



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair

Department of Human and Community Resource Development
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
The Ohio State University

Introduction and Department Overview

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) invites nominations and applications for the position of Chair of the Department of Human and Community Resource Development. The department encompasses the program areas of: agricultural communication, agriscience teacher education, community and extension education, and leadership, along with the OSU Leadership Center. The department offers Bachelor's degree programs in agricultural communication and agricultural and extension education, with specializations in agricultural education, extension education, and leadership; an M.S. program in Agricultural and Extension Education with specializations in teacher education, extension education, and agricultural communication; and M.Ed. and Ph.D. programs in Agricultural and Extension Education. The department employs 10 faculty and 6 staff members. Current student enrollment includes approximately 37 graduate and 112 undergraduate majors.

Institutional Context

The University – Ohio State University's academic priorities chart a visionary course for 21st century academic and scholarly preeminence. "Put Students First", "Commit to our Communities", and "Recast our Research Agenda" are a sampling of the university's goals which provide an exciting foundation upon which our department's future is being built. <http://oaa.osu.edu/index.php>

The College – Underpinning academic, research, and outreach programs within CFAES is the Ecological Paradigm, a multi-dimensional model comprised of four imperatives – production efficiency, economic viability, environmental compatibility, and social responsibility. The college strategic plan is available at: <http://cfaes.osu.edu/about-us/>

The Department – The department has undergone a number of major transformations over the past 18 months to recast itself as a "new" department in the college and university. Our new five-year strategic plan provides a clear and exciting focus for the future that aligns with university and college priorities. http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~hcrd/ag_education/STRATEGICPLAN.doc The University's transition to a semester-based academic calendar in 2012 provides the department with the perfect opportunity to recreate its graduate and undergraduate academic majors and develop new academic minors that are attractive to students from across the university campus.

Department Chair Qualifications

We seek candidates who clearly understand and appreciate the depth and breadth of our disciplinary areas (agricultural communication, agriscience teacher education, community and extension education, and leadership) and can build a culture of academic distinction in recognition of our teaching, research, outreach and service efforts. More specifically, we seek candidates who possess the following qualities and skills:

Leadership and Administrative Skills – The Chair must be a visionary leader with a genuine dedication to and demonstrated experience in graduate, undergraduate, and non-degree programs and can collaborate with others in implementing departmental, college and university strategic priorities. The Chair must have the experience and skills needed to successfully: (a) manage and lead a multi-disciplinary department, (b) administer budgets and all fiscal and human resource matters, (c) balance and manage competing priorities, and (d) enhance cultural and ethnic diversity in departmental staffing and programming. The Chair will mentor and motivate faculty, staff and students, hold them accountable for performance, and serve as a departmental advocate among other academic units, across the CFAES and university administration, and with external stakeholders. It is essential that the Chair possess the ability to collaborate across disciplines and form partnerships with university and external stakeholders.

Scholarly Experiences – The Chair must hold a doctorate and have academic qualifications that will ensure the awarding of tenure (rank of full professor preferred) at Ohio State in one of the department's disciplines or a closely related field. It is essential that the Chair have a strong commitment to teaching and advising, a proven track record in research and grants, and be a nationally recognized scholar in their field of study.

Professional Attributes – The Chair must uphold high ethical standards and be skilled at facilitating effective communication and relationships within the department and with stakeholders. Above all, this person must possess the communication, managerial, and decision making skills necessary to build and maintain nationally and internationally distinguished programs.

Application Process

Applicants are requested to submit the following: a letter of application; a statement of the applicant's vision, administrative philosophy, leadership experiences and qualifications; and a complete curriculum vitae including names addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of five references. Initial nominations and inquiries will be kept confidential; references may be contacted after candidates have been interviewed. Extension policy requires successful completion of a criminal background check prior to employment. The Ohio State University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer. Women, minorities, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Review of applications will begin September 1, 2010 and continue until the position is filled. Nominations of qualified individuals are invited at any time.

Application materials should be sent either electronically (pdf format) or through the mail to:

Dr. Robert Birkenholz
Chair of the Search Committee
Department of Human and Community Resource Development
The Ohio State University
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