

**FACULTY POSITIONS
MULTIPLE OPEN RANK, TENURE-TRACK and FOUNDING CHAIR**

**Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth Houston)
School of Public Health**

THE OPPORTUNITY

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth Houston) School of Public Health is expanding its environmental and occupational health sciences (EOHS) multidisciplinary program. UTHealth Houston School of Public Health aims to hire a cluster of faculty members formed to create a new EOHS department and support interdisciplinary scholarship in EOHS-related topics, with a particular interest in developing new areas of inquiry that will place the EOHS program and the School as a whole in a strategic position of strength in this area of science. We are seeking exceptional candidates for:

- (1) Multiple open rank (tenure-track) faculty positions**, commensurate with background, record, and experience. These positions will be within a newly created Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. These positions offer the opportunity to have direct input into developing new ideas and innovative research directions while having the intellectual space to collaborate with current programs.
- (2)** We also invite applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the Associate or Professor level who will serve as the **EOHS Founding Chair** within the mission and scope of UTHealth Houston School of Public Health where long-established programs in EOHS reside. The selected applicant for the Chair position will be responsible for the administration, leadership, and assurance of excellence in research, education, and community engagement of the EOHS Department as well as for growing partnerships with other UTHealth components.

KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

As the nature of where we live and work is changing, the EOHS field must expand its focus to include existing and new hazards, some yet unknown, that are already increasing the visibility of both environmental and occupational health, and their interconnectedness, as well as to public health. New research and practice must consider how to better protect the health and well-being of a diverse community and workforce, and creating best practices to mitigate the impact of events such as climate change, disasters, and pandemics on population and businesses, in particular those more vulnerable.

We are seeking innovative scholars who investigate and solve complex problems associated with environmental and occupational factors to improve the public's health, safety, and well-being. To achieve this goal, the Department will aim to include a diverse portfolio covering environmental exposures and sustainability, Total Worker Health[®], risk science and policy, infectious diseases, social and community dimensions of environmental health, climate communication, air pollution and climate risks, including working populations and their communities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES – FACULTY

Successful candidates will be evaluated on the following responsibilities:

- **Research.** Commitment to establishing and maintaining an independently funded research

program and to academic advancement with a strong focus on research accomplishments and publications in scholarly journals within the EOHS field.

- **Teaching & mentoring.** Provide graduate-level courses in the EOHS curriculum and mentor and advise both master's and doctoral students in EOHS programs. Commensurate with rank, faculty will serve as a mentor for junior faculty hires.
- **Service.** Participate in activities that will enable the Department, School, and University to accomplish its mission. Participate in scholarly and professional organizations that will advance the profession. Provide expertise in areas related to EOHS to others, including other academic departments within the School, the University, or acting as representatives of the University using their expertise to the wider community of university partners and stakeholders.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS - FACULTY

The successful applicant should have a track record of accomplishment which will support and promote the continued success of the Department. The Search Committee seeks candidates with the following experience and abilities:

- **Education:** A doctoral degree in environmental or occupational health sciences-related disciplines with research interests in understanding the health effects associated with environmental or occupational risk factors. An MD or DO degree with experience in occupational medicine will be considered as well.
- **Research:** An established record of independent scholarship with national and international prominence in the field of EOHS commensurate with academic rank, including high-impact, peer-reviewed research publications, federally-funded grants (e.g., NIH K-series or R-series) or that demonstrates the potential to develop independent and sustainable sponsored research portfolios in EOHS.
- **Teaching:** Excellent reputation as an educator and student mentor with a preference for graduate-level experience.
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI):** A track record of demonstrated commitment to DEI, with capacity and drive to ensure inclusion and diversity in all facets of academic engagement, including faculty, staff, students, and key stakeholders.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES – CHAIR

In addition to the responsibilities as faculty, the new Department Chair will leverage the strengths and expertise of departmental faculty, actively engaging them along with other key stakeholders such as students, staff, school leadership, and community members, to collaboratively build and maintain a strong reputation for excellence in education, research, and service. This will occur through the following key responsibilities aligned with UT System Policy (<https://www.utsystem.edu/sites/policy-library/policies/uts-182-selection-appointment-roles-and-responsibilities-evaluation>):

- **Leadership.** The Chair will report to the UTHealth Houston School of Public Health Dean and work to build consensus with the Dean's Office and other leadership such as Department Chairs, Campus Deans, and Center Directors as well as the Department faculty to promote the continued relevance and growth of the Department. The Chair will be responsible for the intellectual leadership of the Department, mentoring faculty in their educational and research development, ensuring adequate resources for their professional growth, and serving as an advocate for them.

- **Education.** In collaboration with faculty and staff, the Chair will take a leadership role in the effort to ensure the continued excellence of the EOHS educational programs as well as keep the current MPH and PhD degree programs relevant.
- **Research.** The Chair will oversee the Department's externally funded research portfolio, supporting faculty research activities, with a particular focus on center, training, and research grants, which will be key for the success of the Department. The expansion and enhancement of research endeavors, will facilitate the integration of new scientific knowledge into the departmental educational and service activities.
- **Mentorship, Recruitment & Retention, and Diversity.** The Chair will guide the effort to ensure that faculty are provided with adequate mentorship and support for research-related infrastructure so faculty can meet their professional growth and promotion goals. The Chair will work to ensure balanced research and teaching portfolio, and support recruitment and retention of outstanding and diverse faculty and students.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS – CHAIR

Candidates for the Chair position must have the additional experience and abilities:

- **Leadership.** Proven record of experience in an academic leadership or administrative position, ideally Department Chair.
- **Financial Stewardship and Management.** Demonstrated experience with fiscal management responsibilities.
- **Collaboration and Relationships.** Demonstrate a clear vision for supporting growing academic department goals and expanding the research enterprise of the Department. Excellence in mentoring faculty and the ability to foster existing collaborations and building new, strong relationships beyond the academic setting with local organizations and businesses, specifically the healthcare and energy sectors, community partners, and other academic departments to promote the success of the Department nationally and internationally.
- **Communication.** Exceptional written, oral communication, and interpersonal skills.

COMPENSATION

UTHealth offers a comprehensive and competitive benefits package, commensurate with the successful candidate's background and experience. For more information on our benefits programs please refer to the UTHealth Office of Benefits Website: <https://www.uth.edu/benefits/benefits-summary.htm>

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

UTHealth is committed to promoting diversity so we welcome applications from anyone who would contribute to the bring additional dimensions to our research, teaching, and service missions, including women, members of historically marginalized groups, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities.

Interested applicants should complete the web application and include a letter describing their qualifications and interests, along with their curriculum vitae, and contact information for at least three professional references at: <https://uth.referrals.selectminds.com/faculty>. Direct link(s) for candidates applying for the multi-rank faculty positions is <http://p.rfer.us/UTH4-GGBD>; Department Chair applicants

go to http://p.rfer.us/UTH_zuGBE. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. Inquiries about the position should be directed to the Search Committee at David.Gimeno@uth.tmc.edu. Be sure to add "EOHS Faculty Search" to the message subject line.

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES

The new Department of EOHS will continue providing outstanding educational and professional opportunities for students to study physical, biological and chemical exposures encountered by workers and the general public, to provide solutions to natural and man-made problems in our environment, and to become skilled environmental and health scientists, leaders, and practitioners. The department will integrate its high-quality educational programs (MPH and PHD in Environmental Health) with a growing research portfolio, interactive field and laboratory work, and to gain national recognition for its research programs in environmental and occupational health sciences. Further, the department will foster public health practice and professional service opportunities to better serve the community through the prevention or mitigation of exposure to environmental hazards.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON (UTHEALTH HOUSTON)

Established in 1972 by The University of Texas System Board of Regents, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth Houston) is Texas' resource for health care education, innovation, scientific discovery and excellence in patient care. The most comprehensive academic health center in the UT System and the U.S. Gulf Coast region, UTHealth Houston is home to schools of biomedical informatics, biomedical sciences, dentistry, nursing and public health and the John P. and Kathrine G. McGovern Medical School. UTHealth includes The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center, as well as the growing clinical practices UT Physicians, UT Dentists and UT Health Services. The university's primary teaching hospitals are Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and Harris Health Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital.

THE UTHEALTH HOUSTON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health (<https://sph.uth.edu>) is both the largest and the first school of public health in Texas and has been continuously accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) since 1969. The UTHealth Houston School of Public Health is changing the culture of health through excellence in graduate education, research and engagement. With over 165 faculty and 1400 students at the master's or doctoral levels spanning multiple disciplines and campuses, the UTHealth Houston School of Public Health has a state-wide footprint and opportunities to collaborate with renowned researchers across Texas.

The UTHealth Houston School of Public Health is responsive to the cultural and geographic diversity of Texas, making it a unique environment to undertake research or implement interventions. The unique racial, geographic, and economic diversity of Texas provides faculty and students the opportunity to explore a wide range of public health areas. Each campus is tightly woven into the fabric of the surrounding community and with the school as a whole. Our programs partner with healthcare organizations, schools, community groups, corporations, and government agencies. With populations that represent future demographic trends for the entire US, the locality of our impact is balanced by its ability to scale to national and global consequences.

SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (SWCOEH)

Established in 1977, the SWCOEH is the NIOSH-funded Texas Education and Research Center (ERC), and 1 of only 18 in the nation, at The UTHealth Houston School of Public Health. The SWCOEH has a 45-year history of commitment to occupational health and addressing a shortage of occupational and

environmental health professionals. The overall goal of the Center is to respond to the critical need for well-trained occupational and environmental health (OEH) specialists by providing graduate level academic and research training in the OEH disciplines and providing continuing professional education. The SWCOEH has a track record of sustained funding, and solid graduates from excellent degree programs such as the ABET-accredited MPH in Industrial Hygiene program recently ranked 5th in the U.S. (see www.mphonline.org/best-industrial-hygiene-degree), the occupational and environmental medicine (OEM) residency program continuously accredited by ACGME since 1977 and one of only two civilian OEM programs in Texas, and the first and only PhD program in Total Worker Health in the U.S.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

UTHealth Houston is committed to providing equal opportunity in all employment-related activities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, gender identity or expression, veteran status or any other basis prohibited by law or university policy. Reasonable accommodation, based on disability or religious observances, will be considered in accordance with the applicable law and UTHealth Houston policy. UTHealth Houston is an EEO/AA employer. UTHealth Houston does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law. This is a security-sensitive position and thereby subject to Texas Education code §51.215. A background check will be required for the final candidates.