POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT #00014275

Title: Assistant Professor – Invasive Plants

Location: University of Florida
Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: Review of application materials will begin on or before May 1, 2007 and will continue until the position is filled.

Duties and Responsibilities
This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 60% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 40% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), available in the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit. Duties will include conducting competitive grant-funded research which links ecology with horticulture through development of weed risk assessment models that consider plant ecological, reproductive and physiological characteristics for predicting the potential invasiveness of new ornamental plants in Florida. Collaborative studies with ornamental plant breeders to develop non-invasive alternative plant materials are possible. Publication in peer-reviewed journals is expected. In addition, it is expected that the individual will collaborate with others to develop an extension program which defines management practices of current invasive plants and establishes the best practices for Florida’s landscape managers and nurseries to minimize the escape of ornamental plants into a natural area.

He/she is expected to interact closely with other faculty working in the UF’s Center for Landscape Ecology, the faculty at the Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center, faculty in Environmental Horticulture and other related disciplines statewide. As part of the Center for Landscape Ecology and

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Conservation, the faculty member is expected to foster the goals of this interdisciplinary and integrated program and the statewide mission of IFAS. Extension programs offered throughout the state, extension and trade publications and demonstrations are important outputs of this position as well as the development of an invasive plant website related to the landscape and nursery crops and which will complement the ‘Solutions for Your Life’ website.

Tenure will accrue in the Department of Environmental Horticulture. The faculty member will participate actively in undergraduate education and graduate education by chairing graduate committees, serving on graduate committees, supervising thesis and dissertation research, participate in undergraduate education, and publishing the results with his/her graduate students. The faculty member will seek contract and grant funding actively to support his/her program. The faculty member will engage in Extension activities in his or her program area. All IFAS faculty are expected to demonstrate commitment and responsibility to the three functions of the Land Grant mission.

**Qualifications**
An earned doctorate in Weed Science, Agronomy, Aquatic or Wetlands Plant Ecology, Botany or a closely related discipline is required. Postdoctoral experience is desirable. 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. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

**Background Information:** The Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center is a unit in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida and has diverse teaching, research and extension education programs with 17 faculty and 75 support personnel ([http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu](http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu)). Undergraduate and graduate degree programs are available at the Center. The Center is a member of, and located, in the South Florida Education Center, a group of educational institutions consisting of county public schools, a public community college, public universities, and a private university. Also located at the Center is the USDA-ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory with 10 additional scientists. The Center is located in central Broward County, providing rich and diverse cultural opportunities, while also being minutes from the Everglades Ecosystem.

The Agronomy Department has 20 faculty located on the Gainesville campus and 11 faculty located across the state at research and education centers. The University of Florida is a Land-Grant institution and a member of the Association of American Universities. IFAS includes 20 academic units, 14 research centers throughout the state, and 5 interdisciplinary centers, including the Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. Details about this Center and plant management in Florida waters can be found at [http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu](http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu).

**Employment Conditions**
This position is available May 1, 2007 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.

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Nominations and Applications
Both nominations and applications are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee.

Individuals wishing to apply should submit the following materials:
  • Letter of application that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above;
  • Complete vita (which includes statement of current position and responsibilities);
  • Official transcript showing receipt of the doctoral degree;
  • Names and contact information for three (3) references.

Review of application materials will begin on or before May 1, 2007, and will continue until a suitable applicant is identified. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Contact Information and Application and Nomination Submission Information

Please refer to Position # 00014275
Dr. Kimberly Moore
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Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center
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The University of Florida is an equal opportunity and equal access employer. The “government in the sunshine” laws of Florida require that all documents relating to the search process, including letters of application, nomination, and reference, except transcripts, be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.