

**Assistant Professor (Tenure-track), Polymer Chemist**  
School of Packaging, Michigan State University

The School of Packaging ([www.packaging.msu.edu](http://www.packaging.msu.edu)) in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University (MSU) is seeking qualified applicants for an Assistant Professor position in Polymer Chemistry/Synthesis. This is a nine-month, tenure-track position with research/teaching/service (50%/40%/10%) assignment. The successful candidate will be expected to develop an externally funded research program with a focus on using renewable materials to produce polymers for packaging applications with an emphasis on novel feedstocks such as carbon dioxide, insects, and plants to provide novel bio-based packaging materials with enhanced functionality and improved sustainability.

As the premier Land Grant University, MSU has strong interrelated programs across the spectrum of food, health, and sustainability and is committed to linking food, environment, and human health. The School of Packaging (SoP), founded in 1952, is the leading institution in packaging education and research. As the only university offering a Ph.D. program in packaging, the School of Packaging at MSU attracts students from a variety of disciplines around the world. The school is poised for significant growth that will support MSU goals.

The strategic plan of the SoP has identified *Packaging Materials and Sustainability* as one of the three key platforms that form the basis for its research, teaching, and outreach missions. This position is a key part of an initiative on assuring quality, safety and nutrition in packaged foods and preventing loss. The other strategic platforms are *Food, Health, and Biomedical Packaging* and *Packaging Distribution and Value Chain*. We anticipate several faculty hires in the next few years.

The incumbent will be expected to develop a nationally and internationally recognized research program in polymer synthesis. Research should use both basic science and applied approaches while addressing the issues and opportunities facing the packaging and polymer industry. MSU encourages collaboration between faculty and opportunities exist for collaboration with the faculty from the Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Composite Materials and Structures Center, Department of Chemistry, among others. The highly collaborative and productive faculty at MSU provides a very positive environment for professional growth.

The successful candidate must demonstrate interest in and promise of excellence in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in polymers. The initial teaching assignment will be an undergraduate course (packaging with plastics) offered twice per year. In addition, the candidate will establish an innovative research program, secure competitive grants, publish in high quality refereed journals, advise and mentor students, provide service and leadership in professional societies, and establish strong ties with industry.

Candidates must have the following qualifications: (1) a doctoral degree in Polymer Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Materials Science, Packaging or a closely related field; (2) demonstrated capacity to conduct independent research; (3) the ability

to work collaboratively with research teams; and (4) excellent oral and written communication skills. Records of impactful research, publication, and research funding commensurate with experience are important selection criteria.

Qualified applicants should submit a letter of application, a current curriculum vitae, a summary of research accomplishments (1 page maximum), a discussion of future research directions if chosen for this position (1 page maximum), a statement of Teaching Philosophy (1 page maximum), and the names and email address of three references, online at <https://jobs.msu.edu>. Select Faculty/Academic Staff and apply to posting #2852.

Review of applications will begin on March 14, 2016 and will continue until the position is filled.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. The University actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities.