POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 0001-3289

Title: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR – TURFGRASS SCIENCE

Location: UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (IFAS)
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

Salary: COMMENSURATE WITH QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Position Open To: January 5, 2007

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: This is a 12-month, tenure-track, 70% teaching, 30% research position with the Department of Environmental Horticulture based in Gainesville, FL. The incumbent will be expected to teach undergraduate courses in Turfgrass Culture (ORH3222C), Golf and Sports Turf Management (ORH 4223), and team teach Landscape and Turfgrass Management (ORH 4236C). The incumbent will serve as the coordinator for the statewide Interdisciplinary Golf and Sports Turf major and will act as liaison professor for transferring students from the state’s community colleges. Student advising and involvement with the UF Turfgrass Student Club is necessary. The faculty member will participate in graduate education, chair graduate committees, supervise thesis and dissertation research, and publish results with their graduate students. The successful candidate will develop and implement a turfgrass research program in close cooperation with an interdisciplinary team of scientists. He or she is also expected to secure extramural funding to support the research program and to develop collaborations with other institutions and agencies. The incumbent will serve as the Facilities Director of the Turfgrass Envirotron – a laboratory, greenhouse, and rhizotron facility located on campus.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS: A Ph.D. in horticulture/agronomy/plant/soil science with an emphasis in turfgrass science is required; demonstrated competence and experience in teaching and research; ability to effectively communicate and publish research results in peer-reviewed journals; commitment to undergraduate and graduate education; experience in commercial turfgrass management (emphasis on athletic turf management is preferred) is required. The candidate’s strong academic training should be complimented with practical turfgrass management experience. The successful candidate should possess good interpersonal skills and be able to work cooperatively with the UF Statewide Turfgrass Science Team and Florida’s turfgrass industry. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system and possess a commitment to IFAS’ core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The University of Florida is a member of the Association of American Universities and offers more than 100 majors. With nearly 50,000 students, UF is fourth largest university in the nation. The state’s turfgrass industry is valued at more than $10 billion and includes ~ 1,300 golf courses, 93,000 acres of sod production, and 5 million acres of home and commercial lawns. The University of Florida at Gainesville has state-of-the-art turfgrass research facilities including the Turfgrass Envirotron and the new 28.6 acre Turfgrass Research Unit with three complete golf holes, a full-sized football/soccer field, a baseball infield, and thirty-eight 10,000 ft² plots planted to most of the species and cultivars of turf grown in Florida.

HOW TO APPLY: Interested persons should submit the following items: (1) Letter of application outlining teaching and research accomplishments and philosophy; (2) curriculum vitae; (3) three letters of recommendation (under separate cover addressed to the Committee Chair below), and (4) official transcripts of academic work (transcripts must be sent directly from institute to the Committee Chair below). To be considered, all application materials must be received by the closing date. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Please forward all nominations, applications and inquiries to:

Refer to Position # 0001-3289

Dr. J. Bryan Unruh
Search and Screen Committee Chair
West Florida Research and Education Center
5988 Hwy. 90 W., Bldg. 4900
Milton, FL 32583
Phone: (850) 995-3720 ext. 108
Fax: (850) 995-3723
Email: jbu@ufl.edu
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.

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