POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 00014574
REQUISITION # 499221

Title: Director and Associate/Full Professor

Location: Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants
University of Florida
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
Gainesville, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by January 6, 2017. The position will remain open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities
This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 80% Administration and 20% Extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), available in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants (CAIP). Tenure will accrue in the program area of the successful candidate.

Duties will be to provide vision and leadership of the CAIP; interact and collaborate with key Federal and State agencies as well as other stakeholders; secure extramural support for programs and infrastructure; supervise CAIP personnel and oversee Center facilities. The Director will identify and develop high priority interdisciplinary research, extension, and educational programs focused on the biology, ecology and management of aquatic and upland invasive plants, and ecosystem restoration. The Director will engage in extension activities in his or her program area.

The Director will cooperate with IFAS statewide Faculty, Unit Leaders, District Extension Directors and other IFAS Administrators in developing effective research, extension, and education programs. The Director will represent IFAS on University, Regional, State and National committees. The Director will administratively report to the Senior Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources. Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are

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expected to be supportive of and engaged in all three mission areas—Research, Teaching and Extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description.

**Qualifications**

**Required:**

An earned Ph.D. degree (foreign equivalent acceptable) in biology, ecology, natural areas management, environmental science, weed science, or a closely related discipline is required. The candidate should have experience with aquatic and upland invasive plants and demonstrated competence in planning, administering, and evaluating interdisciplinary research, extension, and educational programs. Candidate should have strong 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, and have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

**Preferred:**

Administrative experience or demonstrated potential to work effectively in a coordinating and facilitating role is desirable.

**Background Information**

The University of Florida ([http://www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu)) is a Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 53,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences ([http://ifas.ufl.edu](http://ifas.ufl.edu)) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences ([http://cals.ufl.edu](http://cals.ufl.edu)), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station ([http://research.ifas.ufl.edu](http://research.ifas.ufl.edu)), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service ([http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu](http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu)), the College of Veterinary Medicine ([http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu](http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu)), the Florida Sea Grant program ([http://www.flseagrant.org/](http://www.flseagrant.org/)), and encompasses 16 on-campus academic departments and schools, 12 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 2500 people, which includes approximately 900 faculty and 1200 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.

The **UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants** is a multidisciplinary research, teaching and extension unit directed to develop environmentally sound techniques for the management of
aquatic and natural area weed species and to coordinate aquatic plant research activities within the State of Florida. The Center was established in 1978 by the Florida legislature. Currently directed by Dr. William Haller, the Center utilizes expertise from many departments within UF/IFAS and its Agricultural Research and Education Centers throughout Florida. The Center is located approximately 9 miles northwest of the main UF campus and is co-located with the School of Forest Resources and Conservation’s Fisheries Program and adjacent to the USGS Aquatic and Wetland Research Center. Research facilities include four 24 by 80-foot-long greenhouses, several smaller Orelite glass houses and several hundred square feet of shade house with 900-liter concrete tanks, plus various other facilities for growing and conducting field and controlled research on aquatic and upland plants. The site also has several ponds averaging ¼ acre that have most recently been used for biocontrol research by the Entomology Department and also for herbicide research by the Agronomy Department, both affiliated with the Center. The Center houses 3 faculty members from the Agronomy Department and works closely with an additional 3-4 faculty members in the Fisheries Program. The Center also has affiliate faculty from Agronomy, Entomology and other closely aligned departments located in Gainesville and at Research and Education Centers throughout the state. There are 20-25 support staff including graduate students and the Center’s Information Office which maintains a library with over 90,000 holdings, the Invasive Plant Education Initiative, and our website located at http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu

**Employment Conditions**
This position is available Spring Semester, 2017 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 # 499221
Dr. Saqib Mukhtar
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
UF/IFAS
Office of the Dean for Extension
1038 McCarty Hall D
Gainesville, FL 32611

Telephone: (352) 392-1761
Facsimile: (352) 846-0458
Electronic Mail: smukhtar@ufl.edu

**Application Information**
- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/499221 and submit:
  - Application

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A formal letter of application which includes a brief statement of the applicant's leadership skills and vision, administrative philosophy, and ideas on the role of the Center of Aquatic and Invasive Plants.

- Current Curriculum vitae which includes a biographical sketch, leadership roles, service, consultant roles, and a complete list of publications.

- Contact information for at least three individuals willing to write letters of recommendation

Final candidate will be required to provide official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered “official” if a designation of “Issued to Student” is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at http://www.naces.org/.

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. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.