

**Sustainable Food Production Systems**  
**Assistant Professor in Horticulture**  
**College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**  
***Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University***

Virginia Tech is inviting applications for Assistant Professor of Horticulture located in the Department of Horticulture at the Blacksburg campus. This is an academic year, tenure track, regular position with a 50% research: 50% teaching split.

This position will focus on small-scale food production systems, economic sustainability of local foods systems, community gardens/farms, or stewardship of land, water, and biological resources. The candidate will teach at least three undergraduate courses per academic year in support of the Sustainable Vegetable and Fruit concentration within our Environmental Horticulture major. Opportunities exist to develop additional course(s) based on the successful candidates' interests and expertise. The candidate will represent our department in the new Civic Agriculture and Food Systems multidisciplinary minor within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The candidate will also be responsible for advising/mentoring undergraduate and graduate students, and performing university service and outreach as appropriate

**Responsibilities**

- Develop and maintain a productive, internationally recognized research program through extramural funding.
- Take a leading role in our Environmental Horticulture major; teach at least three undergraduate courses per academic year in support of the Sustainable Vegetable and Fruit concentration
- Advise and mentor undergraduate and graduate students, as well as postdoctoral fellows.
- Participate in department, college, university, and professional service and outreach activities.
- Demonstrate a commitment and sensitivity to issues of diversity in the campus community.
- Adhere to the responsibilities of the faculty as described by the Faculty Handbook.

**Required Qualifications**

- An earned doctorate in Horticulture, Plant Science, or a similar discipline.
- A record of publication indicative of the potential to establish and maintain a productive research program.
- Have the ability to design and conduct field-based or controlled-environment research in the area of sustainable vegetable and/or small fruit production.
- Ability to articulate a coherent agenda of research and scholarship and to identify potential funding sources to support such research.
- Effective communication skills and ability to work within a team environment

**Preferred Qualifications**

- Demonstrated teaching expertise, especially in on-line instruction.
- Experience with organic production practices.
- Success in attracting extramural research funding.
- Shared interests with other scientists in the field.
- Ability and willingness to work collaboratively with faculty from a variety of disciplines.
- Ability to work with a student body from diverse backgrounds.
- Have postdoctoral or equivalent experience in research in a field related to horticulture.

**Process**

Review of applications will begin on February 15, 2012. Applicants should complete the faculty application online at [https://listings.jobs.vt.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails\\_css.jsp?postingId=473168](https://listings.jobs.vt.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=473168), and submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, a list of three references and statement of research interests and teaching philosophy as an attachment to the on line application.

Direct inquiries to:

With inquiries about the application process, contact Maura Wood (540-231-4541, [mmwood@vt.edu](mailto:mmwood@vt.edu)). With specific inquiries about the position, contact search chair Dr. Holly Scoggins (540-231-5783, [hollysco@vt.edu](mailto:hollysco@vt.edu)) or department head Dr. Roger Harris (540-231-5451, [rharris@vt.edu](mailto:rharris@vt.edu)).

Virginia Tech has a strong commitment to the principles of diversity, and in that spirit seeks a broad spectrum of candidates including women, people of color, and people with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities desiring accommodations in the application process should notify us by the review date.

#### **About Virginia Tech**

Founded in 1872 as a land-grant college, Virginia Tech (<http://www.vt.edu/>) is the most comprehensive university in the Commonwealth of Virginia and is among the top research universities in the nation. Today, Virginia Tech's nine colleges are dedicated to quality, innovation, and results through teaching, research, and outreach activities. At its 2,600-acre main campus located in Blacksburg and other campus centers in Northern Virginia, Southwest Virginia, Hampton Roads, Richmond, Southside, and Roanoke, Virginia Tech enrolls more than 28,000 undergraduate and graduate students from all 50 states and more than 100 countries in 180 academic degree programs.

#### **About the College**

Through its land-grant mission of research, teaching, and extension, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences ([www.cals.vt.edu](http://www.cals.vt.edu)) has been instrumental in helping agriculture and other life science industries make significant strides in improving people's lives. Today's College is adapting to society's expectations and needs by focusing its resources and efforts on improving human health and nutrition, sustaining agriculture and the environment, reducing the reliance on fossil fuels, and developing cures for devastating and debilitating diseases. Nearly 2,500 students are pursuing degrees in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The College has 12 academic departments, 11 Agricultural Research and Extension Centers (ARECs) and a presence in every county in the Commonwealth through Virginia Cooperative Extension. Today, in addition to two-year associate degrees, the college grants bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees. The curriculum includes the traditional production agricultural topics taught more than a century ago. It also reaches to the fringe of our understanding of the fundamentals of life. It searches into the scientific depths of human interaction with the environment. It penetrates to both the globe's most remote regions and to centers of economic power in an increasingly inter-dependent world.

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is the center of the land-grant tradition at Virginia Tech. Closely associated with the College are the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, established in 1886, and Virginia Cooperative Extension, established in 1914.