



16.2.2011

Appointment specification

PROFESSOR OF STATISTICS

Vacant position and its location

This post is located in the Department of Social Research in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The special area of responsibility for the Professor of Statistics is the applications of clinical medicine.

The employment contract will be permanent.

The duties of the professor are: to carry out and supervise scientific work, give education based on it and follow developments in science or art and participate in societal interaction and international cooperation in his or her field.

There are five disciplines in the Department of Social Research: social policy, social work, sociology, economic sociology and statistics. The areas of strength in research and teaching that the department specialises in are welfare issues, cultural interaction, social inequalities and comparative research methodology.

The statistics discipline has two professors, two lecturers, one university teacher, one doctoral student, one teaching assistant and a clerical officer. The statistics discipline of the University of Turku is under rearrangement and development. The aims of the development project are to bring research in statistics itself to a high level; to ensure sufficient and high quality teaching of statistics; to ensure professional methodology counseling for all researchers, teachers and students in need; and to promote world-class research of sciences applying modern statistical methodology. The development project is guided by the proposal *Position of statistics in the University of Turku*:

http://www.soc.utu.fi/hallinto/tyoryhmat/summary_tilastotieteen_asema.pdf

The duties of the present post of the professor of statistics include being in charge of the biostatistics study programme and supervising postgraduate students in biostatistics. The biostatistics study programme provides education for careers in biostatistics in the fields of pharmaceutical industry, industry developing functional foods, and more widely in the fields of medical and other experimental research. As the biostatistics study programme is especially geared towards using statistical methods in drug

development and research, one of the duties of the professor is to stay in touch on educational issues with the Faculty of Medicine and with the pharmaceutical industry.

The salary for this particular post is determined in accordance with the university salary system for teaching and research personnel.

Formal qualifications

The requirements for the person to be appointed professor are a doctoral degree, high-level scientific competence, experience on managing scientific research, experience of international cooperation in the research field he/she represents as well as ability to provide high-level research-based education and supervise final theses.

Scientific publications and other research results with scientific value, teaching experience and pedagogical education, ability to produce teaching material, other accomplishments in teaching and demonstration lecture, as well as participation in postgraduate education, shall be taken into consideration when evaluating the merits of the applicant. In addition, the applicant's active participation in the scientific community, practical knowledge of the field when necessary, success in obtaining complementary funding for research as well as scientific work abroad and international duties will be considered.

In appointing a professor to a post which entails a leadership position, a prerequisite for the position is experience of leadership, or a willingness to participate in leadership training commensurate with the post.

An adequate mastery of the Finnish and Swedish language is enacted by Government Decree (15.10.2009/770). University teaching and research personnel should be proficient in the language, Finnish or Swedish, in which the teaching is given. More detailed provisions shall be given in the University of Turku Rules of Procedure.

A proven competence in high level statistical methodology research and also familiarity with statistical methods used in clinical medicine shall be taken into consideration when evaluating the merits of the applicant. In addition, the applicant's practical skills as a biostatistician in drug industry or as a biostatistical specialist will be considered.

Application procedure

This position will be advertised in the public domain. The period during which applications may be submitted is 30 days, terminating on the date specified in the announcement.

Applications must be submitted in writing. Applications must be addressed to the Rector of the University of Turku, and delivered to the University

Registry, University of Turku, FIN-20014 Turku, Finland, not later than the end of office hours (15.45) on the closing day for applications.

Applications must include:

- 1) an authenticated curriculum vitae according the instructions of the faculty: <http://www.soc.utu.fi/en/administration/instructions.html>
- 2) an academic portfolio drawn up in accordance with university practice <http://www.utu.fi/opiskelu/oppaat/portfolio/>
- 3) a list of publications according the instructions of the faculty: <http://www.soc.utu.fi/en/administration/instructions.html>
- 4) a. a list of those publications and other work which the applicant wishes to be submitted to the Assessors in connection with the application; (numbering, maximum number of publications is 15)
b. the publications and other work listed above in four (4) pieces and;
- 5) a written statement of not more than two typed pages, setting out the applicant's vision for the future development of research and teaching in the discipline.

Documentation according to items 1 – 4 a. and 5 are required to be sent in English language.

Applicants are required to state how they may be contacted during the selection process for the appointment, and the address to which written communications should be sent.

Experts

The faculty invites statements from not less than two assessors on the qualifications and competence of the applicants. The dean chooses the experts. In the selection of experts, due regard is paid to the post to be filled. The experts appointed may not be persons disqualified under Section 28 of the Administrative Procedure Act (434/2003). The applicants will be informed of the selection of the assessors. Assessors, once selected, may not participate in the subsequent stages of the appointment procedure.

The experts are required to submit written statements. In the statement the experts is asked to particularly evaluate the scientific competence and merits of the applicants. The statement is public, and it must be motivated concerning those applicants who, according to the expert, are primarily to be taken into account in filling the post and the qualification requirements, together with other circumstances affecting the evaluation of the merits of the applicants. The expert is also to place these candidates in order of preference. If there are no more than three applicants, the expert is required to submit reasoned evaluations of all these applicants, or, if there are more than three, then of at least three applicants. The expert is, however, required to submit reasoned evaluations only of those applicants whom he or she considers serious candidates for appointment. The statement must explicitly state the criteria used for compiling this short list and for the exclusion of any applicants not considered in detail. The experts may consult with each other, and may submit a joint statement.

The expert will be provided with the Appointment Specification for the vacant post, copies of application documents relevant to the task, the publications and other materials submitted with the applications. The statement must be given within three months from when the documentation has become available for the use of the experts, unless the time period has been extended for special reasons. The statement becomes public once the statements of all the experts have reached the university.

Demonstration lecture

Following submission of the experts' statements, the faculty may make arrangements to allow for the applicant to give a teaching demonstration, to which members of the public are also admitted. The demonstration lecture will be estimated.

Interview

Following submission of the experts' statements, the applicant can be invited for interview.

Preparation group

The dean shall establish a preparation group to support the person preparing the proposition for the appointment of a professor or the invitation procedure. A chair and secretary shall be appointed to the preparation group at the onset. Invited members of the preparation group shall be 3-5 professors or other teaching or research personnel who represent the field in question or a closely related field to which the professorial post belongs. Other members may also be invited to join the group if considered necessary.

This preparation group will make the proposal of selection of assessors and makes the appointment proposal. The preparation group can also contribute the assessment of teaching skills and may interview the applicants.

Appointment proposal

Appointment to the post is made on the basis of the proposal for appointment.

Following the submission of the experts' statements and other useful disquisitions, the preparation group shall make a reasoned proposal about the appointment to the post.

The faculty board will make a reasoned proposal for appointment to professor service. The faculty will send (employment contract, two sections) the proposal with appendix to the Rector for decision-making.

The appointment to the post is made by the Rector. The employment contract will be made with the elected employee. If necessary, the Rector can ask further clarifications from the faculty. The applicants will be informed about the decision.

Additional information

Further information concerning appointment procedure may be obtained from the head of administration Minna Domander, tel. +358 2 333 5360, fax +358 2 333 6270 and e-mail minna.domander@utu.fi.

The following Finnish legislation applies to the procedures for this appointment:

The Constitution of Finland (731/1999);
The Universities Act (558/2009)
Finnish Government Degree (15.10.2009/770)
Act on the Implementation of the Universities Act (557/2009)
The Administrative Procedure Act (434/2003)
The University of Turku Rules of Procedure 26.10.2009

Dean Veli-Matti Ritakallio

Head of Administration Minna Domander