

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Search #5285

TITLE: Assistant/Associate Professor – Viticulture

The Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Washington State University is seeking to fill a tenure-track, 12 month, 30% Agricultural Research Center and 70% WSU Extension funded position in the area of Viticulture.

LOCATION: Washington State University (WSU) Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center (IAREC), Prosser, Washington

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2010

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Viticulture and Enology Program is dedicated to the continuing expansion of scientific and technical information and knowledge to its diverse constituents, including grape growers, wineries and juice processors, students, consumers, public agencies, and other stakeholders. WSU Extension offers two-year certificate programs in enology and viticulture primarily for people interested in upgrading their skills or entering the industry. The Extension program is connected to each grape growing region through 8 extension specialists based in both counties and experiment stations.

This position will provide leadership in developing and conducting educational and applied research programs that address the major issues in the production of wine and juice grapes in collaboration with the Viticulture and Enology Team and the industry. The incumbent will also provide leadership in the Viticulture and Enology Certificate Programs; participate in the Horticulture and Landscape Architecture graduate program, including mentoring graduate students and teaching graduate students in the classroom and in the laboratory; embrace modern technologies for information delivery; and seek stakeholder input, support, and involvement in: determining program priorities; setting educational goals and objectives; audience recruitment; education program implementation strategies and methods; and evaluation of programs. Other responsibilities include: develop materials to support education programs where needed; establish practical field demonstrations of sustainable practices in concert with the industry; and build local or statewide capacity to sustain programs through constituent and/or partner leadership development and program fiscal support. Conducting applied research to develop and implement best management practices for sustainable production of premium wine and juice grapes is a top priority. Acquisition of competitive extramural funding is expected. The successful applicant will be expected to conduct a program of research consistent with the mission of the WSU Agricultural Research Center (<http://arc.wsu.edu/>).

Other Responsibilities:

Understand and carryout the principles and specific requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the American Disabilities Act, the Affirmative Action Plan, and all pertinent rules and regulations. Participate as a WSU faculty member in activities, such as committees, governance, and professional associations, which are essential to institutional operations.

DESCRIPTION OF JOB SITE:

Washington State University (WSU) is the state's land grant university with teaching, research, and extension missions. This position is located at the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center (IAREC) near Prosser in the Yakima Valley of central Washington, less than a 45-minute drive from the Tri-Cities and Yakima metropolitan areas, where the WSU Tri-Cities branch campus and USDA Yakima Agricultural Research Laboratory are located. The IAREC maintains a strong multidisciplinary focus, with 19 faculty members (representing 7 academic departments), over 100 staff, 11 USDA-ARS scientists, and personnel from US-EPA, National Clean Plant Network, and Washington State Department of Agriculture. The spirit of cooperation extends to work with colleagues at the main and branch campuses and other Research and Extension Centers, Extension educators, and both national and international programs. Facilities at IAREC include four research units totaling almost 1,000 acres, extensive laboratories, greenhouses, offices, support facilities, and a graduate student dormitory. The viticulture and enology

program (www.wine.wsu.edu) comprises 12 faculty members at IAREC, 4 at WSU Tri-Cities, and 7 on the WSU main campus in Pullman.

Washington has the second largest and fastest growing wine industry in the United States with more than 36,000 acres (14,600 ha) of *Vitis vinifera* wine grapes, and is the nation's leading producer of *V. labruscana* juice grapes grown on over 24,000 acres (10,000 ha). Although a relatively young wine industry, Washington wines are found nationally in all 50 states and internationally in more than 40 countries. Industry growth has been phenomenal, increasing from 20 wineries in 1980 to over 600 wineries today (www.washingtonwine.org). The long, warm summer days, cool nights, low precipitation, and fertile soils make the area ideal for grape production. The Columbia Basin is one of the most agriculturally diverse regions in the United States. In addition to grapes, this region is a major producer of tree fruits, hops, mint, potatoes, asparagus, and dairy products.

Prosser, a family-oriented community of 5,000 residents with excellent public schools, is centered in the midst of Washington's grape production. Prosser sponsors diverse activities such as the annual wine and food fair, hot-air balloon rally, and seasonal farmers' market. Prosser is conveniently situated for outdoor recreation. Among opportunities are short drives to cross-country and downhill ski areas, national and state parks in the Cascade and Blue Mountains, and freshwater fishing. Prosser is 30 minutes from the Tri-Cities (Richland, Pasco, Kennewick), which is home to about 250,000 people and offers a wide range of education, cultural programs, businesses (www.visittri-cities.com), and a major regional airport.

LINE OF RESPONSIBILITY:

The incumbent will provide educational programming in viticulture throughout the state and will develop an applied research program addressing industry needs. The successful applicant in this position will function as an integral member of the Viticulture and Enology team. The incumbent is administratively responsible to the Chair of the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture and will build his/her program in consultation with the Department Chair, the Director of Viticulture and Enology, the Director of IAREC, and an industry advisory committee. When granted, tenure will be in Horticulture and Landscape Architecture.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required:

1. Earned Ph.D. at time of appointment.
2. At least one degree, undergraduate or graduate degree, in viticulture, horticulture, pomology, or closely related field.
3. Demonstrated ability to work with grape production.

Desired:

1. Demonstrated ability to develop and provide effective educational programs.
2. Demonstrated ability to conduct applied research.
3. Excellent communication skills, including the use of state-of-the-art technologies.
4. Resource acquisition skills in grants, contracts, and gift development.
5. Program planning, management, and evaluation skills.
6. Ability to work effectively with diverse interests (e.g., growers, industry representatives, agency personnel, conservationists, regulators) on controversial issues.
7. Commitment to diversity (racial, ethnic, gender, age, disabled).

JOB EXPECTATIONS:

Willingness and ability to travel year round, and evening and weekend work in communities are required.

SALARY:

Salary is commensurate with candidate's academic and professional qualifications and experience.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Screening of application materials will begin on July 1, 2010. Application materials include a letter describing how your experience and training meet qualifications for this position, current vitae, copy of official transcripts, and names and contact information of three references. Send application materials to:

Dr. Markus Keller, Search Committee Chair
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For information on application status, contact Beverly Brantner at 509-335-3943 or brantner@wsu.edu.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER. Members of ethnic minorities, women, special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam-era, recently separated veterans, and other protected veterans, persons of disability and/or persons age 40 and over are encouraged to apply.

WSU is committed to excellence through diversity, has faculty friendly policies including a partner accommodation program, and a NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant (see <http://www.excelinse.wsu.edu/>.)

WSU employs only US citizens and lawfully authorized non-US citizens. All new employees must show employment eligibility verification as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Washington State University is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact Human Resource Services: 509-335-4521(v), Washington State TDD Relay Service: Voice Callers: 1-800-833-6384; TDD Callers: 1-800-833-6388, 509.-335-1259(f), or hrs@wsu.edu.