

Integrative Researcher and Designer Position

Mission

The Integrative Research Division (IRD) at Andropogon Associates is a complementary and multi-disciplinary group of research and design students and professionals whose mission is to promote sustainable design and adaptive learning in environmental design through post-occupancy and case study research and outreach.

History

*“While sustainability is a goal, no one yet knows how to achieve it. The act of sustainable planning and design is a **heuristic process**: that is, one in which we learn by doing, by carefully observing and recording the changing conditions and consequences of our actions while focusing on the long-term goals.” – Carol Franklin¹*

Although embedding the best, most recent scientific knowledge into our landscape practice has always been a critical step in Andropogon’s design process, the IRD enables us to rigorously review past and present landscape interventions in order to integrate new knowledge in landscape design. With 4 decades of past work, Andropogon has a unique resource that can serve as research subjects for investigations which seek knowledge about best practices in sustainable environmental design.

Services

The IRD range of services and research activities include:

- Post Occupancy Evaluations and Case Studies
- Environmental Monitoring
- Social Monitoring
- Experimental Design
- Landscape Monitoring Protocols
- Adaptive Landscape Management Programs
- Public Outreach and Presentations
- Grant Writing and Technical Writing
- SITES Documentation

I. Program Purpose

The IRD is seeking a full-time Integrative Researcher and Designer to support research efforts being conducted through the IRD and/or new research projects proposed by the candidate.

This position focuses on research tasks related to specific on-going projects in order to advance the firm’s understanding of performance-based landscape and building systems. New project proposals will also be considered. Research tasks will include monitoring stormwater management performance, water sampling and testing, soil sampling and testing, plant performance, biodiversity, observation of on-going landscape maintenance activities, and coordination with other academic and professional research team members.

Position Requirements:

Candidates shall have a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering, biology, or related environmental science with a familiarity in horticulture, soil science, field ecology, and statistical analysis. Candidates will also have a degree in landscape

¹ Fostering Living Landscapes. Ecological Design and Planning, Thompson, George F. and Steiner, Frederick R., Editors, (New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1997).

architecture or horticultural design. Strong technical writing skills and general field experience; including plant, insect and bird identification; are preferred. The candidate must possess strong analytical and problem-solving skills; be comfortable and skilled testing hypotheses; have knowledge of environmental sampling techniques; experienced in literature reviews and research writing; be able to work independently, and have a love of the outdoors.

Previous coursework or experience in or related to systematic botany, microbiology, ornithology, entomology, and microscopy is helpful, but not necessary. Candidates with both academic and/or professional experience in environmental sciences and landscape architecture are ideal, but not required. Graduates students and emerging professionals are strongly encouraged to apply.

Position Details:

- Pay: Salary, commensurate with experience
- Location: Philadelphia
- Start Date: July, 2015

To apply, please submit the following:

- Letter of interest, including availability
- Sample of technical writing and portfolio
- 3 references (name, position, email, phone number)
- Email materials to careers@andropogon.com
- Please put "Research Position" in subject line of email
- No Phone calls please