

Position Announcement

Chair, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment University of Kentucky

The Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (M-G CAFE), University of Kentucky (UK), seeks a Department Chair to support a shared vision with innovative and skilled administration of the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources.

Responsibilities: The UK Department of Forestry and Natural Resources operates through successful integration of its three land-grant missions, research, education, and extension, to develop solutions for the critical issues facing forests, wildlife, and natural resources today and in the future. The Chair will facilitate the Department's efforts to enhance and develop prominence in research and graduate education, foster nationally recognized extension and outreach programs, and provide leadership for its Society of American Foresters (SAF)-accredited forestry undergraduate program. Responsibilities also include recruiting, mentoring, supporting, and evaluating faculty and staff, managing budgets and departmental resources, interacting with external constituencies and partners, promoting departmental development, leading long-term unit planning, and collaborative management of the UK Robinson Forest. The Chair serves as the chief academic officer, administrator and program leader for the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, reporting directly to the M-G CAFE Dean.

Qualifications: Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in forestry, natural resources, or a related field of study encompassed by the Department's programmatic areas. Candidates must have a compelling vision for the UK Department of Forestry and Natural Resources' role in research, education, and extension and be able to effectively lead and manage an interdisciplinary academic department. Qualifications also include a demonstrated ability to support nationally prominent programs in research, education, or extension. Administrative experience and/or evidence of potential for effective administration and a national reputation for excellent scholarship or extension programming from an academic or other research institution are required. Candidates must also be able to develop and promote constructive relationships with on- and off-campus stakeholders, including forestry and natural resources agencies, alumni, and donors. The Department is especially interested in candidates who will foster the inclusivity, diversity, integration, and excellence of its academic community. Applicants should meet qualifications for faculty appointment at the associate professor / professor rank with tenure in a tenure eligible title series.

Department: The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, one of 15 academic units in M-G CAFE, currently has 14 full-time faculty positions, 17 research or extension specialists, at least 12 adjunct or emeritus faculty, and 5 support staff. The Department's mission is to enhance the ecological, economic, and social benefits of forests and related natural resources to elevate the quality of life for Kentucky and beyond. Department faculty mentor students in the Forest and Natural Resource Sciences graduate program (MS, PhD) and post-doctoral scholars. The

Department administers a SAF-accredited forestry BS program, a Wildlife Biology and Management minor, and an Urban and Community Forestry undergraduate certificate program. The Department also shares leadership and teaching responsibility for an interdisciplinary BS program in Natural Resources and Environmental Science housed within M-G CAFE. The Department is home to the Forest Health Research and Education Center (FHC) and fosters collaboration with the co-located scientists from USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station. The Department also plays a significant contributing role to the James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits. Significant off-campus resources are managed by the Department in support of its land-grant mission including the 15,000-acre Robinson Forest and nationally recognized Wood Utilization Center, both associated with the Robinson Center in eastern Kentucky. For information about the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources and the University of Kentucky, see <https://forestry.ca.uky.edu> and <https://www.uky.edu>. Living in Central Kentucky offers the charm of a small-town lifestyle combined with the convenience of a big city, thanks to its rich history, vibrant arts scene, and proximity to metropolitan areas like Louisville and Cincinnati. Working here provides ample opportunities in diverse fields such as healthcare, education, and horse industry, all while enjoying the region's low cost of living, friendly communities, and beautiful landscapes, including the iconic bluegrass fields. For information about living in Lexington, see <https://www.lexingtonky.gov>.

Position Details: This a department chair appointment with a faculty position in a tenure eligible title series (12-month assignment) at the associate professor / professor rank in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources with the distribution of effort (teaching, extension/service, and/or research) negotiable upon appointment and annually thereafter in compliance with university regulations. UK contributes to employee's retirement plans, medical coverage, and life insurance. To learn about benefits, please visit <https://hr.uky.edu/>.

Submission Materials: Please submit the following through the University of Kentucky's Application Site: <https://ukjobs.uky.edu/postings/534344>. Materials should be addressed to the search committee and submitted by August 1, 2024. Review of applications will begin August 1, 2024, and will continue until the position is filled. Position availability, January 01, 2025.

1. Cover Letter that includes a statement of strategic vision, administrative experience, and leadership philosophy, including responsibilities previous described (up to 3 pages);
2. Curriculum Vita that includes a list of publications, grants received, and records of teaching, extension, and service (no page limit);
3. Statement on research/creative work (up to 1 page);
4. Statement on teaching/instruction (up to 1 page);
5. Statement on extension/service (up to 1 page); and
6. Contact information for at least three (3) professional references who can address in their professional judgement your performance in advancing your scholarly field, significance of the venues in which you have been published, the grants you have been involved with, instructional accomplishments, and the service performed. Please also indicate your relationship to the reference. References will not be contacted without prior notification of candidates.



Department of Forestry and Natural Resources
105 T.P. Cooper Building
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0073
P: 859-257-7596
F: 859-323-1031

Questions should be directed to: Dr. Patricia Dyk, Search Committee Chair, 319A Funkhouser Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506; Email: pdyk@uky.edu; Phone: 859-218-3362.

The University of Kentucky and the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (M-G CAFE) are committed to creating a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment of mutual respect where all members of our community are able to fully engage, belong, and succeed. We support and welcome applicants of all identities such as but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, perspectives, beliefs, sexual orientation, national origin, religious belief, age, and all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. The University of Kentucky is an equal opportunity university. We encourage applications from women, minorities, and all interested and qualified people. The EEO Coordinator is Tim West, S-105 Agricultural Science North, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546-0091.