Title of Position: Professor and Head, Department of Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology

The Department of Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology at The Pennsylvania State University is seeking a dynamic individual to provide leadership and vision as Department Head. The Department name has recently changed to reflect ongoing work and new initiatives in environmental microbiology. The Department is recognized nationally and internationally for research and educational programs in plant pathology, mushroom science and environmental microbiology and provides an intellectually stimulating, diverse, and inclusive environment with broad academic appeal. The Department supports strong extension programs in fruit, mushroom, ornamental, turfgrass, and vegetable crops as well as basic and applied research programs on aerobiology, biological control, forest health, fungal biology, microbial ecology and evolution, and plant-microbe interactions. The Department has a highly ranked graduate program in Plant Pathology and actively participates in the Plant Sciences undergraduate major and other academic programs.

Responsibilities: The person filling this position serves as the departmental program leader and administrative officer, reporting directly to the Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. Duties include:

1. Academic program leadership in research, graduate and undergraduate instruction, and extension
2. Administrative responsibility for academic affairs, departmental personnel, financial matters, and physical facilities
3. Leadership and coordination of departmental relations with agricultural producers, agricultural industries, government agencies, and citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4. Creating an environment that supports and encourages diversity and inclusion

Qualifications: The candidate should possess a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology, Environmental Microbiology, or a closely related field in addition to the following attributes:

1. Excellence in research, education and/or extension as a faculty member, research scientist and/or administrator in academia, industry or other research or educational institution with a record of scholarship that would qualify the candidate for tenure
2. Effectiveness in advocating research, education, and extension missions
3. Program and administrative leadership experience or strong evidence of the potential for program and administrative leadership
4. Excellence in written and oral communication
5. Strong interpersonal and networking skills
6. Ability to provide an inclusive environment for all faculty, staff, and students

Application

Applicants should submit
1) Cover letter summarizing interest in the position and qualifications
2) Complete curriculum vitae
3) Names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of at least three individuals who may be contacted as professional references

Send applications to:
Cindy Sackett, Search Committee Coordinator
The Pennsylvania State University
College of Agricultural Sciences
201 Ag Administration Bldg.
University Park, PA 16802

Application Reviews

Reviews will begin October 5, 2013 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. The position is available January, 2014.

To learn about the Department of Plant Pathology & Environmental Microbiology, visit http://plantpath.psu.edu/

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.