POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT #00012893

Title: ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR – PLANT PATHOLOGY

Location: Citrus Research and Education Center
University of Florida
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
Lake Alfred, Florida  33850

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: Review of application materials will begin on June 21, 2007 and will continue until the position is filled.

Duties and Responsibilities
This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 70% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) and 30% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) available in the Citrus Research and Education Center, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit. The incumbent is expected to provide leadership for the statewide citrus pathology extension team. The principal responsibility will be to develop and implement management strategies to combat citrus canker and citrus greening, considered among the most important citrus diseases worldwide. The pathologist in this position will be expected to coordinate statewide programs to provide training and information to clients on scouting for disease incidence, monitoring disease spread, use of suppression tactics, and integration of disease management into an overall IPM and production management system. The research component of this position provides an opportunity to develop an extramurally funded program to address the primary citrus diseases, their movement, and the development of management tools. Among the diseases that can be targeted are the fungal and bacterial diseases of fruit and foliage as well as systemic, decline diseases. Significant opportunities exist to conduct cooperative, interdisciplinary research on these pathosystems. Tenure will accrue in the Department of Plant Pathology. The faculty member will participate actively in undergraduate education and graduate education by chairing graduate committees, serving on graduate committees, supervising thesis and dissertation research, supervising undergraduate research, and publishing the results with his/her graduate students. The faculty member will seek contract and grant funding actively to support his/her program. All IFAS faculty are expected to demonstrate commitment and responsibility to the three functions of the Land Grant mission.

Qualifications
An earned doctorate in Plant Pathology or a closely related discipline is required. Postdoctoral experience is desirable. Previous experience with citrus pathogens is also desirable. Candidates

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should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and procurement of extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

**Background Information:**

**BACKGROUND:** The Florida citrus industry is one of the world’s largest fruit industries, and citrus is the second most important agricultural crop in the state (620,000 acres; on-tree value exceeding one billion dollars). Business consolidation, pest and disease organism introductions, environmental concerns, regulatory issues, and steady population growth within the state present the Florida citrus industry with many challenges.

The Florida Citrus Industry Research Coordinating Council (FCIRCC) and the industry at large have identified citrus disease priorities that are critical to the industry and that the successful candidate would be expected to address during development of their program. Work on these projects, some of which are outlined above, could be supported by a variety of state and industry funding mechanisms.

**OTHER INFORMATION:** The CREC is an internationally recognized center with research, extension, and teaching programs in agricultural and biological engineering, horticulture, citrus genetics and breeding, entomology and nematology, plant pathology, physiology and biochemistry, soil and water science, and food science. The plant pathology faculty at CREC is comprised of 8 faculty members with programs ranging from fundamental to applied programs with viral, bacterial and fungal pathogens. The CREC has a staff of approximately 240, comprised of 42 faculty members with the University of Florida and Florida Department of Citrus. Other faculty involved with citrus are located at the main campus in Gainesville, other Research and Education Centers and IFAS’ state-wide extension offices.

The CREC is located in central Florida, about 125 miles south of the University of Florida’s main campus, 45 miles southwest of Orlando, and 50 miles east of Tampa. In the Lake Alfred vicinity are recreational facilities, modern schools, excellent health care, a 2-year community college, and two other public universities. See the CREC web page at [http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu).

The University of Florida ([http://www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu)) is a Land-Grant and Sea-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 48,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences ([http://ifas.ufl.edu](http://ifas.ufl.edu)) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences ([http://cals.ufl.edu](http://cals.ufl.edu)), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station ([http://research.ifas.ufl.edu](http://research.ifas.ufl.edu)), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service ([http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu](http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu)), the College of Veterinary Medicine ([http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu](http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu)), and encompasses 15 academic departments and the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, 9 interdisciplinary centers, 13 research and educational centers throughout the state, and Cooperative Extension units in each of Florida's 67 counties and the Seminole Tribe. The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 3400 people, which includes approximately 950 faculty and 2450 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation’s largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural
Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

**Employment Conditions**
This position is available June, 2007 and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

**Nominations and Applications**
Both nominations and applications are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee.

Individuals wishing to apply should submit the following materials:
- Letter of application that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above;
- Complete vita (which includes statement of current position and responsibilities);
- Official transcripts of all academic training (transcripts must be sent directly from the institution to the address below);
- Names and contact information of four references who may be asked for letters of recommendation;

Review of application materials will begin on June 21, 2007 and will continue until a suitable applicant is identified. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

**Contact Information and Application and Nomination Submission Information**

Please refer to Position #00012893
Dr. James H. Graham,
Chair Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida, IFAS
Citrus Research and Education Center
700 Experiment Station Road
Lake Alfred, FL 33850

Phone: (863) 956-1151 ext. 1297
FAX: (863) 956-4631
E-mail: jhg@crec.ifas.ufl.edu

_The University of Florida is an equal opportunity and equal access employer. The “government in the sunshine” laws of Florida require that all documents relating to the search process, including letters of application, nomination, and reference, except transcripts, be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation._

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