A research associate is sought to work with scientists in the Department of Animal Science and with Extension Educators across the state of Michigan to provide support to on-going programs, particularly those related to sow housing and swine behavior and genetics. This position will collaborate with and support Extension Educators working with Michigan producers experiencing, transitioning to, or considering alternative housing for gestating sows. Support will include using existing software to evaluate group sow housing options and authoring supporting materials to improve productivity and welfare within alternative sow housing systems. The applicant will also work with scientists conducting an on-going applied research project studying the genetic background of social behavior of pigs at different ages, including during mixing. The candidate’s contribution to this project will include innovative design and conducting of surveys of industry personnel to determine needs for educational materials addressing topics related to swine behavior and authoring scientific and extension publications from results of these surveys. In addition, on-farm animal work for the on-going genetics and behavior project will be necessary.

Qualifications:
The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. in Animal Science or closely related field with strong training and background in swine behavior or genetics. The candidate must have the ability to work with scientists and Extension Educators working across these topic areas. The successful applicant must have excellent communication skills, be able to work collaboratively across a diverse group of scientists, students and extension educators, and be adept in learning new skills. Possession of survey development and analytical skills is also highly desirable.

Position Length, Salary & Benefits:
- The position will be for 2 years.
- Salary will be commensurate with previous postdoctoral experience ($45,000-$55,000).
- Health insurance benefits are also included.

Review of applications will begin on June 15, 2015
- Interested candidates should submit the following materials: 1) a letter stating interests and goals, 2) a current CV, 3) copies of PhD transcripts, and 4) contact information for three references.
  - After review of these materials, select candidates will be invited to interview at MSU.
- Apply for position at https://jobs.msu.edu. Posting #1324

Questions regarding the position can be directed to Dr. Siegfried (siegfried@msu.edu).

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential.
The University actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities.