POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 00013227
REQUISITION # 493187

Title: Assistant Professor in Urban Soil and Water Quality

Location: Soil and Water Science Department (SWSD)
Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology (CLCE),
Program for Resource Efficient Communities (PREC) and
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: Formal review of applications will begin on November 25, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled.

Duties and Responsibilities
This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 60% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), with joint appointments in the Program for Resource Efficient Communities (PREC), Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology (CLCE), and the Soil and Water Science Department (SWSD) in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida. Tenure will accrue in SWSD. This 60% Extension and 40% Research faculty will develop a nationally recognized externally funded extension and research program on fate and transport of inorganic and organic contaminants in urban watersheds and develop alternative remediation strategies to reduce soil and water contamination as related to human and natural systems health. Potential impacts of extreme events including: flooding, drought, climate change, and sea level rise on urban soil and water quality issues should be considered. Some examples of extension and research program would be a) evaluating the impacts of soil disturbance and fill soil on long-term landscape soil health, nutrient leaching and landscape water use; b) strategies to improve water quality treatment of stormwater infrastructure while addressing homeowner aesthetic expectations; c) develop soil and water quality indicators for use by developers, managers and homeowners to determine levels of environmental risk for water quality impacts so that awareness of these thresholds can be more easily recognized and managed; d) integration of Low Impact Design practices and other sustainable development techniques, with emphasis placed on efficient water use, and prevention of leaching of nutrients into the environment; and e) more broadly to assess the unintended consequences of applying...
any potential water quality contaminant to the watershed such as use of reclaimed water and chemicals to control algae and aquatic plants in stormwater ponds. The faculty member will contribute in a team approach, with other members of the cohort and ecologists, horticulturists, hydrologists, and modelers to develop comprehensive understanding to protect soil and water quality in urban watersheds. In addition, all aspects of the research program will be integrated with an active Extension component which is directed at communicating findings to stakeholders and addressing specific urban soil and water related issues.

This position is one of four in a cohort that will address issues related to environmentally resilient, resource efficient land use. These include expertise in: 1) This position; 2) Resource analytics focused on land use, water and energy; and 3) Urban water resource engineering. These four faculty members will have unique opportunities for developing interdisciplinary, collaborative projects and partnerships with faculty in CLCE and PREC as well as in the Water Institute, Florida Climate Institute, Center for Public Issues Education, and other interdisciplinary programs at the University of Florida. The purpose of this cohort is to assemble a core group of faculty who will develop proactive programs and scholarly approaches to support desirable changes in Florida communities. All four new faculty will work collaboratively to understand and affect the many facets of current and future issues related to sustaining Florida’s land, water, energy and other natural resources in the context of climate and sea level rise. All of these positions include Extension appointments that will actively engage the new faculty with county extension faculty, state and local government, nonprofits at every level, and business leaders as they conduct educational programs focused on solutions in Florida communities. Scholarly publications that test theories or determine variables that account for success would be expected.

**Qualifications**

An earned doctorate in soil and water science or related discipline. Skills and experience directly related to urban soil and water quality are essential and their applications in soil, water, and landuse, community and/or natural resource development, sustainability and/or resilience are highly desirable. The ability to work effectively in an interdisciplinary manner with faculty from departments outside the incumbent’s home academic unit is essential. 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.

**Background Information:**

The SWSD has established itself as a leader in teaching, research, and extension/outreach programs in management and restoration of these resources. The interdisciplinary nature of SWSD programs provides students and faculty an opportunity to conduct basic and applied research at multiple (molecular to landscape) scales to solve environmental problems and protect and manage land and water resources. Details about the SWSD can be found at: [http://soils.ifas.ufl.edu](http://soils.ifas.ufl.edu)

The University of Florida ([http://www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu)) is a Land-Grant and Sea-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 50,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences ([http://ifas.ufl.edu](http://ifas.ufl.edu)) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences ([http://cals.ufl.edu](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 17 on-campus academic departments and schools, 13 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 3400 people, which includes approximately 950 faculty and 2450 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 25, 2015 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 # 493187

Dr. Rao Mylavarapu
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
2181 McCarty Hall
PO Box 110290
Gainesville, FL 32611-0940

Telephone: 352-294-3113
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Electronic Mail: raom@ufl.edu

Application Information

Individuals wishing to apply should go online to https://jobs.ufl.edu and submit:

- Application
- Cover letter that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
• Curriculum vitae
• Unofficial transcripts showing receipt of the doctoral degree
• Contact information (including email addresses) for four individuals willing to write letters of recommendation.

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 professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at [http://www.naces.org/](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. Search committee meetings and interviews will be open to the public, and applications, resumes, and many other documents related to the search will be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.*