Tenure Track Assistant Professor in Silviculture & Applied Forest Ecology

About UMass Amherst

UMass Amherst, the Commonwealth's flagship campus, is a nationally ranked public research university offering a full range of undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees. The University sits on nearly 1,450-acres in the scenic Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts, and offers a rich cultural environment in a bucolic setting close to major urban centers. In addition, the University is part of the Five Colleges (including Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, and Smith College), which adds to the intellectual energy of the region.

Job Summary

The Department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (https://eco.umass.edu/) seeks talented applicants for a 9-month academic year, tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor in Silviculture and Applied Forest Ecology. Earliest appointment date is September 1, 2019.

The ideal candidate will be focused on silvicultural approaches in family forest owner dominated landscapes that can increase the resiliency and adaptive capacity of forested ecosystems to challenges such as climate change, invasive insects and plants, and excessive herbivory while also providing the sustainable production of wood products and other key ecosystem services (e.g., carbon, water).

Essential Functions

Teaching responsibilities will include 1) upper-level undergraduate/graduate course in silviculture, 2) upper-level undergraduate/graduate course in forest measurements, and 3) graduate-level course in candidate's area of expertise. Successful applicants will serve, as do all other faculty, as a mentor to minorities and other underrepresented groups within the Department. Successful applicants will be expected to supervise graduate students at the Master's and Ph.D. levels. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to increasing the number of undergraduate majors and support of the program's SAF accreditation and student chapter.

Other Functions

Candidates should care deeply about undergraduate and graduate education, and be a teacher and mentor. The candidate is expected to develop independent and collaborative research programs that help to meet the research needs of state, federal and non-governmental organizations; build departmental and interdisciplinary collaborations; and develop an innovative teaching program that incorporates new initiatives in teaching and learning, such as Team-Based Learning.

Minimum Qualifications (Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, Education, Experience, Certifications, Licensure)

Candidates must have a Ph.D. in forestry or closely related field with a minimum of one forestry degree from an SAF accredited program. The focus of this position is on sustainable forest management in a changing environment. Possible research topics may include: understanding the effects of climate change on forest ecosystems, adapting forest ecosystems to changing and uncertain future conditions and objectives, and managing forest structure and composition to achieve ecological and economic goals. In addition, this person will provide leadership for their profession and collaborate with other faculty and partner organizations to address the critical issues of Massachusetts and beyond. The applicant's experience should demonstrate strengths in field experiences and training in silviculture and applied forest ecology; experience working with family forest owners, land management agencies, and/or land trusts; ability to develop an externally funded research program; and demonstrated excellence in written and verbal communication. Preferred qualifications include previous teaching experience at a university level; active participation in professional societies; and interest in developing field-based research projects in Massachusetts and New England.

Work Schedule

Your presence on campus and regular office hours are expected throughout the academic year;

 Salary Information

Salary commensurate with education, experience, and certifications;

Special Instructions to Applicants

Applicants must submit cover letter, curriculum vitae, statements of research and teaching goals, and the names and contact information of three references to https://secure.dc4.pageuppeople.com/apply/822/gateway/Default.aspx?c=apply&sJobIDs=496870&SourceTypeID=801&sLanguage=en-us Additionally, all applicants must submit a statement of Contribution to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, identifying past experiences and future goals. These contributions may result from lived experiences, scholarship, and/or mentoring, teaching and outreach activities. For more information, please review the College's diversity statement: https://www.cns.umass.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion. Search questions can be addressed to: Paul Catanzaro, Search Chair, (413) 545-4839 or paulcat@umass.edu. Applicants should apply by the priority deadline of March 1, 2019 to ensure consideration.

The Department of Environmental Conservation hosts a multi-disciplinary group of faculty with programs in Fish and Wildlife Conservation Biology, Forestry and Arboriculture, Water Resources Conservation, and Building and Construction Technology. Unifying themes across these programs include sustainability in the natural and built environments. We place special emphases on faculty-student interactions, interdisciplinary activities, and cooperation among faculty, and we share a fundamental commitment to teach and attract a diverse student body. Collaborative and close working relationships exist with state and federal resource management agencies. The Department also hosts the national Family Forest Research Center (FFRC) that is

responsible for the National Woodland Owner Survey, and conducts research in family forest owner attitudes and behaviors. The Forest Service has several scientists from their Northern Research Station co-located in our Department. The University is part of the Five-College Consortium in the beautiful Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts, with excellent social, cultural, and recreational amenities in a town and rural setting. We are two hours from Boston and three hours from New York City.

The university is committed to active recruitment of a diverse faculty and student body. The University of Massachusetts Amherst is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer of women, minorities, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities and encourages applications from these and other protected group members. Because broad diversity is essential to an inclusive climate and critical to the University's goals of achieving excellence in all areas, we will holistically assess the many qualifications of each applicant and favorably consider an individual's record working with students and colleagues with broadly diverse perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds in educational, research or other work activities. We will also favorably consider experience overcoming or helping others overcome barriers to an academic degree and career.

We are seeking talented applicants qualified for an assistant professor position. Under exceptional circumstances, highly qualified candidates at other ranks may receive consideration.

UMass Amherst is committed to a policy of equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, military status, or genetic information in employment, admission to and participation in academic programs, activities, and services, and the selection of vendors who provide services or products to the University. To fulfill that policy, UMass Amherst is further committed to a program of affirmative action to eliminate or mitigate artificial barriers and to increase opportunities for the recruitment and advancement of qualified minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and covered veterans. It is the policy of the UMass Amherst to comply with the applicable federal and state statutes, rules, and regulations concerning equal opportunity and affirmative action.