



## THE OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (CSS) in the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resources Sciences (CAHNRS) at Washington State University (WSU) seeks a dynamic, motivated, problem-solving leader to join an extraordinary team of faculty members in eastern Washington State. We are seeking to fill the 12-month, permanent tenured/tenure-track (associate professor or professor rank), **Distinguished Endowed Chair in Soil Health for Potato Cropping Systems** beginning on or about July 1, 2021.

Washington State is a global leader in potato production. Backed by a more than \$3 million fund created by potato growers, processors, and supporting industries, this leading scientist will direct research into healthier, more productive soils for the potato industry, addressing the need for a better understanding of how microorganisms and physical and chemical qualities of the soil affect potato nutrition, quality, and yields. The individual hired is also Teaching responsibilities include one advanced course per year in soil science, contributions to other courses as needed, and the supervision of graduate students.

This Distinguished Endowed Chair is located on the WSU main campus in Pullman, with expectations to conduct research in the Columbia Basin area of central Washington. The position reports directly responsible to the Chair of CSS.

## Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

WSU Position #200713

### TITLE:

- Distinguished Endowed Chair, Associate or Professor rank
- 12-month, full-time, tenured/tenure-track position

### LOCATION:

- Washington State University – Pullman Campus

### SALARY:

- Competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience; excellent benefits

### START:

- July 1, 2021; negotiable

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER.

Members of ethnic minorities, women, special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam-era, recently separated veterans, and other protected veterans, persons of disability and/or persons age 40 and over are encouraged to apply.



## WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1890, Washington State University is a comprehensive land-grant university with teaching, research, and extension missions, and one of two research universities in Washington State. WSU is organized into ten academic colleges, the Honors College, and the Graduate School. It has an enrollment of more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students on five campuses (Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, Vancouver, and Everett) with approximately 20,000 students located on the main campus in Pullman, WA. WSU ranks among the top 60 public research universities and is a Carnegie I, Doctoral/Research Extensive University. WSU strongly values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students and seeks to ensure a welcoming community for all. Further information about WSU can be found at: <http://www.wsu.edu>.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

The **Distinguished Endowed Chair in Soil Health for Potato Cropping Systems** will create and lead an internationally recognized research program that is integrated and closely collaborates with growers and industry in the Columbia Basin to develop practical methods, means, and risk management tools to promote soil health and improve potato productivity. The research will improve the efficiency and productivity (yield, disease control, quality, and economic returns) of potato cropping systems by focusing research on soil ecosystems in Columbia Basin potato cropping systems, which includes potatoes, rotation crops with potatoes, and cover crops. The Chair will collaborate with and complement other soil research and extension activities conducted by WSU including the WSU Statewide Soil Health Initiative, and other PNW public and private sector scientists, extension professionals, crop consultants, growers, and processors. In addition, the individual will i) seek and obtain extramural funds to support the program; ii) deliver high quality instruction at the advanced undergraduate or graduate levels; and iii) disseminate information to stakeholders by contributing to extension efforts consistent with program goals, industry interactions, and other research-based outreach and tools.

Recent advances in understanding the soil microbiome interactions with soil and water physical and chemical qualities have opened new research and management opportunities to improve soil health for enhanced production and human nutrition. As a Distinguished Endowed Chair, we seek a leader to join our team of soil scientists, horticulturists, and plant pathologists to enhance not only our understanding but also our ability to manage these qualities and interactions. The individual selected has the opportunity to collaborate and interface with the new Human Nutrition Plant Phenotyping Center to link soil health, crop nutritional attributes, and management tools to improve human nutrition in food crops.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Required:

- Earned Ph.D. degree in soil science, soil microbiology, biogeochemistry, horticulture, plant pathology, or a closely related field by employment start date.
- Demonstrated record of accomplishments commensurate with rank for appointment as associate professor or professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences.

Preferred:

- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with technical and nontechnical audiences in oral, written, and electronic forms;
- Demonstrated leadership in developing and executing an interdisciplinary soil science research program;
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with industry and the crop research community on a local, regional, national, and international scale;
- Demonstrated record of acquiring extramural competitive grant support;
- Knowledge of state-of-the-art techniques applicable to potato soil health research;
- Demonstrated evidence of effective teaching and student mentoring; and
- Demonstrated knowledge and ability to work effectively with individuals and groups of diverse cultures, backgrounds, and ideologies.



### LIFE ON THE PALOUSE

Pullman offers a friendly, small-town atmosphere with a high quality of life and connected community. Located 80 miles south of metropolitan Spokane, Pullman is also a quick drive away from the scenic Idaho panhandle and Moscow Mountain. The rolling hills of the Palouse offer a wide range of outdoor activities and a true four-season climate. The area provides ample opportunity to enjoy the cultural and academic hub of both Washington State University and the University of Idaho, in the neighboring town of Moscow, Idaho. Additionally, Pullman has an excellent public school system and was recently ranked by Bloomberg Business as the best small town in Washington to raise children.

To learn more about the Pullman community, visit:

<http://www.pullmanchamber.com>

## **THE DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND SOIL SCIENCES (CSS).**

Faculty, staff, and students in CSS are committed to improving the long-term sustainability of agricultural systems through research, teaching, and extension. Our department offers M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Crop Science and Soil Science, with 65 graduate students currently enrolled. In addition, we host another 30 graduate students pursuing the M.S. in Agriculture (online) and PhD in Molecular Plant Sciences (in residence) degrees, and the Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture. Undergraduate students can select B.S. programs in Agricultural and Food Systems (with majors in agricultural education; agricultural technology and production management; agricultural and food business economics; and organic and sustainable agriculture) and Integrated Plant Sciences (with majors in agricultural biotechnology; field crop management; fruit and vegetable management; landscape design; and landscape, nursery, and greenhouse management). First-class facilities include a new 30-acre organic farm on the Pullman campus, five dryland agronomy farms within a 100-mile radius of Pullman, and labs and farms at research centers in Mount Vernon, Puyallup, Prosser, and Wenatchee. Partnerships with the USDA Agricultural Research Service, the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the University of Washington and other universities, commodity commissions, the agriculture industry, and family farms result in well-rounded and timely research, successful outreach, and opportunities for student internships. For more information, visit <http://css.wsu.edu>.

## **THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, HUMAN, AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES:**

The College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) at Washington State University is an expansive and diverse college that includes 14 academic units and four research and extension centers distributed across the state. CAHNRS fosters disciplines that serve at the interface of scientific discovery and its application to the advancement of society and improvement of the human experience. Our mission is to provide global leadership in discovering, accessing, and disseminating knowledge that contributes to producing a safe, abundant food and fiber supply; promotes the well-being of individuals, families, and communities; enhances sustainability of agricultural and economic systems; and promotes stewardship of natural resources and ecological systems. CAHNRS personnel embrace the opportunity to fulfill the university's land-grant mission by making groundbreaking research discoveries, by utilizing innovative approaches to teaching and learning, and by delivering relevant, progressive extension programs that synergistically generate outcomes that enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Washington State, as well as for people around the globe. For more information, visit <http://cahnrs.wsu.edu>.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The position is open until filled. Screening of applications begins on April 5, 2021. This position is posted on the WSU Jobs site at <http://www.wsujobs.com>. To apply, please be prepared to submit a detailed letter of application addressing the required and preferred qualifications, a current curriculum vitae, a list of four (4) references (names, mailing and e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers), and a scanned copy of official transcripts. For questions about the position contact: Dr. Lynne Carpenter-Boggs, (509) 335-1553, [lcboggs@wsu.edu](mailto:lcboggs@wsu.edu).

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WSU is committed to excellence through diversity, has faculty friendly policies including a partner accommodation program, and a NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant (see <https://advance.wsu.edu/>). WSU employs only US citizens and lawfully authorized non-US citizens. All new employees must show employment eligibility verification as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Washington State University is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact Human Resource Services: 509-335-4521(v), Washington State TDD Relay Service: Voice Callers: 1-800-833-6384, TDD Callers: 1-800-833-6388, 509-335-1259(f), or [hrs@wsu.edu](mailto:hrs@wsu.edu).

