Position: Post-doctoral fellow – Multi-factorial Framework for Prioritization of Microbial Risks in Foods

Location: University of Guelph/ Public Health Agency of Canada  
Guelph, Ontario Canada

Description: An opportunity to work with a multidisciplinary team of researchers from the University of Guelph, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada to work on a Risk Prioritization Framework for microbial risks in food systems. The framework includes measures of public health impacts, consumer perception/acceptance of risks, effects on industry performance (domestic and export markets) and the vulnerability of particular groups. To date, a number of case studies have been developed to demonstrate risk representations for each of the four major areas as well as methods that allow ranking of risks based on the four areas collectively. The next step is to refine the ranked lists based on feasibility of interventions.

The post-doctoral fellow will oversee the continued development of the framework, refining concepts and measures based on feedback from decision-makers and expanding the database of food-pathogen combinations. The post-doctoral fellow will also take a lead role in developing feasibility analysis for the ranked risks based on knowledge of intervention strategies, ease of introducing risk controls and potential benefits.

Current members of the research team are: John Cranfield and Spencer Henson (FARE, U of Guelph); Julie Caswell (Agricultural Economics, U Mass), Aamir Fazil (PHAC) and Valerie Davidson (Engineering, U of Guelph). We are seeking a post-doctoral fellow with a background in risk analysis and control, economics, modelling and/or related areas. While the current posting is for a one-year fellowship, the position includes the potential for longer-term career options.

Interested candidates should apply to Professor Valerie Davidson (see below) enclosing a CV and the names of 3 referees.

Contact: Professor Valerie Davidson (Project PI)  
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