

Department of Animal Science Position Description

**Chairperson
Department of Animal Science**

**College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Michigan State University**

Position

Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources invites applications and nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Department of Animal Science, an interdisciplinary department that provides a stimulating intellectual environment for engaged scholarship. The successful candidate must demonstrate the ability to embody and convey the land-grant mission of teaching, research, and Extension/outreach to varying audiences, provide effective leadership and management of multidisciplinary programs, be a strong advocate for all aspects of the Department, and provide leadership for the continuing development of outstanding regional, national, and international programs. The full time, annual appointment position is available beginning July 1, 2017.

Qualifications

The Department of Animal Science is seeking a dynamic individual with an outstanding record of achievement, including a distinguished record of scholarship, leadership, team building, and dedication to the land grant mission. The applicant should have an appreciation for the range of disciplines in animal science and the diverse functions of teaching, research, Extension, and outreach, and must exhibit preparedness for administration of a large, diverse faculty. The successful candidate must possess outstanding leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills, along with the ability to promote the Department and increase its national and international prominence. Qualified candidates must have a doctorate in animal science or related discipline and meet the requirements for tenure at the rank of full professor in the Department of Animal Science.

About the Department

The Department of Animal Science is an interdisciplinary department within the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The Department of Animal Science is one of the largest departments within the college and has a diverse and dynamic mission with 39 tenure-system faculty; 5 fixed-term or associated faculty and specialists; 8 academic professional staff; 32 full time technical, administrative professionals, and clerical technical staff; and 16 full time farm staff. The Department offers undergraduate and graduate degrees within the disciplines of animal science. Approximately 500 undergraduate, 50 graduate, and 90 agricultural technology (2-year certificate) students were enrolled in Fall 2016. The Department's Bachelor of Science major offers four academic concentrations linked by a common core curriculum in animal science: (1) Animal Biology and Pre-Veterinary Medicine; (2) Production Animal Scholars; (3) Companion and Exotic Animal Biology; and (4) Animal Industry. The Department of Animal Science offers both MS and PhD graduate degrees. In both undergraduate and graduate programs, the Department embraces domestic as well as international applications, engagement, and opportunities. Our programs prepare future leaders for academic, industry, or government positions through undergraduate and graduate programs, internships, and high impact experiential learning activities in the animal sciences.

Department Mission

The mission of the Department is to advance the discovery and dissemination of animal science knowledge and agriculture using interdisciplinary approaches, to educate students, promote optimal health and wellbeing of animals and humans, and serve the food and animal needs of Michiganders and beyond. Additional information about the Department is available at: <http://www.ans.msu.edu>.

About the University

Michigan State University (MSU) is located in East Lansing and serves as the nation's pioneer land-grant university. It is one of the top research universities in the world and home to nationally ranked and recognized academic, residential college, and service-learning programs. MSU is a diverse community of dedicated students and scholars, athletes and artists, and scientists that provide regional, national, and international leadership in basic and applied research, excellence in teaching, international engagement, and strong Extension programs that partners with diverse stakeholders to bring science-based responses to food, energy, and the environment.

MSU enjoys a park-like campus with outlying research facilities and natural areas. The campus is located in the city of East Lansing, adjacent to the state capital city of Lansing. The Lansing metropolitan area has a diverse population of approximately 450,000. Local communities have excellent school systems and place a high value on education. The University is proactive about its obligations under the ADA, and provides individual accessibility plans to students and employees with disabilities. Michigan State University is also proactive in exploring opportunities for employment for dual career families, both inside and outside the University, and respects all family forms. Information about MSU's dual career support can be found at <http://miwin.msu.edu/>. Information about WorkLife at MSU can be found at <http://worklife.msu.edu/>.

Specific Responsibilities

The Chairperson of the Department of Animal Science provides facilitative leadership of the Department in all teaching, research, extension, and outreach programs and is expected to maintain and enhance a creative and productive environment for faculty, staff, and students. The Chairperson serves as the principal representative of the Department with authority and responsibility for administrative decisions. The Chairperson reports directly to the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and interacts with senior leadership of the College, Michigan State University Extension, and MSU AgBio Research on a regular basis.

Key responsibilities of the Chairperson include:

- Provide visionary leadership for creating, advancing, and articulating the mission of the Department and the land-grant mission, promoting national and international prominence;
- Encourage balanced and integrated teaching, research, extension, and outreach programs throughout Michigan, nationally, and internationally;
- Work with faculty to identify existing and emerging opportunities and develop strategic short- and long-range plans for departmental enhancement;
- Recruit outstanding faculty and staff, assign responsibilities, evaluate performance, and promote faculty, student and staff development;
- Support faculty and student achievement and foster a culture of inclusion, collaboration, creativity and mentorship and create a departmental culture wherein diverse faculty, staff, and students thrive;

- Manage and administer Department budgets, including departmental farms, and provide oversight in the procurement of financial and other resources;
- Work cooperatively within the departmental governance structure, which currently includes an associate chair, coordinators of undergraduate and graduate programs, and a department-elected Department Advisory Committee;
- Serve as liaison and advocate for the Department within the larger governance structure of the College and University;
- Communicate and foster relationships with clientele, including departmental alumni, governmental leaders, MSU administrators, other campus units, stakeholders, and professional and disciplinary groups;
- Represent the Department to state and federal agencies, private organizations, partners and collaborators, and key industry groups; and
- Advance fund development at the Department, College, and University levels.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University is committed to achieving excellence by creating and sustaining an accessible and inclusive culture that values cultural and academic diversity. We are an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The College is particularly interested in candidates of all backgrounds who are committed to the principle that academic excellence is achieved through open access and proactive inclusion.

Salary and Benefits

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications. MSU offers a generous benefits package (details at <http://www.hr.msu.edu>).

How to Apply

To apply, applicants must submit an application at the MSU Human Resources site at <https://jobs.msu.edu> (Posting #4833) and upload two documents: 1) a resume/CV and 2) a cover letter describing your interest in the position with an emphasis on your experience and philosophical approaches to achieving a culture of diversity and inclusion. At the end of the cover letter, please also submit names and contact information for three references who are familiar with your work and leadership skills. Letters are not initially required, but these individuals may be immediately approached for additional information. HR link. Review of the applications will begin March 2017 and the search will remain open until the position is filled.

For more information on this position, please contact the Search Committee Chair:

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