POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT  #0001-4228

Title: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Location: AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (IFAS) P.O. BOX 110570 GAINESVILLE, FL  32611

Salary: COMMENSURATE WITH QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Position Open To: December 15, 2006 or until a suitable candidate is identified

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: This is a 12-month tenure track position that will be 60% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) and 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) available in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. After three years, the person in this position is expected to obtain grant support for 25% of the salary. The person in this position will be responsible for leading an existing extension/applied research program aimed at reducing climate and weather risks in agriculture and natural resource management in Florida and other Southeastern States. He/she will work with other Extension specialists in the Southeast Climate Consortium (SECC), a multi-institution, interdisciplinary program, to refine a coordinated strategy for an Extension program on climate risk management as needs and opportunities evolve. He/she will conduct applied research on climate variability impacts on agricultural and natural resources in Florida with an emphasis on development and implementation of decision aids for use by extension agents, producers, and natural resource managers in order to reduce risks associated with climate variability. This includes responsibilities for developing and implementing web-based climate and weather related decision aids on the AgClimate and Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) sites, and for better integrating weather and climate programs in UF/IFAS. He/she will work with other Extension Specialists, researchers, and natural resource managers in carrying out these responsibilities. In addition, the person in this position will cooperate closely with extension and research efforts in the SECC, which currently includes investigators in Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. The person in this position will be responsible for ensuring that this research/extension program reflects the multi-state, national and global climate research priorities. He/she will be responsible for holding workshops and focus groups to determine priorities for decision aids and information products, for
informing clientele of the products, and for training users. The person in this position will be responsible for writing proposals to obtain funding for the applied research and extension activities. 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.

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:** A Ph.D. in Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Agronomy, or a closely related field is required with training in weather/climate effects on agricultural systems and in the use of crop models. Experience in development of web-based information systems is desirable. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and an ability to work well with the public and with an interdisciplinary team of researchers and extension personnel. 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.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**
The Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department has 32 faculty positions, 26 at the University location in Gainesville and 6 at Agricultural Research and Education Centers around the state. The annual operating budget of the Department is between $5.5 and $6.0 million.

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 48,000 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), and the College of Veterinary Medicine (http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu), 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.

The University is located in Gainesville, a city of 125,000, situated in North Central Florida midway between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. The city provides a metropolitan atmosphere with many activities sponsored by the local community and University.

*The Foundation for The Gator Nation*

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EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS:
This position will be filled by the end of January 2007, or as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. The salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications of the successful candidate.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Interested applicants should provide a formal letter of application, a complete biographical resume, and the names of five references who may be contacted for letters of recommendation. Include a list of all technical and non-technical publications. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATIONS:
Individuals wishing to apply should submit the following materials:

- Letter of application that states applicant’s interest in the position, qualifications relative to the credentials listed above, previous professional responsibilities and achievements, and how these relate to this position;
- Complete vita (which includes statement of current position and responsibilities);
- Official transcripts showing all coursework and degrees conferred; and
- The name, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and electronic mail address of five persons to serve as references. The references should be knowledgeable about the applicant’s qualities that would make him or her well suited to the responsibilities described in this announcement.

Review of application materials will begin on or before December 20, 2006, and will continue until a suitable applicant is identified. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

REFER TO POSITION # 0001-4228 
RETURN INQUIRES TO:
Dr. Carol J. Lehtola
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Agricultural & Biological Engineering
P.O. Box 110570
Gainesville, FL  32611-0570
E-mail – clehtola@ufl.edu
Phone:  352/392-1864 ext 223

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, be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.

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