

St. Olaf College Molecular Biology/Biochemistry Tenure-track Full-time Position

The [Biology](#)¹ and [Chemistry](#)² Departments at St. Olaf College invite applications for a jointly appointed tenure track position to start September 2009. The successful candidate will have expertise in molecular biology and biochemistry and will demonstrate his or her potential to contribute to both departments and the interdisciplinary [Biomolecular Science](#)³ program.

In a multi-year timespan, teaching responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, courses in molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry as well as portions of the integrated introductory chemistry/biology sequence. Applicants should show potential for excellence in teaching in a liberal arts setting and for developing a research program amenable to including undergraduate researchers. Candidates should have earned the Ph.D. by September 1, 2009, and postdoctoral research, industrial experience, and/or teaching experience are highly desired. We particularly value a candidate who has experience or interest in working with a diverse student population. As reflected in the college [mission statement](#)⁴, St. Olaf is an inclusive community that respects individuals with different backgrounds and beliefs. Appointment will be distributed approximately 2/3 in biology and 1/3 in chemistry and may be made at the Assistant or Associate Professor rank. Review of completed applications will begin September 22, 2008, and continue until the position is filled.

The St. Olaf Biology and Chemistry Departments are in the [Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics](#)⁵ (FNSM), which includes the departments of Psychology, Physics, and MSCS (mathematics, statistics, and computer science). Members of this Faculty are known for their creative teamwork and individual excellence as teachers, scholars and campus leaders. Together, the chemistry and biology departments have 26 faculty members and graduate about 150-160 majors each year with many continuing their educations in graduate or professional programs.

Within the FNSM and throughout the college curriculum, our faculty is engaged in a variety of innovative interdisciplinary programs. FNSM-centered programs include Biomolecular Science, Neuroscience and Statistics. Other campus-wide programs in which FNSM faculty participate include Environmental Studies, the Center for Integrated Studies, Biomedical Studies, the Science Conversation, First-Year writing, and various [international and off-campus programs](#)⁶.

We have a vibrant summer research program that is currently funded by a combination of individual, collaborative and program grants from external sources including HHMI and NSF. Student and faculty research continues throughout the academic year often via independent research courses. We are well equipped for modern research including a LiCor DNA analysis system, a confocal microscope, a MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer, a Bruker 400 MHz NMR, an LC-MS instrument, a differential scanning calorimeter, a laser light scattering instrument, a Fotodyne gel imager, thermocyclers, a full range of centrifuges, freezers, UV/VIS and fluorescence spectrophotometers, and chromatographic and electrophoresis tools. We collaborate with our statistics and computer science colleagues and have access to the Beowulf Computer Cluster for genomic and proteomic analyses. Both departments have a weekly seminar program and the FNSM hosts a major science symposium focused on a particular interdisciplinary topic every spring. [Regents Hall of Natural Science and Mathematics](#)⁷, a 60 million dollar state-of-the-art building designed to promote interdisciplinary teaching and research will open in fall 2008. The molecular biologist/biochemist will have office and research space in Regents Hall in a collaborative working environment near major equipment and support spaces (centrifuges, autoclave, tissue culture, coldroom, etc.).

St. Olaf is located in [Northfield, Minnesota](#)⁸, a town about 45 minutes south of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul and an hour north of Rochester, home to The Mayo Clinic. Many of the faculty

and students take advantage of a variety of cultural opportunities in these urban centers. Faculty choose to live either in the metropolitan Twin Cities or in Northfield. Members of the St. Olaf faculty enjoy productive research collaborations with major research centers at the University of Minnesota, The Mayo Clinic, and other national and international institutions.

[St. Olaf College](#)⁹ is a highly selective private liberal arts college of approximately 3000 students that is affiliated with the Lutheran Church (ELCA). St. Olaf College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and actively seeks diversity in its students, faculty and staff.

To apply, please register at <https://jobs.stolaf.edu> and submit the following online:

- a cover letter that summarizes your interest in this position and how you plan to contribute to the position as described
- a Curriculum Vitae
- a summary (approximately 2 pages) of your teaching philosophy, including teaching interests and pedagogical approaches
- a detailed description of your research interests and plans (approximately 3-5 pages plus references), emphasizing the suitability of your research for undergraduate researchers and potential funding opportunities
- undergraduate and graduate transcripts (please submit online and send legible hard copy to the address below)

In addition, please arrange for three letters of reference, at least one of which focuses on your potential as a teacher, to be sent to The Molecular Biology/Biochemistry Search, c/o Ms. Tory Borovsky, Biology Department, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057 or

chembiosearch@stolaf.edu

URL addresses referenced above

1. <http://www.stolaf.edu/depts/biology/>
2. <http://www.stolaf.edu/depts/chemistry/>
3. <http://www.stolaf.edu/depts/bmols/>
4. <http://www.stolaf.edu/about/guidingdocuments/mission.html>
5. <http://www.stolaf.edu/depts/fnsm/>
6. <http://www.stolaf.edu/international/>
7. <http://www.stolaf.edu/regentshall/>
8. <http://www.northfieldchamber.com/>
9. <http://www.stolaf.edu/>