

Research Associate in the Office of Agriculture and Urban Programs, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, The State University of New Jersey

The Office of Agriculture and Urban Programs at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, seeks candidates for a research associate to assist in development of research, programs, and information dissemination for the Office of Agriculture and Urban Programs (OAUP).

OAUP supports academic and outreach efforts that connect urban and suburban communities with agriculture in order to enhance the economy, landscape and culture of New Jersey. The office serves as an intellectual meeting place for faculty, staff, and the larger community to come together around research and collaborative projects in the area of urban agriculture. Working with academic programs from multiple disciplines in SEBS and Rutgers at large, the OAUP connects students with farmers and communities seeking to develop and expand urban agricultural endeavors. The OAUP works closely with Rutgers Cooperative Extension to connect the resources of the University to the larger community through action research and outreach.

Under the direction of the Dean of Agriculture and Urban Programs, the research associate is expected to work independently and collaboratively. The ideal candidate should have previous experience in urban agriculture and knowledge about the New Jersey urban and agricultural context. The candidate must be able to conduct independent research that includes a mixture of quantitative and qualitative methods. He or she should have strong research and analytical skills, good communication and networking skills, and be able to convey information to both scholarly and general audiences in multiple media formats (journal, website, public relation pieces, etc.). He or she may be responsible for conducting surveys and in-depth case studies of urban agricultural efforts in New Jersey, assist in development of peer-reviewed articles, grant proposals, development of website material, and public outreach related to research. The person will be responsible for organizing meetings, symposia, and activities, including the New Jersey Youth Institute of the World Food Prize, which is an annual event that brings high school students and teachers to the campus. He or she will work closely with Rutgers Cooperative Extension faculty and staff throughout the state, as well as with departments, faculty, and students. The candidate must be able to supervise and instruct undergraduate and graduate students working on a range of design, planning, and programming projects associated with urban agriculture. He or she should be comfortable developing curricula associated with urban agriculture and work with a range of disciplines. The research associate will be expected to participate in appropriate office, school and university functions.

Qualifications

Candidate must have completed bachelor's degree. An advanced degree that demonstrates knowledge of agriculture and urban communities is preferred; this could be from a range of disciplines. The Research Associate should be proficient in GIS, Excel, PhotoShop, and

InDesign. He or she will be responsible for the ongoing website development of the Office website.

Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, disability, marital status or veteran status in any student program or activity administered by the University, or with regard to admission or employment.

Process

The job has been posted to HERC.

Active review of materials will begin July 31 and continue until the position is filled. The successful candidate is anticipated to begin on Sept. 1, 2015. Candidates should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, personal statement, and names and contact information of three references by mail or electronically to:

Laura Lawson, Dean
Office of Agriculture and Urban Programs
c/o Department of Landscape Architecture
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
93 Lipman Drive
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8524

ljlawson@sebs.rutgers.edu