provided by a coordinator and “troika supporters”, consisting of two faculty members of the university and one researcher outside the university.

(3) Participation in education

- (a) From the second year, the TT researcher will be partially involved in the education of undergraduate and graduate students to gain teaching skills and experiences.
- (b) The TT researcher will be able to supervise graduate student(s) who wish to study with the TT researcher (by negotiation).

(4) Participation in administrative task

The TT researcher is basically exempted from the management businesses.

(5) Other support systems

- (a) When the female TT researcher has childbirth, she can use maternity leave. He/she can use child-care leave, nursing leave, a nursing room, a nursery. Female TT researcher will be assisted by the Kiyohana Athena Support Room. See details at the following URL:
<http://www.miyazaki-u.ac.jp/kiyohana/english/index.html>
- (b) International TT researcher will be supported by the English-speaking staffs of the OPTT Office and the Global Support Office of the Center for International Relations. The University also provides Japanese language classes for international researchers and their

families.

Note: In order to promote a gender equal society, we strongly encourage applications from female candidates in this call.

3. Salary and other conditions

- (1) Salary will be based on the annual salary system of the University of Miyazaki. Health insurance, long term care insurance, employee pensions, employment insurance and occupational injury insurance will be paid by the University of Miyazaki and individual employees in accordance with relevant Japanese legislation.
- (2) Term of employment: 5 years
- (3) Evaluations: Research progress and achievements against the established goals will be evaluated in the third year of the term (interim evaluation), and again in the fifth year (tenure examination). The TT researcher demonstrating, in the tenure examination, his/her excellent scientific achievements that meet the criteria for the appointment of a tenured researcher of the University will be promoted to an associate professor position, in principle, in the corresponding faculty of the University. If the interim evaluation assesses the research progress of the TT researcher as an excellent, the University may offer a tenured position in the fourth year of the term. Annual salary system will be applied to the researcher who will be promoted to the tenured position.
- (4) Evaluation criteria:

Interim evaluation criteria

- (a) Self-evaluation of the achievements towards goals which will be established at the time of appointment,
- (b) Leadership and research networking,
- (c) Independence in research activity, including the status of funding from the outside of the University,
- (d) Research achievement in the scientific paper publication record,
- (e) International skills for researchers,
- (f) Teaching skills for undergraduate and graduate students.

Tenure examination criteria:

Progress/improvement after the interim evaluation of (a) - (f).

- (g) Future potential (including your perspective how to contribute to the future of the University of Miyazaki).

If the TT researcher gets childcare leave, the duration will be taken into consideration at the tenure examination. The tenured position has already been prepared.

- (5) Safety net: If the TT researcher is judged as “unsuitable for tenured position”, he/she can stay at the University of Miyazaki for additional one year after the end of employment term.

4. Application documents

(1) Application Form

Please download the application form in <http://www.miyazaki-u.ac.jp/ttkikou/en/application->

information and complete it.

(2) List of publications and presentations

Include original articles in peer-reviewed journals, reviews, books, presentations at academic and scientific meetings, etc. For original articles, please underline the applicant's name and indicate the corresponding author(s) using [*]. Representative publications listed in (6) must be indicated using X at the head of the respective sentence. For presentations at scientific meetings, list only major presentations including an invited oral presentations.

(3) List of research fund(s) received, awards, patents, etc.

For research funds, specify whether you were the principal investigator or a research team member.

(4) Summary of research accomplishments

Describe your role in the representative publications. If you are neither the first nor the corresponding author of the publications, clarify your contributions to them.

(Maximum two pages, 10.5 font sizes, figures may be included.)

(5) Five-year research plan and targeted goal(s)

(Maximum two pages, 10.5 font sizes, figures may be included.)

(6) Reprints of the representative publications (5 articles or less)

(7) Letters of recommendation from 2 referees (one page for each is appropriate).

5. How to apply

Please send application documents (1)-(6) in PDF format by e-mail to the OPTT Office (see the e-mail address in Section 7). When submitting documents, please put the "Application for a TT researcher position" in the subject line. Confirmation of receipt of application documents will be sent by e-mail within seven working days. If you do not receive the e-mail, please notify us.

Recommendation letters (7) should be sent directly to our office from referees by post (to the address specified in Section 7) or by e-mail. Applicants must include a list of the two referees with their addresses and contact information in the application form.

Personal information is protected under the Japanese law and the rules of the University of Miyazaki. Further inquiries may be made from our office, if necessary, during the selection process.

Note: Application documents will not be returned. Travel expenses for the applicants attending the interview cannot be supported by University of Miyazaki.

6. Selection schedule

(1) Closing date for submission of application documents (1)-(7) by e-mail:

5:00 pm, 17 of July, 2018 (Japan Standard Time)

(2) First screening involving review of documentation: Late July, 2018.

The result is announced to the candidate(s) in early August.

(3) Scheduled Second screening involving interviews and seminar presentations: 29th day of August, 2018.

(4) Final selection: Late August, 2018.

(5) Starting date as a TT researcher: 1st day of October, 2018

7. Contact information for application submissions and inquiries

Organization for Promotion of Tenure Track Office

Research Management and International Affairs Department

University of Miyazaki

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TEL: +81-985-58-7675 or +81-985-58-7859

FAX: +81-985-58-7675

E-mail: ttooffice@of.miyazaki-u.ac.jp

URL: <http://www.miyazaki-u.ac.jp/ttkikou/>

Communication by email is preferred.

*Please note that we are available for responding only on business days (this excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and Japanese national holidays).