Professor and Department Head
Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation
Virginia Tech

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND DUTIES

The College of Natural Resources and Environment at Virginia Tech invites applications and nominations for the position of Professor and Department Head, Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation. This is a full-time, 12-month, tenure-track position. The position is available July 1, 2016. The Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation is considered one of the premier teaching, research, and engagement programs of its kind in the country. Department faculty, staff, and students are recognized for the quality of their scholarship. The department is one of four academic units in the College of Natural Resources and Environment (Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Geography, and Sustainable Biomaterials).

Established in 1959, the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation has grown to more than 45 teaching, research, and extension faculty, 9 technical support and research staff, and approximately 80 graduate and 200 undergraduate students. The department’s educational, research and outreach missions are supported by a number of off-campus research laboratories and field sites including the Fishburn School Forest, the Reynolds Homestead Forest Resources Research Center, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, the Harvesting Research Laboratory, and the Urban Horticulture Center. On-campus the majority of the department is housed in portions of Cheatham and Latham Halls.

The department offers the bachelor of science degree in forest resources and environmental conservation and the nation’s first bachelor of science degree in water: resources, policy, and management. Within the forest resources and environmental conservation degree, students can major in environmental resource management, environmental informatics, forestry, or natural resource conservation. The department also offers Master of Forestry, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in a diverse range of subjects reflecting the broad expertise and interest of the faculty.

The Department Head provides leadership in the management and administration of the department, with oversight in areas of faculty and staff recruiting and retention, diversity and inclusion, curriculum development, extension, research, budgeting and reporting, facilities, gifts and endowments, and acquisition of external funding. The Department Head reports to the Dean of the College of Natural Resources and Environment, and maintains liaisons with other administrators of the college, university, state and federal agencies, and relevant professional associations.

More information on the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation can be found at the website, frec.vt.edu.

QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must have a Ph.D. in an academic discipline related to areas of programming in the department. Candidates should possess a distinguished record of accomplishment, including demonstrated strength in teaching, research and extension, qualifying them for appointment at the rank of Professor in the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation. Candidates should have administrative experience, or demonstrated administrative potential, through roles of continued responsibility and working effectively with people at all levels of an organization or within a university environment. Prior demonstration of collegial leadership and
effective communication skills is paramount. The Department Head should be responsive to the needs of faculty and students, and committed to cultural and intellectual diversity. The successful candidate will serve as an effective advocate of the department as well as a visionary to keep the department at the leading frontiers of forest and environmental conservation. Candidates should possess a broad understanding of current and emerging trends in forest and natural resources science and management and recognize the key contributions of both the physical and social sciences. **Preferred Qualifications:** In addition to the above required qualifications, it is preferred that candidates have a history of collaboration with colleagues on- and off-campus; experience reaching out to business, industry, government agencies and professional associations; an articulated vision for enhancing external funding of the department; and demonstrated ability to be a good departmental, college, and university citizen.

**Application:** Application materials should include a resume and the names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of five professional references. References will not be contacted until later stages of the search and candidates will be notified in advance of contacting references. The applicant should address his or her interest in the position by preparing a written statement of interest that addresses your qualifications relative to the position description; please limit to no more than three pages. All materials must be submitted electronically. An official transcript must be provided as a condition of employment. Submit application materials online at [www.jobs.vt.edu](http://www.jobs.vt.edu), referring to posting No. TR0150110. Review of candidate files will begin by October 5, 2015, and continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

**Nominations and Inquiries:** Dr. Joel W. Snodgrass, Professor and Head Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation College of Natural Resources, Virginia Tech, 100 Cheatham Hall (0321) Blacksburg, VA 24061 Phone: 540-231-2215 or email joels@vt.edu

**Virginia Tech**

Virginia Tech takes a hands-on, engaging approach to education, preparing scholars to be leaders in their fields and communities. As the commonwealth’s most comprehensive university and its leading research institution, Virginia Tech offers 240 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to more than 31,000 students and manages a research portfolio of more than $513 million. The university fulfills its land-grant mission of transforming knowledge to practice through technological leadership and by fueling economic growth and job creation locally, regionally, and across Virginia.

Virginia Tech’s main campus is located in Blacksburg, Virginia, nestled in the heart of the beautiful Appalachian Mountains. The New River Valley offers the charm of a small town combined with the modern conveniences of a metropolitan area. The thriving community boasts a plethora of unique and chain restaurants and stores, symphonies, theatres, historical attractions, museums, a vibrant nightlife, sporting events, outdoor recreation activities, and a temperate climate. Virginia Tech is a short driving distance from a number of state and national forest including the Monongahela, Washington, and Jefferson National Forests.

**Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law.** For inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies, contact the executive director for Equity and Access at 540-231-2010 or Virginia Tech, North End Center, Suite 2300 (0318), 300 Turner St. NW, Blacksburg, VA 24061.