POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 0000-2691
REQUISITION # 0901183

Title: State 4-H Educational Design Specialist
(Assistant Extension Scientist)

Location: 4-H Youth Development unit (Straughn Center)
University of Florida
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
Gainesville, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: Review of applicant materials will begin on November 2, 2012. Position will open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities
This is a 12-month non-tenure-accruing position that will be 100% Extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) appointment, available in the 4-H Youth Development unit, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit.

Overview: This position provides statewide leadership for the design, adaptation, implementation, and evaluation of 4-H educational programs and curricula that support Extension faculty, staff, and volunteers in carrying out the mission of the UF/IFAS Extension 4-H Youth Development Program under the direction of the State 4-H Program Leader. Specific duties will include:

- Provide statewide leadership in the identification, selection, adaptation, design, development and evaluation of curricula to be utilized by 4-H Extension faculty, staff, and volunteers in conducting 4-H educational programs targeting youth ages 5-18, and the volunteers who work with them. This individual will work within the framework of a standardized 4-H curriculum development process and in support of Extension’s strategic plan. Curricula will meet established 4-H curriculum standards, reflect current research, appeal to a diverse audience, produce measurable impact related to the acquisition of specifically identified life skills, and engage youth in their own development.
• Support Extension/4-H committees (and other relevant planning teams arising from the Extension long-range planning process) in integrating youth development research and best practices into educational programs. Assist with program development and ensure that impact evaluation is integrated with program/curriculum development.

• Lead and support applied research and evaluation related to the effectiveness of 4-H programs and curricula, including pilot testing of curriculum, and documentation of educational outcomes and impact on clientele through publication in peer reviewed journals and other outlets. Collaborate internally and externally to generate funds through grants and other means to support the development and evaluation of programs and curricula.

• Serve as the liaison to Extension specialists and other faculty members from departments interested in creating age-appropriate 4-H curriculum and other programs/events for youth ages 5-18 based on experiential learning methods and life skill development.

• Provide in-service education, in conjunction with curriculum teams as appropriate, and other guidance to Extension faculty, staff, volunteers and others pertaining to the use of 4-H curricula, delivery modes, educational methodology, evaluation methods, and related resources identified for use in 4-H youth development programming.

• Supervise support staff as assigned. Assist with operation of state 4-H Youth Development unit and perform other related duties at the request of the Associate Dean/4-H Program Leader.

Qualifications
An earned or ABD doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in a discipline closely related to youth development is required. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and procurement of extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system; teaching, research, & Extension. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability. In addition:

• Thorough knowledge of Extension 4-H Youth Development and its goals and objectives. At least five years Extension/4-H experience desired.
• Coursework and/or experience in educational methods, curriculum development, and program evaluation methodology.
• Experience and demonstrated expertise in the design and development of curricula for youth life skills education and educational program evaluation. Understanding of the 4-H experiential learning process, inquiry-based learning, and other relevant educational models is important.
• Demonstrated organizational/management skills.
• Ability to work independently and with others in applied problem solving.
• Technological literacy, including demonstrated skills using personal computers and relevant software and ability to learn new relevant software and relevant technology. Skills in providing web-based learning and website content management also valuable.
• Experience in collaborative efforts and work with diverse audiences to address societal issues.

Background Information:
The UF/IFAS 4-H Youth Development Program (http://florida4h.org) is a non-formal, practical educational program for youth, ages 5-18, with over 230,000 young people participating in county 4-H programs across the state. Florida 4-H is supported by more than 14,000 youth and adult volunteers. More than 6.5 youth participate in 4-H nationwide.

The University of Florida (http://www.ufl.edu) is a Land-Grant and Sea-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 50,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (http://ifas.ufl.edu) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (http://cals.ufl.edu), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (http://research.ifas.ufl.edu), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu), the College of Veterinary Medicine (http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu), the Florida Sea Grant program (http://www.flseagrant.org/), and encompasses 15 academic departments and the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, 9 interdisciplinary centers, 13 research and educational centers throughout the state, and Cooperative Extension units in each of Florida's 67 counties and the Seminole Tribe. The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 3400 people, which includes approximately 950 faculty and 2450 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation’s largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

Employment Conditions
This position is available immediately, and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

Nominations
Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # 0901183
Dr. Kate Fogarty, Associate Professor
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Dept. of Family, Youth, & Community Sciences

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Application Information

- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to http://jobs.ufl.edu/postings/31205 and submit:
  - Application
  - Cover letter that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
  - Resume

- Official transcripts showing receipt of the doctoral degree and three letters of recommendation should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # 0901183
Dr. Kate Fogarty, Associate Professor
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Dept. of Family, Youth, & Community Sciences
3014 McCarty Hall
P.O. Box 110310 - Gainesville, FL 32611-0310
Telephone: 352.273.3527
Facsimile: 352.392.8196
Electronic Mail: kfogarty@ufl.edu

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida’s ‘Government in the Sunshine’ and Public Records Laws. Search committee meetings and interviews will be open to the public, and applications, resumes, and many other documents related to the search will be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.