

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

- Title:** *AI Food Chain Resilience Engineer (Full Professor)*
- Location:** *Agricultural and Biological Engineering*  
University of Florida  
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)  
Gainesville, Florida
- Salary:** **Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience**
- Review Date:** **For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by October 1, 2021. The position will remain open until a viable applicant pool is determined.**

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The [Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#) is committed to creating an environment that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity and expression. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service. We strongly encourage historically underrepresented groups to apply.

Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are expected to be supportive of and engaged in all three mission areas—Research, Teaching and Extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description.

This is a 9-month tenure-accruing position that will be 20% teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences), 70% research and 10% administrative (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station), available in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit.

This senior-level faculty position will provide visionary leadership in prediction-based food and other integrated supply chain systems resilience. Duties will include leading departmental and college in Artificial Intelligence AI; providing expertise in risk and resilience analysis of the food and other biosystems considering a systems approach that reduces losses, waste, and inefficiency along the food chain leading towards circularity; providing experience in modeling systems and with actionable and interpretable AI; evaluating impacts of novel foods and shocks to food systems, forestalling future shocks from pandemics or other disruptors; teaching a graduate course on using AI, engineering resilience and modeling in food and other supply chain systems; engaging in multidisciplinary research

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across IFAS and other colleges; and providing presence in AI at the national and international level as it relates to food systems.

Tenure will be requested in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering. The faculty member will seek contract and grant funding actively to support their program. The faculty member will engage in administration and dissemination efforts in their program area through the Florida Cooperative Extension Service.

The successful candidate will engage in scholarly activities related to instruction, including teaching undergraduate and/or graduate courses, advising and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students, participating in curriculum revision and enhancement, seeking funding for the teaching program, supervising undergraduate and graduate research and creative work, publishing teaching-related scholarship, producing learning tools, and engaging in professional development activities related to teaching and advising. Faculty are encouraged to support and participate in the CALS Honors Program, distance education, and international education.

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD) or visit [Accessibility at UF](#) .

### **Qualifications (Add any additional requirements and preferences.)**

#### **Required:**

A doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in engineering or a closely related discipline is required. At least 10 years of experience following completion of the doctoral degree is required. Candidates should have experience with artificial intelligence (AI) and its application to food and or similar integrated supply systems, including an important publication and funding record in this area is required. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and procurement of extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

#### **Preferred:**

Experience working in academia or research positions.  
Demonstration of collaborative research efforts and ability to work in team environments.  
Demonstration of the ability to lead and conduct multidisciplinary projects.  
Substantial experience in the application of AI for food systems and food value chain analysis.

### **Background Information:**

The Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department is a unit in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) and the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering at the University of Florida and has diverse teaching, research and extension education programs. The ABE Department is comprised of 32 faculty members located on the Gainesville campus, 5 faculty located across the state at research and education centers, and 20 support personnel (see website <http://abe.ufl.edu>), and consistently ranks in the top 3 Agricultural and Biological Engineering graduate programs nationwide. Instilling excellence in research, leadership, innovation, and entrepreneurship are ABE's highest priorities. At ABE, the candidate will join a dynamic, cross-disciplinary group of researchers, and will enjoy broad opportunities for collaborations with existing teams, including those studying agricultural

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production, robotics, biosensors, biofuels, coupled natural and human ecosystems, nanotechnology and nanomaterials, climate variability and change, crop modeling, hydrology and water quality.

The University of Florida (<http://www.ufl.edu>) is a Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 56,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (<http://ifas.ufl.edu>) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (<http://cals.ufl.edu>), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (<http://research.ifas.ufl.edu>), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (<http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu>), the College of Veterinary Medicine (<http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu>), the Florida Sea Grant program (<http://www.flseagrant.org/>), and encompasses 16 on-campus academic departments and schools, 12 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. UF/IFAS employs nearly 4,500 people, which includes approximately 990 salaried faculty and 1,400 permanent support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation's largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

### **Employment Conditions**

This position is available January 1, 2022, and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

### **Nominations**

Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # \_\_\_\_\_)

Rafael Muñoz-Carpena

Chair, Search and Screen Committee

University of Florida

***Agricultural and Biological Engineering***

***1741 Museum Road***

***Gainesville, FL 32611***

Telephone: 352-294-6747

Facsimile: 352-392-4092

Electronic Mail: [carpena@ufl.edu](mailto:carpena@ufl.edu)

### **Application Information**

- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to [apply.interfolio.com](http://apply.interfolio.com) and submit:

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- Cover letter that states applicant's interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
- Curriculum vitae
- Contact information (including email addresses) for five (5) individuals willing to write letters of recommendation
- Research philosophy (2-page limit for each)

Selected candidate will be required to provide an official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered "official" if a designation of "Issued to Student" is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#).

Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. The University of Florida is a public institution and subject to all requirements under Florida Sunshine and Public Record laws.

The [University of Florida](#) is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The University and greater Gainesville community enjoy a diversity of cultural events, restaurants, year-round outdoor recreational activities, and social opportunities.