

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Position Announcement

November 16, 2007

POSITION:

District Director, University of Nebraska Panhandle Research and Extension Center, and Panhandle Extension District.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

General:

The District Director provides administrative leadership for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Panhandle Research and Extension Center (PHREC) and the 17 counties that comprise the Panhandle Extension District, on behalf of UNL Extension and the Agricultural Research Division in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) at UNL. PHREC includes the district office in Scottsbluff, the Scotts Bluff Agricultural Laboratory, the Sioux Experimental Range and the Panhandle Research Feedlot near Scottsbluff, and the High Plains Agricultural Laboratory near Sidney. The District Director is responsible for development and delivery of relevant, effective, timely research and extension education programs for constituents. It is anticipated the District Director will be seen as a community and regional leader in the Panhandle District.

Specific responsibilities include:

1. Lead planning efforts to strategically position the IANR as the premier provider of research and extension education in the Panhandle District.
2. Develop and support strategic partnerships with public and private organizations to address emerging opportunities, minimize duplication and enhance effectiveness.
3. Lead efforts to expand budgetary, human and capital resources available to the district.
4. Lead faculty and staff recruitment, development and retention.
5. Be responsible for all financial and budgetary activities in the district.
6. Manage the use, development and maintenance of district facilities.
7. Promote district and university program accomplishments to elected officials, decision-makers, university officials and the public.
8. Be responsible administratively to the deans and directors of UNL Extension and the Agricultural Research Division, and the NU Vice President/IANR Harlan Vice Chancellor.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Doctoral degree required. Demonstrated understanding of extension education, research and leadership is required. Experience in a land-grant university is preferred. Demonstrated ability to relate to faculty, staff, clientele/general public is essential, along with a record of positive leadership, administrative capabilities and communication skills. Must possess a record of scholarly accomplishments in extension and/or research at the university level or relevant industry or government experience. It is required that these professional experiences be sufficient to support appointment as a tenured, full professor in one of IANR's academic units.

SALARY/BENEFITS:

Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. The University of Nebraska offers a benefits package that makes available group life, health, disability insurance and family coverage programs to the employee; TIAA/CREF and/or Fidelity Investment Fund retirements plans; excellent vacation and sick leave plans; and staff and dependent tuition remission.

NOMINATIONS/APPLICATIONS:

Written nominations should be submitted to the Co-Chairs of the Search Advisory Committee at the following address:
Dr. Elbert Dickey and Dr. Don Adams, Search Advisory Committee co-chairs,
c/o Office of the NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor,
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln,
P. O. Box 830708, 202 Agricultural Hall,
Lincoln, NE 68583-0708.

Interested parties making application should access the web site: <http://employment.unl.edu>, search for requisition number 070815 and complete the faculty academic administrative information form. Complete applications should include a letter of application; curriculum vitae; and contact information (mailing address, phone number and e-mail address if available) for three professional references and should be submitted electronically.

Review of applications will begin Friday, January 18, 2008, and continue until the position is filled, or the search is closed.

INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (established in 1973 by the Nebraska State Legislature to give added emphasis to agriculture and the management of natural resources in Nebraska) serves the people of Nebraska in the four-fold mission of teaching, research, extension and service. Commonly referred to as "IANR," the Institute is administered by the Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Natural Resources and has faculty and staff located throughout the State. IANR faculty and staff have appointments in the following divisions: **Agricultural Research Division, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, College of Education and Human Sciences** (research and extension), and **UNL Extension**. Each division is administered by a Dean or Director. The Institute is comprised of 15 academic departments, four regional research and extension centers, several interdisciplinary centers and program units. The IANR Vice Chancellor holds the Vice President title in the University of Nebraska system and is also administratively responsible for the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis. Visit the IANR web site at www.ianr.unl.edu.

PANHANDLE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER AND PANHANDLE EXTENSION DISTRICT

The University of Nebraska Panhandle Research and Extension Center (www.panhandle.unl.edu) serves as the District Headquarters for the Agricultural Research Division, the UNL Extension Division, and other Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources activities. The Panhandle Research and Extension Center is headquartered in the 70,000 square foot Elliott Building, which provides faculty and staff offices, research laboratories, greenhouses, a multimedia computer lab, a multimedia development center and numerous meeting rooms. Communication technology includes both Ethernet and wireless networks, extensive server capacity, interactive videoconferencing, and satellite technology.

Land resources include the Scotts Bluff Ag Lab (155 acres of irrigated cropland at the PHREC headquarters and 240 acres of irrigated cropland near Mitchell); the Panhandle Research Feedlot (expanded to 102 pens in 2006) northwest of Scottsbluff; the High Plains Ag Lab near Sidney (710 acres of rain-fed cropland and 1,600 acres of crested wheatgrass pasture); and the Sioux Experimental Range (800 acres of native grass) northwest of Scottsbluff.

The Panhandle Research and Extension Center is staffed with 18 District Specialists (most with joint research and extension appointments) who hold academic appointments in their respective campus departments. These Specialists represent 18 different disciplines making teamwork the platform for our clientele-driven programming. The unit is also served by 45 support staff providing clerical and technical assistance. Extension programming is delivered to the 17 counties of the District by 28 Extension professionals. Extension Educators and Assistants are distributed across the region and work collaboratively with other county, district and state personnel to provide timely and innovative extension education programs.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

The Twin Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering are located along the North Platte River in the center of Scotts Bluff County, the fifth most populous county in the State. Approximately 40,000 people reside in the county and over 24,000 live in Scottsbluff/Gering. Regional West Medical Center with 80 physicians is the largest employer and one of only three Level II trauma centers in the State. The community is the regional center for retail, distribution, health care, agribusiness, and governmental agencies (www.scottsbluffgering.net). Twin Cities Development conducts an aggressive economic development effort focused on the development of new businesses and new jobs (www.tcdne.org). Scottsbluff-Gering has an excellent educational system with ten public elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. There are also two private elementary schools and an alternative high school. Higher education includes the University of Nebraska Medical Center-College of Nursing, Western Nebraska Community College, and outreach programs from Chadron State College and other community colleges via distance technology. The West Nebraska Arts Center, the Midwest Theater and Theatre West Productions host an array of cultural events throughout the year. South of Gering, the Wildcat Hills offers access to breathtaking scenery, hiking, hunting and fishing on state-owned recreational and wildlife management areas. Northeast of Scottsbluff is the Lake Minatare State Recreation Area with many outdoor activities. Other recreation facilities are a recently-completed 12-field soccer complex, three golf courses, a paved recreational trail system, and many public parks (www.visitscottsbluff.com). An outstanding YMCA serves Scottsbluff and the surrounding communities. Scottsbluff is home to the Riverside Zoo, a 23-acre zoological park for family entertainment and education. The area is noted for its rich historical heritage with Scotts Bluff National Monument, Chimney Rock, and the Oregon/Mormon Trails located nearby. The Twin Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering are located along the North Platte River in the center of Scotts Bluff County, the fifth most populous county in the State. Approximately 40,000 people reside in the county and over 24,000 live in Scottsbluff/Gering. Regional West Medical Center with 80 physicians is the largest employer and one of only three Level II trauma centers in the State. The community is the regional center for retail, distribution, health care, agribusiness, and governmental agencies (www.scottsbluffgering.net). Twin Cities Development conducts an aggressive economic development effort focused on the development of new businesses and new jobs (www.tcdne.org). Scottsbluff-Gering has an excellent educational system with ten public elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. There are also two private elementary schools and an alternative high school. Higher education includes the University of Nebraska Medical Center-College of Nursing, Western Nebraska Community College, and outreach programs from Chadron State College and other community colleges via distance technology. The West Nebraska Arts Center, the Midwest Theater and Theatre West Productions host an array of cultural events throughout the year. South of Gering, the Wildcat Hills offers access to breathtaking scenery, hiking, hunting and fishing on state-owned recreational and wildlife management areas. Northeast of Scottsbluff is the Lake Minatare State Recreation Area with many outdoor activities. Other recreation facilities are a recently-completed 12-field soccer complex, three golf courses, a paved recreational trail system, and many public parks (www.visitscottsbluff.com). An outstanding YMCA serves Scottsbluff and the surrounding communities. Scottsbluff is home to the Riverside Zoo, a 23-acre zoological park for family entertainment and educational. The area is noted for its rich historical heritage with Scotts Bluff National Monument, Chimney Rock, and the Oregon/Mormon Trails located nearby.

The University of Nebraska is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action and equal opportunity and is responsive to the needs of dual career couples. We assure accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; contact Linda Arnold at phone: 402-472-3802 or e-mail: larnold1@unl.edu for assistance. It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation. AA/EEO details may be secured by contacting the Office of Equity, Access and Diversity Programs, 128 Canfield Administration Building, P. O. Box 88043, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68588-0747, or by phoning 402-472-3417. Employment eligibility verification is required for all new hires pursuant to the Immigration and Control Act of 1986.