



Agricultural & Biological
Engineering
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**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 0002-0053
REQUISITION # 39813**

Title: Assistant Professor in Precision Water Management

Location: Agricultural & 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 November 30, 2018. The position will remain open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities

This is a 9-month, tenure track position, 40% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) and 60% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department (ABE), Institute of Food and Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida. This position will work closely with existing precision agriculture and water management faculty as well as faculty in the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering, and other departments in IFAS such as Horticultural Sciences and Agronomy. This position will address application and development of water management technologies, water-use efficiency and evaluation and use of alternative water supplies for irrigated agriculture. Research should ultimately consider long-term water resource and agricultural sustainability, considering the balance between environmental impacts and Best Management Practices (BMPs). The position will consider agricultural water management at a systems level that includes spatial and temporal analysis and evaluation of water demand and supply. Topics will likely include evaluation of precision irrigation for crop production, impacts on downstream resources and users, water quality and efficient resource utilization as well as alternative sources of water for irrigation.

The candidate should have a strong background in irrigation/drainage engineering, agricultural water management and mathematical modeling and a demonstrated interest in conducting research that will enhance Florida agriculture in the face of land use change and ongoing impacts to natural resources. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit.

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The candidate will also develop a scholarly extension program with measurable impacts on water conservation, irrigation, water quality and related issues as they become relevant. Various educational methods will be used to deliver these programs to county agents, growers, consultants agribusiness personnel and decision makers. The candidate will work with state and county faculty by providing information, educational materials, trainings and workshops to diverse stakeholders.

The faculty member in this position will be responsible for building an internationally recognized, extramurally funded program in precision water management that will address agricultural needs in Florida and locations globally such as managing irrigation at the sub-field scale to address environmental concerns while maintaining profitability. In addition, this faculty member will bring analysis techniques to a variety of precision data sources to understand and manage variability at the field and watershed scale.

The candidate will serve on graduate committees, supervise graduate research and publish research and extension results with students. The incumbent will actively seek contract and grant funding to support their program. 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.

The faculty member in this position will have the opportunity to collaborate with other faculty and research partners, creating synergy both inside and outside of the University of Florida. The candidate will be also expected to participate in all activities of departmental academic life such as research groups, mentorship of undergraduate and graduate students, and academic service activities; and work closely with other faculty in IFAS, the College of Engineering, the Emerging Pathogens Institute, the UF Water Institute, Florida Climate Institute and Institute for Sustainable Food Systems.

Qualifications

Required:

This position requires a Ph.D. (foreign equivalent acceptable) in Agricultural, Civil, or Environmental Engineering, Hydrology, Soil and Water Science or a closely-related field. The candidate is required to have an understanding of water management, hydrology and precision agricultural technologies related to water management. The candidate must have the ability to conduct applied research and extension education programs related to precision water management, and the ability and willingness to disseminate results to clientele. 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:

Expertise in precision water management such as knowledge and expertise in new technologies, use of different data sources and data visualization and/or modeling to translate and interpret large and complex agricultural-related data sets. Postdoctoral experience and a clearly established publication record in areas related to this position, is preferred. Previous research and/or extension experience working collaboratively across disciplines is also desirable.

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Background Information:

The Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department is a unit in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida and has diverse teaching, research and extension education programs. The Department is comprised of 34 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 Agricultural and Biological Engineering 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 biofilm systems and 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 53,000 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. IFAS employs over 2500 people, which includes approximately 900 faculty and 1200 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 Senior 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 November 30, 2018 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 # 39813
Michael D. Dukes
Chair, Search and Screen Committee

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University of Florida
Agricultural & Biological Engineering
P.O. Box 110570
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Telephone: 352-392-1864 extension 205
Facsimile: 352-392-4092
Electronic Mail: mddukes@ufl.edu

Application Information

- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to <http://apply.interfolio.com/56756> and submit:
 - 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 4 individuals willing to write letters of recommendation
 - Unofficial transcripts

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 \(NACES\)](#).

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). Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. Searches are conducted in accordance with Florida's Sunshine Law.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff.

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