



## ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE ECOLOGIST

Virginia Tech's Department of Entomology invites applications for a tenure-track position at the level of Assistant Professor in the area of vector-borne disease ecology starting in January 2018. The nine-month, 70% research and 30% teaching appointment will be based on the campus at Virginia Tech, a land-grant university in Blacksburg, Virginia. This position is part of a new university-wide emphasis that includes the hiring of six faculty members in the area of infectious disease across four colleges. The faculty member in this position is expected to help establish and grow the new Global Systems Science Destination Area (<http://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas.html>) through participation in this broader university effort. This Destination Area is focused on critical problems that cross the nexus of natural and human systems.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate will be expected to develop an extramurally funded research program focused on the ecology of mosquitoes, ticks, and/or other arthropod vectors of human infectious disease and serve as a member of the established Vector-Borne Disease Research Group in the Fralin Life Sciences Institute at Virginia Tech. Researchers who use modern methods in community, quantitative and molecular ecology are especially encouraged to apply.

Approximately a dozen faculty members from the departments of chemistry, biological sciences, biochemistry and entomology form the Vector-Borne Disease group that elucidates the fundamental mechanisms involved in the transmission and pathogenesis of vector-borne infectious organisms and leads the search for novel approaches to disease mitigation. While current emphasis of the VBD group is on mosquito-borne pathogens that cause vector-borne human diseases worldwide, this position is also open to those working with other arthropods and their role in vectoring diseases to humans, particularly ticks.

Preference will be given to individuals with an established track record in vector-borne disease research and a demonstrated ability to secure extramural funding and publish in high quality, peer-reviewed journals. The incumbent is expected to teach and develop courses at the undergraduate and/or graduate level, contribute to innovative curricula, and mentor undergraduate and graduate students. The incumbent will also support the mission of the land-grant university by participating in outreach and engaging local, state, and regional stakeholders.

Virginia Tech recognizes the critical importance of diverse teams of scholars. It seeks to diversify its faculty along multiple dimensions, including those that have been historically marginalized and excluded. Virginia Tech is a public land-grant university, committed to teaching and learning, research, and outreach to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. Building on its motto of *Ut Prosim* (that I may serve), Virginia Tech is dedicated to serving in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence—InclusiveVT. We seek candidates who adopt and practice efforts to increase access and inclusion to create a community that

*Invent the Future*

nurtures learning and growth for all of its members. Virginia Tech actively seeks a broad spectrum of candidates to join our community in preparing leaders for the world.

Qualifications: Applicants are required to hold a Ph.D. in entomology, biology, zoology, microbiology, virology, genetics, or a closely related field. Applicants with demonstrated postdoctoral research experience in the ecology of arthropod vectors of human diseases are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application: Applications will be accepted online: <https://listings.jobs.vt.edu/postings/79514>, where you will attach a formal cover letter addressing research interests and qualifications, statements of a research plan and teaching philosophy, a current curriculum vita, and the names and contact information of three references who can assess the applicant's qualifications for this position. Inquiries concerning the position or application process should be directed to Dr. Scott Salom (salom@vt.edu, 540-231-2794), Chair the Search Committee, Department of Entomology (0319), 216 Price Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. Review of applications will begin October 15, 2017 and continue until a suitable candidate is selected.