Asst Professor AY

Job no: 511047
Work type: Teaching & Research Faculty
Senior management: Agriculture & Life Sciences
Department: School of Plant & Environmental Sci
Location: Blacksburg Area
Categories: Agriculture / Life Science

Job Description
The School of Plant and Environmental Sciences (School) in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is inviting applications for an academic year (9 month), tenure track faculty appointment as Assistant Professor of Small Grain Breeding in Blacksburg, Va. This position will have a primary appointment in research with a secondary appointment in teaching. The successful applicant will develop an internationally recognized small grain breeding and variety development program, an internationally recognized research program in small grain breeding and genomics, will teach a graduate course in Advanced Plant Breeding, and will contribute to mentoring graduate and undergraduate students. The individual will lead the Virginia Tech small grain breeding program by: 1) developing and releasing superior cultivars of wheat and barley for the MidAtlantic and surrounding regions; 2) developing an extramurally funded program focused on sustainable small grain production via increased understanding of genomic factors for valuable traits in both crops; 3) collaborating with the existing breeding and genomics team at Virginia Tech and industry to improve agronomic and end use quality of small grains; 4) delivering high quality graduate instruction in plant breeding and genetics; and 5) disseminating information to stakeholders by contributing to extension efforts consistent with program goals, through peer reviewed publications, and industry interactions and collaboration. ||The successful candidate will be expected to develop a regionally focused program in applied and basic small grain breeding genomics by incorporating conventional and modern plant breeding methods. The individual will lead a large statewide program for improvement of traditional soft red winter wheat and feed barley as well as new opportunities in hullless and malting barley, hard red winter and durum wheat, and other specialty small grain crops. The successful candidate will be expected to exhibit a strong commitment to undergraduate mentoring and graduate education and training, including the supervision of graduate student thesis and dissertation research as well as to School, College and University service.
Teaching responsibilities will include instruction of a graduate level course in plant genetics and breeding and related subjects to be determined by the successful candidate and the School Director. The successful candidate is expected to establish and maintain close working relationships with industry, commodity groups, state and federal agencies, and other organizations as appropriate. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values at Virginia Tech in the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences. Our excellence can only be fully realized by faculty, students, and staff who share our commitment to these values. Successful candidates for our faculty positions will demonstrate evidence of a commitment to advancing equity and inclusion.

Required Qualifications
- Ph.D. degree with experience in plant breeding, quantitative genetics, genetics, or a closely related field
- Record of accomplishments demonstrating potential for productivity, including publications and plant breeding activities
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with technical and nontechnical audiences in oral and written forms
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills

Preferred Qualifications
- Preference will be given to candidates who have multiple years of independent, postgraduate experience in variety development and release
- Record of germplasm development and release
- Strong record of peer reviewed publications
- Skill in applied breeding equipped with molecular tools such as gene discovery, marker assisted selection, and genomic selection
- Commitment to mentoring, diversity and inclusion
- Teaching experience
- Demonstrated success in obtaining extramural funding and grantsmanship

Additional Information
The successful Candidate will be required to have a criminal conviction check

About Virginia Tech
Virginia Tech is a public land-grant university, committed to teaching and learning, research, and outreach to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. Building on its motto of Ut Prosim (that I may serve), Virginia Tech is dedicated to InclusiveVT—serving in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence. We seek candidates who adopt and practice the Principles of Community, which are fundamental to our on-going efforts to increase access and inclusion, and to create a community that nurtures learning and growth for all of its members. Virginia Tech actively seeks a broad spectrum of candidates to join our community in preparing leaders for the world.

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status, or otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees or applicants, or on any other basis protected by law.

If you are an individual with a disability and desire accommodation please contact the hiring department.

Applications close: Open until filled