The University of Southern Mississippi and the College of Science and Technology invite applications and nominations for the position of Associate Director for the School of Ocean Science and Technology (http://www.usm.edu/school-ocean-science-and-technology) and Chair in the Division of Marine Science. We seek an accomplished administrator and internationally recognized scholar with demonstrated leadership experience in ocean science research and a strong record of external funding. The Division Chair is chief administrative officer of the Division and will provide leadership and vision to enhance the school’s high-quality research and educational activities.

The newly formed school consists of the Division of Coastal Sciences (http://gcrl.usm.edu/coastal_sciences/), the Division of Marine Science (DMS, https://www.usm.edu/marine) and the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (http://gcrl.usm.edu). DMS is a multidisciplinary unit with programs in biological, geological, and physical oceanography, marine chemistry, and hydrographic science with an average annual extramural funding of $10M. The division comprises 17 full-time faculty, 16 additional research faculty and staff, 47 graduate students, and 40 undergraduates; it offers Marine Science B.S., M.S., Ph.D. degrees and a Hydrographic Science M.S. Several research centers within DMS successfully integrate its teaching and research missions. These centers include the Hydrographic Science Research Center, the Center for Trace Analysis, and the new Center for Gulf Studies.

DMS is located at NASA’s John C. Stennis Space Center (SSC), Mississippi, where it occupies three buildings. SSC is a federal facility with more than 5,000 employees and is home to ocean-related agencies including Naval Research Laboratory (NRL-SSC), U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (CNMOC), NOAA’s National Data Buoy Center, NOAA’s National Centers for Environmental Information, NASA Applied Sciences Directorate, and the Maury Oceanographic Library, one of the nation’s premier oceanographic libraries. The DMS Chair interacts regularly with heads of these agencies to further the established partnerships in research and education.

Desirable qualities of the successful candidate include prior administrative experience, leadership skills and ability to organize multidisciplinary projects, and experience with undergraduate and graduate programs. An earned doctorate in an oceanography, marine science,
hydrographic science or a closely related field of ocean science is required. Applicants should submit a letter of interest outlining their qualifications for the position, curriculum vitae, and names and contact information of at least 3 references. Applications must be submitted online at https://jobs.usm.edu. Since the division is located at NASA SSC, the successful candidate must be able to pass a NASA background investigation to work at Stennis. To nominate a candidate or for inquiries about the position, contact Dr. Mohamed O. Elasri, Associate Dean, College of Science and Technology: mohamed.elasri@usm.edu or 601-266-4886. Review of applications begins October 1, 2016 and continues until the position is filled. AA/EOE/ADA