

Professor and Head

Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

Departmental Mission

The Oklahoma State University Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management conducts interdisciplinary research, instruction, and extension education to address the sustainable management and conservation of the fishery, forest, rangeland, and wildlife resources of Oklahoma and beyond.

Description

Oklahoma has unique natural resources that include large tracts of open prairie and productive forest ecosystems. The landscape is dominated by private lands that are primarily managed for agriculture but there is an increasing appreciation of the economic potential of the state's unique natural resources. This newly formed Department will be recognized as the source for cutting-edge research, quality instruction, and effective outreach to students, landowners, managers, and public agencies of Oklahoma and beyond. The Department Head is responsible for the administration of teaching (undergraduate and graduate), research, and extension programs; coordination of departmental programs in the Division, University, and State; and maintenance of good working relationships with administrators, other departments, outside agencies, agricultural and natural resources interest groups, and professional organizations. The Department Head administers state, national, and international programs of the department and is administratively accountable to the Vice President, who is also the Dean and Director, of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (DASNR).

The newly formed department consists of 25 faculty members with expertise in the ecology and management of forests, rangelands, wildlife, and fisheries. The department has strong undergraduate, M.S., and Ph.D. programs in natural resource ecology and management, and faculty participate in several interdisciplinary programs with a strong affiliation with other departments, such as botany, zoology, entomology, plant and soil sciences, agricultural economics, geography, horticulture and landscape architecture, environmental sciences, and biosystems and agricultural engineering.

The Department's main office is located in Agricultural Hall on the OSU campus. The Oklahoma Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit is a part of the department and currently includes three adjunct faculty members. Teaching faculty members have access to university classrooms, as well as two classrooms and one instructional lab dedicated to the department. Research facilities include numerous laboratories in Agricultural Hall and the Noble Research Center, two greenhouses, and several facilities supporting the maintenance of research and extension programs. Seventeen research and extension stations throughout Oklahoma are available, including three stations focused mostly on natural resource ecology and management. These facilities are supplied and funded by the Oklahoma Agriculture Experiment



Oklahoma State University

Station (OAES) and OSU. In addition to activities on OSU and OAES land, faculty members have research and extension relationships with private land owners, state agencies, and non-profit organizations.

Responsibilities

- (1) Provide visionary leadership in the establishment and periodic review of Department objectives and the direction, scope, priorities, and implementation of teaching, research, and extension programs.
- (2) Administer the human, fiscal, and physical resources to best achieve the Department's goals and objectives within established DASNR and University guidelines. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Allocating available funds within the Department and encouraging generation of outside grants and resources.
 - Allocating departmental facilities.
 - Assigning workloads.
 - Evaluating performance for promotion, tenure, and salary decisions.
 - Recruiting new personnel.
 - Maintaining a climate of harmonious and productive working relationships among faculty, staff, students, and clientele.
- (3) Promote the Department's programs and needs. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Reviewing the resource requirements of the Department's programs and requesting and justifying additional personnel, space, funding, and/or equipment as warranted.
 - Assuming a major role in developing cooperative research with other research organizations in universities, government, and industry.
 - Assuming a major role in recruiting and retaining undergraduate and graduate students.
 - Creating a development plan to bring additional outside sources of funding to the department for scholarships, recruitment, facility improvement, and other teaching, research, and extension needs.
- (4) Serve as the principal departmental representative to promote and support natural resource disciplines with the University, government agencies, industry, professional societies, and organizations.
- (5) Promote the coordination of departmental programs with related natural resource and interdisciplinary programs within the Division, University, State, and Nation.
- (6) Establishing and executing procedures for publicizing the Department's accomplishments in teaching, research, and extension.
- (7) Strongly advocate and fully support the mission of the land-grant university with respect to teaching, research, and extension.

Qualifications

- (1) An earned doctorate in a natural resource ecology and management discipline, including, but not limited to, forestry, range, wildlife, and fisheries.
- (2) An understanding of the land-grant mission and the importance of that mission to the people of Oklahoma and beyond.
- (3) A distinguished record of scholarly achievement in teaching, research, extension, or administration that will qualify the individual to be tenured at the rank of Professor in the Department.
- (4) Strong leadership skills and a demonstrated ability to relate well to people, inspire creativity and cooperation in others, delegate responsibilities, and motivate team approaches to problem solving.
- (5) Effective managerial skills and documented experience in defining organizational objectives, strategic planning, managing fiscal resources, and generating new resources.
- (6) Ability to speak and write clearly and to represent the Department in relation to the University, industry, and government.
- (7) Strong commitment to faculty, staff, and student development.
- (8) Willingness and ability to take responsible risks and make timely decisions.

Employment Conditions

The position will be filled by February 1, 2007, or as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications.

Nomination and Application Procedure

The Search and Screening Committee encourages nominations and direct applications. Nominations should include the name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the nominee.

- Individuals applying should submit a professional résumé and letter of application that include qualifications, previous professional responsibilities and achievements, administrative philosophy, and how these relate to the Department Head position.
- Applicants should provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of five references the committee may contact for additional information. References should be knowledgeable about the qualities that make the applicant well suited for the responsibilities described in this announcement. References will not be contacted prior to telephone authorization from the applicant.
- Formal review of applications will begin 1 December, 2006, and continue until a suitable applicant is identified. Women and members of other under-represented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Nominations, applications, and questions should be addressed to:

NREM Department Head Search
and Screening Committee
Room 127 Noble Research Center
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078-3033
Immediate inquiries may be made by calling
405-744-5643
Facsimile transmissions may be made at
405-744-6039
Electronic mailing: jonathan.edelson@okstate.edu.

Oklahoma State University _____

Oklahoma State University is the state's comprehensive, land-grant university. Founded in Stillwater in 1890, OSU now has campuses in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Okmulgee. Faculty and Staff. About 1,300 full-time faculty are employed on all OSU campuses. Full-time staff number is approximately 3,300. Enrollment. The total enrollment for all campuses

exceeds 27,000, with more than 20,500 on the Stillwater Campus. Graduates. More than 170,700 bachelor's, master's, doctoral, professional, and associate degrees have been granted since the first six graduates in 1896. A total of 3,625 degrees were granted in the 2005-2006 academic year. Degrees. The University offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in nearly 200 fields, as well as the professional DVM and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degrees. Specialist in Education degrees are offered in selected fields. Operating Budget. The total operating budget from all agencies in the 2005-2006 fiscal year was \$520 million.

Equal Employment Opportunity _____

Applicants will be considered without discrimination for any non-merit reasons such as race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. Oklahoma State University and the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources are an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer committed to multicultural diversity.