



**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT #
REQUISITION # 42548**

Title: Assistant Professor in Controlled Environments
Location: Agricultural & Biological Engineering (ABE)
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by March 15, 2019. The position will open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities

This is a 9-month tenure-accruing position that will be 60% teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences-CALS/Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering-HWCOE) and 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station). Tenure will accrue in ABE. Candidates are expected to develop a research program related to the technology for controlled environments such as those used in greenhouses, indoor farms, plant factories, vertical farming, plant growth chambers or similar systems. These research efforts should be in support of sustainable agricultural production systems related to water and energy through automation and optimization.

The ABE department has two undergraduate teaching programs, the Biological Engineering (BE) Program and the Agricultural Operations Management (AOM) Program. BE currently includes four concentrations – Biosystems Engineering, Land and Water Resources Engineering, Packaging Engineering, and Agricultural Production Engineering. The AOM program focuses on the application of technology used in agriculture and natural systems management with the integration of business management concepts. The candidate will contribute to teaching and research in areas related to both the BE and AOM programs.

Duties will include: (1) developing courses and curriculum focused on controlled environments that include students from both the Biological Engineering (BE) and the Agricultural Operations Management (AOM) degree programs; (2) providing support to the BE ABET accreditation process by working with other faculty involved in this effort; (3) recruiting, advising, and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students in the BE and AOM programs; (4) planning and conducting a high quality, externally funded and productive research program in the area of controlled environments with scholarly publications in refereed journals; and (5) contributing to the Department's overall goals in scholarship and research. The candidate will be expected to transfer technology through collaborative work with extension professionals.

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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 research and teaching FTE assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit.

Qualifications

Required: A doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in Agricultural and Biological Engineering or closely related field is required. One degree must be in an engineering discipline. Candidates must have demonstrated skills in interpersonal relationships, verbal and written communication including scholarly publications, and provide evidence of teaching or similar experiences. It is required that candidates demonstrate expertise in research on controlled environments for agricultural systems with two or more of the following:

- Systems integration of technology
- Automation and sensing technology
- IoT, control theory, and wireless technology
- Use of machine learning

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: Candidates that demonstrate procurement of extramural funding, curriculum development, and have evidence of interdisciplinary work experiences across multiple organizations/departments are desirable. Knowledge and experience with new trends and techniques in controlled environment are desirable such as those related to HVAC, heat transfer, image processing, or robotics. Postdoctoral and other professional experience including teaching experience in engineering education are highly desirable.

Background Information:

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

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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.

More information about the ABE Department can be found at <https://abe.ufl.edu/>. The UF/IFAS ABE Department is ranked 4th in graduate programs and 6th in undergraduate programs by US News & World Report. The program offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in both the HWCOE and CALS and minors in Precision Agriculture and Packing Science.

Employment Conditions

This position is available August 16, 2019, 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 # 42548
Dr. Melanie Correll
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department
PO Box 110570
Gainesville, FL 32611-0940

Telephone: 352-294-6722
Facsimile: 352-392-4092
Electronic Mail: correllm@ufl.edu

Application Information

Individuals wishing to apply should go online to apply.interfolio.com/59223 and submit:

- Application
- Cover letter that states applicant's interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
- Curriculum vitae
- Contact information for three references
- Philosophy of Teaching Statement
- Statement of Research

The final candidate will be required to provide 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

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professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at <http://www.naces.org/> .

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida's 'Government in the Sunshine' and Public Records Laws. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.

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