

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

### DIVISION DIRECTOR, PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCES, WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

The Division of Plant and Soil Sciences in the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design at West Virginia University invites applications for the position of Division Director. West Virginia University is the state's flagship land grant institution and currently enrolls over 33,000 students. WVU is a public research university (high research activity as defined by the Carnegie Foundation) and receives over \$177 million worth of total sponsored funding annually. As the primary land-grant institution in West Virginia, teaching, research and engagement with the state through innovation and technology are at the forefront of its mission. The Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Design has 108 faculty and 150 full-time staff, enrolls 1700 undergraduate and 280 graduate students across a full spectrum of degree programs (28) housed in five academic divisions. The Plant and Soil Sciences Division is a diverse unit consisting of about 25 faculty and equivalent positions in agronomy, soil science, entomology, genetics, horticulture, environmental microbiology, and plant pathology. The Division houses six undergraduate academic majors and offers M.S. and Ph.D. degrees.

The Directorship offers unique opportunities. The Davis College has hired a new dean within the last year. A state of the art greenhouse has been completed. A building to house much of the College is in final stages of design and is scheduled to be completed in early 2016. University and College enrollment is growing. New faculty positions are being developed and several replacements of current positions are on the horizon. The Division has an outstanding record of quality teaching, productive research and a long history of strong collegiality and interaction. This has fostered sustained productivity and recognition nationally and internationally.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** The Director position is a 12-month administrative appointment with overall responsibility for personnel, budget, academic and research programs, interaction with Cooperative Extension and other administrative units within the University and assistance with development, outreach and advancement. It includes oversight of the new greenhouse and input to the teaching and research farm operations (in coordination with the Associate Director of the College and the Animal and Nutritional Sciences Division). One of the farms is a certified organic research farm which includes crop and animal production with significant student involvement. The Director serves under the supervision of the Dean of the Davis College, and is part of the Dean's administrative team consisting of three assistant/associate deans and four other Division Directors: Animal and Nutritional Sciences; Forestry and Natural Resources; Resource Management; and Design and Merchandising.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** The successful applicant must have a Ph.D. in one of the disciplines of the Division or a closely related field and have a record of accomplishments to qualify for tenure and the rank of full Professor in the Division. The person must demonstrate an aptitude for management, with preference given for previous administrative experience. An appreciation of the broad range of disciplines within the Division and insight into synergisms among disciplines are important. The successful applicant must possess effective oral and written skills as well as a strong record of interpersonal communication skills. The individual must be able

to advocate for Division programs, interact positively with other program leaders in the College and beyond, and establish rapport with alumni and stakeholders within the state.

**SALARY:** Salary for the position is competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications of the person selected. The successful candidate will be granted tenure in the appropriate department, should the candidate be eligible.

**STARTING DATE:** January 1, 2014 or as soon as possible after the conclusion of the selection process.

**APPLICATIONS:** West Virginia University is strongly committed to affirmative action and encourages applications from and nominations of women, disabled individuals, and members of minority groups. Candidates should submit a letter of application, curriculum vita, and the names, addresses, and contact information of three professional references. The review of applications will begin on August 15, 2013 and will continue until the position is filled. WVU will accept and prefers electronic submissions, send as attachments to: [kim.coffman@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:kim.coffman@mail.wvu.edu). Written applications should be directed to:

Dr. Tim Phipps  
Chair, Search Committee for PSS Division Director  
WVU/DCANRD  
PO Box 6108  
Morgantown, WV 26506

For additional information, you may contact Denise Hunnell, Senior Office Administrator, Office of the Dean at [denise.hunnell@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:denise.hunnell@mail.wvu.edu), or by telephone at 304-293-2383.

*West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The University attempts to be responsive to dual career couples.*