



Soil and Water Sciences Dept.
P O Box 110290
Gainesville, FL 32611-0290
(352) 294-3154
(352) 392-3399 Fax

**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 00033910
REQUISITION # 42959**

Title: Assistant Professor – Soil Health/Integrative Soil Scientist

Location: Soil and Water Sciences Dept.
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 here (<https://apply.interfolio.com/59525>) and submit additional materials by 14 February 2019. The position will remain open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities

This 9-month tenure-accruing position includes 60% teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences) and 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station), available in the Soil and Water Sciences Dept., Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida. The assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit. The incumbent is expected to teach core soil science courses that feature soil health, particularly as it applies to the Southeastern USA.

The incumbent in this position will: 1) teach two sections of “Introduction to Soils in the Environment” and one section of “Forest Soils Ecosystem Services;” 2) develop a new junior/senior level course focusing on training students in quantitative tools on science and application of soil health principles; and 3) actively participate in representing the department in the Plant Science-degree program. The successful candidate will engage in scholarly activities related to instruction, including teaching undergraduate and/or graduate courses, advising and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students, participating in curriculum revision and enhancement, and seeking funding for the teaching program. In addition, the incumbent is expected to publish teaching-related scholarship, produce learning tools, and engage in professional development activities related to teaching and advising.

The successful candidate will establish a strong, well-funded collaborative research program focusing on integration of soil science principles and indicators to evaluate soil health

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information and systems analysis to develop scientifically-based management solutions. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in quantitative research, applying and evaluating statistical and/or mechanistic models to improve the vitality in a range of ecosystems including agricultural, forested, rangeland, and urban ecosystems.

We expect the incumbent to participate in the UF Honors Program and UF Quest courses, and to emphasize development of integrated teaching programs that encourage direct undergraduate student involvement in research and scholarship to develop skills and capabilities in preparation for workforce participation or pursuit of advanced degrees.

The incumbent will actively participate in undergraduate and graduate education by chairing and serving on graduate committees, supervising thesis, dissertation and undergraduate research, and publishing research results with students. Faculty are encouraged to participate in professional development activities related to teaching and advising and may teach courses and seminars. Tenure will accrue in the Soil and Water Sciences Department.

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.

Qualifications

Required:

A doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in soil science or a closely related field with skills in statistical and/or mechanistic models is required. 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:

Highly desired are post-doctoral training, formal teaching experience, and expertise in soil quality/health measurement, evaluation, and application.

Background Information:

The SWSD is a leader in teaching, research, and extension/outreach programs in management and restoration of soil and water 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 manage and protect land and water resources and solve environmental problems. Details about the SWSD can be found at: <http://soils.ifas.ufl.edu> .

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

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(<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 March 16, 2019 and it 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 # 43959

Dr. Stefan Gerber
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Soil and Water Sciences Dept.
P O Box 110290
Gainesville, FL 32611

Telephone: 352-294-3174
Facsimile: (352) 392-3399
Electronic Mail: sgerber@ufl.edu

Application Information

Individuals wishing to apply should go online to <http://apply.interfolio.com/59525> 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 four individuals willing to write letters of recommendation.

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- Unofficial transcripts showing receipt of doctoral degree.

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. The [Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#) is committed to creating an environment that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity and expression. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service. The University and greater Gainesville community enjoy a diversity of cultural events, restaurants, year-round outdoor recreational activities, and social opportunities.