

## 42 2007 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NUTRITION

(Ref. ZAP-2015-86)

**Occupation:** Full-time

**Place:** Leuven

**Apply no later than:** November 26, 2015

There is a full-time academic vacancy in the Department of Kinesiology, Exercise Physiology Research group at KU Leuven, in the area of Physical Activity and Nutrition, and the impact hereof on Physical Fitness and Health. Potential candidates must prove extensive research experience in this specific field. They must also prove competence to take up teaching assignment, and participate in other educational activities in this field.

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The Exercise Physiology Research Group at the Department of Kinesiology, KU Leuven, is an organizational unit within the Faculty of Physical Education and Physiotherapy. Over recent years the Faculty received high rankings from independent academic quality assessments for its research and educational programs. The primary research focus of the Exercise Physiology research group is to organize research that contributes to a better understanding of the effects of acute and chronic exercise on metabolic regulation in skeletal muscles, and the impact hereof on health and physical fitness. The research group has excellent laboratory facilities to perform both basic and applied research in this field. Furthermore, there is a strong national and international scientific network, excellent availability of talented doctoral students, as well as a stimulating working environment.

[Website unit](#)

### Duties

### Research

Within the Department of Kinesiology, both basic and applied research lines investigate the field of physical activity and health from different perspectives. For the current position we are specifically interested in candidates showing excellent knowledge of the physiological mechanisms that are implicated in the interaction between physical activity and nutrition, and physical fitness and health. The candidate must be able translate his/her basic knowledge in metabolic regulation during exercise into applied research projects in humans aiming to investigate the physiological mechanisms underlying the effects of exercise and nutrition on

physical fitness and health. The candidate is expected to set up collaborations with other members of the research group / department / faculty, in order to generate excellent research yielding publication in high-impact international peer-review journals. The candidate is also responsible to obtaining sufficient amounts of external research funding to support personal research lines in the target field.

Given the multidisciplinary approach of the department, it is also strongly recommended that you integrate in multidisciplinary research projects at either local (KU Leuven), national level, or international level. You will also act as a supervisor in doctoral research programs.

### **Teaching**

You ensure high-quality education within the area of physical activity, nutrition, physical fitness, and health, with a clear commitment for the quality of the programme as a whole. You also contribute to the pedagogic project of the faculty through the supervision of master theses and as a supervisor of PhD students. You develop your teaching in accordance with the KU Leuven's vision on activating and research-based education and make use of the possibilities for the educational professionalization offered by the faculty and the university.

### **Service**

You have active contacts with societal partners in the field physical fitness, nutrition, and health. You are prepared to provide scientific, social and internal services that contribute to the reputation of the department and research group. You play an active role in national and international scientific organizations in the field of physical activity, physical fitness, nutrition, and health. You also actively promote the valorization of your research output.

### **Requirements**

The candidate holds a PhD that is directly affiliated to the above mentioned field of research. You have a strong research profile in the field of physical activity, nutrition, and health. The quality of your research is proven by publications in prominent international journals and books. International research experience is essential. You have demonstrable skills related to academic education. Teaching experience in the field of the current position is a plus. You possess organisational skills and have a cooperative attitude. You also possess leadership capacities within a university context. A good command of English is required. The official administrative language used at KU Leuven is Dutch. If you do not speak Dutch (or do not speak it well) at the start of employment, KU Leuven will provide language training to enable you to take part in administrative meetings.

Before teaching courses in Dutch or English, you will be given the opportunity to learn Dutch respectively English to the required standard.

### **Offer**

We are offering full-time employment (starting date 01/10/2016) in an intellectually challenging environment. KU Leuven is a research-intensive, internationally oriented university that carries out both fundamental and applied scientific research. It is highly inter- and multi-disciplinarily focused and strives for international excellence. In this regard, it actively works together with research partners in Belgium and abroad. It provides its students

with an academic education that is based on high-quality scientific research. Depending on your record and qualifications, you will be appointed to or tenured in one of the grades of the senior academic staff: assistant professor, associate professor, professor or full professor. In principle, junior researchers are appointed as assistant professor on the tenure track for a period of five years. After this period and after a positive evaluation, they are permanently appointed (or tenured) as an associate professor.

## Interested?

For more information please contact Prof. dr. Peter Hespel, tel.: +32 16 32 90 91, mail: [peter.hespel@faber.kuleuven.be](mailto:peter.hespel@faber.kuleuven.be) or Prof. dr. Johan Lefevre, tel.: +32 16 32 90 84, mail: [johan.lefevre@faber.kuleuven.be](mailto:johan.lefevre@faber.kuleuven.be).

For problems with online applying, please contact [solliciteren@kuleuven.be](mailto:solliciteren@kuleuven.be).

We invite you to include a research statement (no more than three pages), demonstrating your added value for the research programme, to your motivation letter. In addition, please outline your vision of academic education in a teaching statement (no more than one page).

You can apply for this job no later than November 26, 2015 via the [online application tool](#)