

Faculty Position in Extension Education

Appointment: Academic year appointment at the level of assistant professor; tenure-track position. This position is in the Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education in the College of Agriculture (1.0 FTE). Summer salary equivalent to a fiscal-year assignment is available as long as the successful candidate maintains a 50% or higher Extension commitment.

Position Description: The successful candidate will serve as a faculty member in the Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education. Responsibilities include:

- Developing an innovative animal education program to help 4-H youth and others learn STEM concepts
- Utilizing experiential learning methodologies and educational technologies to engage Indiana 4-H youth and other non-formal (informal) youth audiences.
- Using best practices and current learning theories to develop and implement contemporary curricular resources and professional development for staff and adult volunteers who work with 4-H and other youth in the area of animal education.
- Leveraging inquiry-based learning of the science concepts in the Indiana Learning Standards and Life Science courses for informal/non-formal education settings.
- Assessing educational methodologies and technologies in informal/non-formal settings that effectively prepare youth to pursue lifelong learning as well as careers in science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and mathematics (STEAM).
- Developing a strong, nationally and internationally recognized, externally funded, applied research program to support K-12 engagement through transformational extension education for youth. Research interests should fit within the department's current Strategic Plan (www.ydae.purdue.edu/strategic_plan), which includes the Life Science Education signature area. Research in this signature area seeks to identify and develop scholarship around educational methodologies that enhance learning and discovery in life sciences.
- Participating in cross-disciplinary research and building collaborations within the university system and with partners interested in life science education and K-12 engagement. Potential research areas could include: pedagogical approaches to teaching STEM to youth in non-formal educational settings; using technology to teach STEM concepts; and, effective methodologies to engage volunteers in the non-formal educational process.
- Teaching and advising graduate students. The opportunity exists to develop graduate-level courses in the candidate's area of expertise.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. is required. Candidate must have education and/or experience to effectively apply educational theory within an animal science context. The successful candidate must be able to conduct and publish high-quality research, be able to work effectively in a team environment and have a commitment to developing and delivering both inclusive and targeted programming. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate a commitment to diversity. Excellent oral and written intercultural communication skills are expected.

Salary: Competitive and commensurate with experience and training.

Effective: Screening of applications will begin February 1, 2010, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled. A start date of April 1, 2010 is preferred, but may be negotiated.

Department: The Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education is composed of the following: undergraduate programs in Agricultural Communication and Agricultural Education; the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program; and Agricultural and Extension Education graduate program. The department is committed to expanding access for unreached and underserved audiences and improving quality of life for all residents.

Application Process: Interested applicants should submit the following for full consideration: (1) a letter of application to include a brief summary outlining strengths, professional goals, and qualifications for this position; (2) a current curriculum vitae; (3) a brief description of experience in Extension/engagement, teaching, and research; (4) names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three professional references who may be contacted for recommendations. Send requested materials to:

Roger Tormoehlen, Search Committee Chair
Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education
Purdue University
615 W. State Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2053
Phone: 765.494.8422 Fax: 765.496.1152 E-mail: search@ydae.purdue.edu

Websites of interest:
Departmental: www.ydae.purdue.edu
4-H: www.four-h.purdue.edu
College: www.agriculture.purdue.edu
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