Associate Dean for Extension and Director of OSU Extension
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
The Ohio State University

The Ohio State University invites applications and nominations for the position of Associate Dean and Director of OSU Extension in in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). The Associate Dean serves as a member of the senior leadership team of CFAES at The Ohio State University. Reporting to the Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Dean, the Associate Dean works collaboratively with other members of the CFAES leadership team (especially the Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Education) to support an integrated strategy across mission areas of research, teaching and Extension.

Responsibilities

The Associate Dean and Director will bring energy, creativity and vision toward advancing Extension’s mission and more broadly outreach and engagement efforts that support the college’s strategic plan. The position requires visionary leadership to ensure Extension is not only meeting the current needs of Ohioans but is preparing to meet future needs, as well. More broadly, the Associate Dean and Director will inspire engagement and outreach efforts across the college that is meaningful and impactful to current and new stakeholders. To be successful, the Associate Dean and Director must be skillful in building relationships with leadership colleagues, faculty and staff, volunteers, stakeholders, and decision-makers.

The Associate Dean and Director is a member of a team that is collectively responsible for the establishment of programmatic priorities, which enables CFAES to fulfill statutory responsibilities related to research, instruction, and Extension through work accomplished at all of its locations. Program priorities are established in conjunction with various stakeholder groups comprised of individuals who are directly impacted by the work of the College.

The Associate Dean and Director is responsible for the stewardship of federal, state, and local funds allocated to the College for the purpose of supporting OSU Extension. The Associate Dean and Director establishes policies and expectations for the use of these funds college-wide and monitors the performance of units to which these funds are allocated.

The mission of OSU Extension is to “create opportunities for people to explore how science-based knowledge can improve social, economic, and environmental conditions.” This mission encompasses non-formal teaching and as well as processes that engage individuals outside of the university in efforts to co-create solutions to contemporary problems. OSU Extension also has a responsibility for developing and mobilizing human capital across the state of Ohio through leadership development programs that engage Extension volunteers, other community leaders, and OSU alumni.
OSU Extension also serves as the conduit for two-way interaction between the broader campus and communities across Ohio. Much of the relationship with the broader campus is facilitated through the OSU Office of Outreach and Engagement.

Specific responsibilities of the Associate Dean include the following:

- Provide leadership in carrying out the vision, mission, and values of OSU Extension within the context of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and in cooperation with OARDC and Academic Programs.
- Lead ongoing and periodic assessment activities to ensure that OSU Extension remains relevant to the needs of Ohioans.
- Promote the adoption of best practices related to Extension, engagement and outreach. Ensure that programs are of high quality and produce their intended outcomes.
- Ensure that OSU Extension implements CFAES policies related to Human Resources, Finance, Marketing and Communications, Advancement, Government Relations, and Information Technology. Establish and monitor adherence to Extension-specific policies.
- Partner with the Office of Government Relations to establish priorities for investment in OSU Extension by local, state, and federal government. Participate in visits with elected officials as requested or appropriate.
- Establish priorities for private fund development in partnership with the CFAES office of Advancement. Participate in visits with prospective donors and assist in the stewardship of current donors.
- Provide oversight of the expenditure of federal Smith-Lever 3(b)(c) capacity funds as well as Cooperative Extension funds received by the State of Ohio. Also provide oversight of funds provided by the Ohio Legislature and cooperating Ohio counties in support of OSU Extension.
- Identify priorities for and plan the use of federal and state Extension funds across various units of the college and to various colleges across the campus.
- Participate as member of the Vice President’s Cabinet.
- Represent OSU Extension and CFAES to internal and external constituencies as requested or appropriate.
Represent OSU Extension as a member of the North Central Extension Association (NCEA) and National Extension Directors Association (NEDA).

Lead innovation within OSU Extension, particularly as it related to operations, programming, and utilization of technology.

Provide leadership for and bolster the scholarship of engagement for any aspect of outreach and engagement, in and out of the OSU Extension system.

Convene regular meetings of the Extension Executive Team and Extension Administrative Cabinet.

Provide effective supervision to Extension leaders and support staff who will assist in carrying out the vision, mission, and values of OSU Extension.

Initiate regular meetings with direct reports which lead to the development of strategic and short-term goals. Monitor progress toward those goals.

Promote a culture of inclusivity and support efforts to build a diverse workforce and client base.

**Qualifications**

Candidates should have a doctoral degree in a discipline related to CFAES academic disciplines, with a distinguished record of scholarship and administration, and be eligible to qualify for an appointment as full professor with tenure in the Department of Extension or an academic department/school within the college. Candidates should have significant experience and demonstrable skills in leading and managing progressive change in complex environments such as exists within a modern land-grant university. Candidate must demonstrate ability to build positive, productive relationship with external stakeholders and policy-makers. Candidates should have budget and personnel management experience, and preference will be given to those candidates with leadership experience in Extension, engagement or outreach.

**About the College**

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University offers a collaborative environment; consistent support from industry and government; and nationally and internationally respected colleagues. CFAES is engaged across three campuses: the Columbus campus, the Wooster campus (focusing on research and teaching including our two-year technical school, OSU Agricultural Technical Institute), and the
statewide campus (engaging Ohio citizens across all 88 counties through Ohio State Extension offices and 11 outlying research stations/field labs).

CFAES provides essential research, education and public outreach in support of our mission – we sustain life. CFAES does this with the support of its over 400 faculty, 1,400 staff, and 3,700 undergraduate and graduate students.

These students take courses and/or conduct research in one or more of the ten academic units in the College:

- Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership
- Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics
- Animal Sciences
- Entomology
- Food Science and Technology
- Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Horticulture and Crop Science
- Plant Pathology
- School of Environment and Natural Resources
- The OSU Agricultural Technical Institute (administered on our Wooster campus)

Ohio State University Extension extends the knowledge resources of CFAES and the broader University to the people of Ohio through an educational process focused on local issues and needs. Supported by an annual budget of approximately $70 million, Ohio State University Extension helps communicate relevant research in a way that improves quality of life for Ohioans. Extension employees are located in all of Ohio’s 88 counties and on The Ohio State University in Columbus.

The Wooster Campus accommodates the Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) and a significant portion of the activities of the state’s agricultural experiment station, The Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC). Scientists in most of the academic units listed above, along with the Food Animal Health Research Program, have been leaders in agricultural research for over a century. It provides more than 4,000 acres for field research in addition to other facilities such as the Secrest Arboretum, the Biomass and Bioproducts Research Center, the Compost Research Center, a rubber processing pilot
plant, weather stations, greenhouses, and one of only two University BSL-3 Ag level research facilities in the US.

The Ohio State Agricultural Institute (ATI) is an associate degree-granting program within the College where students participate in a curriculum that includes general and basic studies, hands-on experience, and a paid industry internship. ATI is the largest institution of its kind in the country, offering 32 programs of study. An increasing number of students complete two years of study at ATI and then transfer to the Columbus Campus to finish a bachelor’s degree.

With a robust research enterprise, the College’s research expenditures for FY 2019 were over $44 million, serving the four grand challenges of sustainability, one-health, the rural-urban interface, and leadership. The College has collaborative partnerships with many academic units across campus leveraging the expertise of the faculty at the University, and has faculty leads for several of the University’s Discovery Themes.

Additional information about the College and strategic plan can be found here:

- [http://cfaes.osu.edu/about-cfaes/college-strategic-plan](http://cfaes.osu.edu/about-cfaes/college-strategic-plan)
- [http://cfaes.osu.edu](http://cfaes.osu.edu)

Additional information about OSU Extension and its vision, mission and values can be found here:

- [https://extension.osu.edu/](https://extension.osu.edu/)
- [https://extension.osu.edu/about/vision-mission-values](https://extension.osu.edu/about/vision-mission-values)

**Application Process**

Nominations and applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but to ensure optimal consideration, please submit application materials including: 1) cover letter addressing how the candidate’s experience and skills match the position requirements; 2) a one to two-page statement of philosophy regarding the candidate’s approach to diversity, equity and inclusion, 3) a curriculum vitae or résumé and 4) a list of three professional references before April 10, 2020.
The Ohio State University is committed to establishing a culturally and intellectually diverse environment, encouraging all members of our learning community to reach their full potential. We are responsive to dual-career families and strongly promote work-life balance to support our community members through a suite of institutionalized policies.

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences recognizes that our strength rests in part on the diversity of our faculty, staff and students. We, therefore, encourage applicants of underrepresented groups whose backgrounds, experiences, knowledge and talents will promote an inclusive culture as diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to our mission.

We are an NSF Advance Institution and a member of the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Higher Education Recruitment Consortium. The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.