



Professor and Head Plant and Soil Sciences

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Oklahoma State University – Stillwater, Oklahoma

The Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (DASNR), Oklahoma State University, invites applications and nominations for the position of Professor and Head of the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences. This 12-month appointment is administratively responsible to the Vice President, Dean and Director.

Department Profile

Building upon its foundation of excellence and historical commitment to the citizens of Oklahoma and beyond, the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences discovers, develops, and disseminates scientific knowledge to meet societal needs for food, fiber, forage, turf, bioenergy and ecosystem services through conservation and management of plant and soil resources. This mission is fulfilled by a diverse faculty with 24 tenure-track members, of which 11 are supported by endowed professorships/chairs and four hold a Regents Professor appointment. The department is further supported by ten non-tenure track faculty, five area-extension specialists, and 30 staff employees. The department offers Bachelor of Science (Plant and Soil Sciences), Master of Science (Plant and Soil Sciences), and Doctor of Philosophy degrees (Crop Science and Soil Science) to a current enrollment of 77 undergraduate students and 55 graduate students.

Focus areas serviced by the department include: Biofuel Feedstock Production and Management, Crop Physiology, Forage Science, Plant Biotechnology, Plant Breeding & Genetics, Plant Molecular Breeding, Plant Nutrition, Soil Chemistry, Soil Fertility and Nutrient Management, Soil Microbiology, Soil Morphology & Genesis, Soil Physics, Soil and Water Management, Sustainable Agriculture, Waste Management and Weed Science. Faculty also participate in interdisciplinary academic programs in Environmental Science and Plant Science.

The department maintains vibrant and interactive research programs through cooperative projects with USDA-ARS units at Stillwater, Woodward and El Reno, OK, along with the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation in Ardmore, OK, and with the eight other academic units within the Division. Service units associated with the department include the Soil, Water, and Forage Analytical Laboratory, Oklahoma Crop Improvement, Inc. and Oklahoma Foundation Seed Stocks.

Responsibilities

This position provides departmental leadership with fairness and integrity, and is expected to:

- Stimulate, integrate, oversee, and evaluate departmental teaching, research and extension programs.
- Support OSU's diversity efforts to recruit and retain outstanding faculty, staff and students.
- Effectively and efficiently manage human, financial and physical resources.

- Represent departmental and faculty interests to administrators and other University and Division units.
- Collaborate with Division Unit Heads and with other University administrators and faculty.
- Represent the department to outside agencies (state and federal agencies, agricultural industries, and professional organizations), alumni, individuals, the community and other groups.
- Pursue external funding to include competitive grants, research contracts, gifts and other special funding to include endowments for scholarships, fellowships and chairs and professorships.
- Assign responsibilities to faculty and staff and evaluate their performance. Encourage professional growth and development of faculty, staff and students.
- Provide oversight of departmental activities in state, regional, national, and international organizations and committees.
- Foster an environment of collegiality, teamwork, diversity and respect for multi-disciplinary and multicultural settings.

Qualifications

Qualifications include:

- A doctoral degree in agronomy, crop science, plant science, soil science, weed science or a closely related discipline.
- An outstanding record of scholarly achievements and professional activities related to teaching, research and/or extension that will qualify for the rank of Professor with tenure.
- A thorough understanding of the land-grant mission.
- Evidence of administrative ability to direct a department, team or unit and provide visionary and progressive leadership.
- Ability to effectively listen, communicate and represent the department with administrators, agencies, and on-and off-campus interest groups.
- Ability to foster professional development, assign responsibilities and evaluate performance of faculty and staff.

Employment Conditions

This position is to be filled by May 1, 2015, or as soon thereafter as the successful candidate is available. This is a 12-month administrative appointment with tenure as a Professor within the department. Salary is commensurate with qualifications. Continuation of this position is subject to performance and need.

Nomination and Application Procedures

While applications and nominations will be accepted until a successful candidate has been identified, interested parties are encouraged to submit their information by February 27, 2015, to receive optimal consideration.

Nominations should include the name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the nominee. Applicant materials should include: 1) a letter indicating interest, administrative philosophy and leadership style, and describe how these relate to this position; 2) a complete CV that includes: background, education, experience, academic achievements and; 3) a list of five (5) names, with e-mail address and telephone number. References will not be contacted without prior consent of the applicant.

Submit nominations and/or applications electronically to:
dasnrdepthead_ebox@okstate.edu

Questions may be addressed to: Dr. John Gustafson, Chair, Plant and Soil Sciences Department Head Search and Screening Committee, at 405-744-6478, or john.gustafson@okstate.edu

More information about the department is available on the website at: www.pss.okstate.edu

More information about OSU & Stillwater can be accessed at:

www.okstate.edu

www.visitstillwater.org

www.stillwaterchamber.org

Oklahoma State University (OSU) is the state's comprehensive land-grant university. Founded in Stillwater in 1890, OSU now has campuses in Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Okmulgee. OSU has approximately 1,300 full-time faculty members and about 3,700 full-time staff. Total enrollment for all campuses exceeds 33,000 students with more than 23,000 in OSU Stillwater/Tulsa. Approximately, 230,000 bachelor's, master's, doctoral, professional, and associate degrees have been granted since the first six graduates in 1896. A total of 4,990 degrees were granted in the 2012-2013 academic year. OSU offers bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in nearly 200 fields as well as a professional Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine and the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degrees. Specialist of Education degrees are offered in selected fields.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Oklahoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity/E-verify employer committed to diversity and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. OSU is a VEVRAA Federal Contractor and desires priority referrals of protected veterans for its openings. OSU-Stillwater is a tobacco-free campus.