POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair
Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Introduction and Department Overview
The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) invites nominations and applications for the position of Chair of the Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership (ACEL). The department encompasses the program areas of: agricultural communication, agriscience teacher education, community and extension education, and leadership, along with the OSU Leadership Center. The department offers Bachelor’s degree programs in agricultural communication, agriscience education, and community leadership; an M.S. program in Agricultural and Extension Education with specializations in agricultural communication, agricultural education, community and extension education, international development, and leadership; and an on-line Master’s degree; and M.Ed. and Ph.D. programs in Agricultural and Extension Education with specializations in agricultural education, community and extension education, and international development. The department employs 12 faculty and 6 staff members. Current student enrollment includes approximately 45 graduate and 162 undergraduate majors.

Institutional Context

The University – The Ohio State University (osu.edu) is one of America’s largest and most comprehensive. Classified as a highly selective, research-intensive institution, the University’s innovative prowess attains world-class status, particularly in critical areas such as global climate change, cancer, infectious disease, advanced materials, and ag-bio products that feed and fuel the world. As Ohio’s best and one of the nation’s top-20 public universities, Ohio State is further recognized by a top rated academic medical center and a premier cancer hospital and research center. Few institutions match the comprehensive excellence of Ohio State; approximately 56,000 students select from 14 colleges, 175 undergraduate majors, and 240 masters, doctoral, and professional degree programs across six campuses. Substantial investments are being made in Health and Wellness; Food Production and Security; and Energy and the Environment through the Discovery Theme initiative (discovery.osu.edu).

The College – The comprehensive tripartite mission of the college leads to strong engagement in the state, across the country and around the world. Nearly 3,200 undergraduate students and 500 graduate students are enrolled on the Columbus, Wooster and regional campuses. The research mission is facilitated by The Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) which has more than 400 research projects underway at anytime, focused on critical state, national and global issues. The Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute, located on the Wooster campus, is instrumental in providing technical training in agriculture, horticulture, environmental sciences, business, engineering technology and other specialty areas, as well as serving as a feeder institution for the Columbus campus. Ohio State University Extension, with offices in every county, helps improve lives, businesses and communities through its program areas of 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Community Development, and Family and Consumer Sciences. cfaes.osu.edu

The Department – ACEL has undergone a number of major transformations in recent years that recast the department in the college and university, through the addition of faculty and staff, growth in undergraduate and graduate enrollment and the integration of the Leadership Center. Our strategic plan provides a clear and exciting focus for the future that aligns with university and college priorities (http://acel.osu.edu/about-us/strategicplan).

Department Chair Qualifications

Our next chair will clearly understand and appreciate the depth and breadth of our disciplinary areas (agricultural communication, agriscience teacher education, community and extension education, and leadership) and help build a culture of academic distinction through our teaching, research, outreach and service efforts. More specifically, we seek candidates who exhibit the following qualities:

Leadership and Administrative Skills – The Chair must be a visionary leader with a genuine dedication to and demonstrated experience in graduate, undergraduate, and non-degree programs and can collaborate with others in implementing departmental, college and university strategic priorities. The Chair must have the experience and skills...
needed to successfully: (a) manage and lead a multi-disciplinary department, (b) administer budgets and all fiscal and human resource matters, (c) balance and manage competing priorities, (d) advance cultural and ethnic diversity in departmental staffing and programming (e) experience in mentoring members of underrepresented groups. The Chair will support and mentor faculty, staff and students, hold them accountable for performance, encouraging and supporting scholarly endeavors, and serve as a departmental advocate among other academic units, within CFAES and the university, and among external stakeholders. It is essential that the Chair possess the ability to collaborate across disciplines and form partnerships with university and external stakeholders, including regional campuses.

**Scholarly Experiences** – The Chair must hold a doctorate and have academic qualifications that will ensure the awarding of tenure (rank of full professor) at Ohio State in one of the department’s disciplines or a closely related field. The Chair must have a strong commitment to teaching and advising, a proven track record in research and grant procurement, and be a nationally recognized scholar in their field of study.

**Professional Attributes** – The Chair must uphold high ethical standards and be skilled at facilitating effective communication and relationships within the department and with stakeholders. Above all, this person must possess the communication, managerial, and decision making skills necessary to build and maintain nationally and internationally distinguished programs.

**Application Process**

Applicants are requested to submit the following: a letter of application; a statement of the applicant’s vision, administrative philosophy, leadership experiences and qualifications to include experiences related to mentoring members of underrepresented groups and how they can help us achieve those goals; and a complete curriculum vitae including names addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of five professional references. Initial nominations and inquiries will be kept confidential; references may be contacted after candidates have been notified.

University policy requires successful completion of a criminal background check prior to employment. The Ohio State University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer. The Ohio State University is committed to establishing a culturally and intellectually diverse environment, and encouraging all members of our learning community to reach their full potential. We are responsive to dual-career families and strongly promote work-life balance to support our community members through a suite of institutionalized policies. We are an NSF Advance Institution and a member of the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Higher Education Recruitment Consortium.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.

Review of applications will begin February 29, 2016 and continue until the position is filled. Nominations of qualified individuals are invited at any time.

Application materials should be sent either electronically (pdf format) or through the mail to:

Melissa Leaders  
CFAES Marketing and Communications  
The Ohio State University  
Room 258, Kottman Hall  
2021 Coffey Rd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1066.  
Telephone: 614-292-2011  
Fax: 614-292-2270  
E-mail: leaders.6@osu.edu

Questions should be directed to:

Dr. Sheryl Barringer  
Chair of the Search Committee  
Department of Food Science Technology  
The Ohio State University  
Room 110, Parker Food Science and Technology Building  
2015 Fyffe Ct.  
Columbus, OH 43210-1066  
Telephone: 614-688-3642  
E-mail: barringer.11@osu.edu