



NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF
TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE

Human Resources

404 E 7th Street–Ag Hall

Curtis, NE 69025

Direct: 308-367-5252

Fax: 308-367-5203

Email: jgilbert3@unl.edu

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Agricultural Experiential Learning

Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, NE, is seeking candidates for a 12-month, non-tenure leading faculty position as Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Agricultural Experiential Learning starting August 19, 2019. Review of applications will begin on July 29, 2019, and continue until a suitable candidate is identified or the search is closed.

Qualifications:

Requires a masters or doctorate from a regionally accredited institution in an appropriate agricultural field such as animal science, veterinary technology, veterinary medicine, agronomy, agribusiness management, agricultural mechanization, agricultural education or a closely related field. Preferred qualifications are a doctorate in a related agricultural discipline; relevant industry experience; previous college teaching experience; successful experience facilitating student engagement through agricultural teams; and fundraising success.

Primary Goals:

Maximize the use of the college farm as a teaching laboratory to help students develop the technical skills necessary for successful employment in profitable commercial businesses involved in crop production, animal agriculture or veterinary technology. Other college resources to be used for experiential learning may include the college grounds, arboretum, community garden, livestock facilities, and agricultural equipment. Increase experiential learning opportunities for NCTA students and associated stakeholders. Ensure the experiential learning needs of all college programs are addressed appropriately. Serve as the primary college advocate for integrating experiential learning activities into all college academic programs by operating from a college-wide perspective. Increase communication and collaboration when utilizing the resources of the college farm. Maintain a balanced farm budget.

Position Details:

This position is a 12-month faculty assignment with a quarter time teaching assignment and a three-quarter time administrative assignment. The appointment teaching assignment consists of approximately 8 equivalent credit hours (ECH) total during the academic year (for example, four ECH in fall plus four ECH in spring) plus summer session teaching as needed. Appropriate daily farm activities will include frequent assessment of farm operations, approval of expenditures

from the farm budget, coordination of faculty requests for farm-based teaching activities, and prioritization of activities to be conducted by farm employees. The Farm Management Committee will provide general direction for the activities of farm employees, including the activities of the Coordinator of Experiential Learning, through its regular meetings, strategic plan and budgetary allocations. For day-to-day operations, the Coordinator of Experiential Learning reports directly to the Dean. The Farm Manager reports to the Coordinator of Experiential Learning. The NCTA Budget Manager provides accounting and budgetary support for the Coordinator of Experiential Learning. The Associate Dean provides assistance with fiscal oversight and planning.

Duties:

Working within the farm budget, ensure appropriate farm resources are available for high quality experiential learning activities in all college academic programs. Working with Dean's Council and division chairs, coordinate faculty use of NCTA resources to create an integrated farm for teaching purposes, including plants, animals, equipment, facilities and land. Hold monthly farm committee meetings to facilitate communication, input, transparency and effectiveness in farm operations. When consistent with academic needs, maximize the use of academic programs and courses to conduct the activities of the college farm, physical plant, grounds, etc. Examples include the utilization of veterinary technology students to provide routine farm veterinary services when appropriate. To the maximum extent possible, facilitate student involvement in the completion of college farm and physical plant activities. Models of increased student involvement may be found in the practices of work colleges (<http://www.workcolleges.org/>) or at the Ag 450 farm at Iowa State University (<https://www.ag450farm.iastate.edu/>). Work with NU system personnel to ensure access to resources for student skills development and experiential learning opportunities. Off-campus personnel may include CASNR faculty, extension personnel, industry partners, FFA students, or 4-H members. Develop a farm budget with input from all stakeholders. Keep farm expenditures in line with the farm budget. Maintain a positive farm budget balance throughout the year. Advocate for farm needs, including financial resources, equipment, livestock, etc. Coordinate the academic activities of the farm manager and the physical plant manager. Supervise operations of the student herd and the Heifer Link program. Maintain farm biosecurity protocol. Maintain livestock enterprises managed according to standard commercial protocol, including: a cow-calf operation, a cattle feedlot with calves from the cow-calf operation, a hog unit with fewer than five breeding sows and a grow out operation, a small ruminant unit with fewer than 20 sheep and/or goats. Provide support for the management of NCTA horses as needed for student experiential learning in the equine and veterinary technology programs. Accommodate the needs of units with specialized animal needs while ensuring those units are responsible for the care and expenses associated with their animals. Maintain commercial crop production enterprises, including: approximately 250 acres of irrigated row crop production including corn and soybeans, forage production including hay crops, and range management. Work with industry partners to secure resources for experiential learning opportunities. Resources may include feeder pigs, seed, heifers for the heifer link program, equipment, etc.

College Description:

The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is a small, rural, residential two-year college offering programs in agriculture and veterinary technology. NCTA is the only two-year campus in the University of Nebraska system. The college has received significant national recognition for the quality of its academic programs and the success of its graduates. College faculty rely

heavily on skills-based experiential learning activities. Members of the college community celebrate the traditions and lifestyle of the rural Great Plains region.

College resources include extensive agricultural infrastructure such as the college cattle herd, feedlot, horses, small ruminants, cattle processing facilities, meats lab, indoor livestock arena, and associated classrooms and offices. The college farm is immediately adjacent to campus and consists of approximately 250 acres of rangeland and 250 acres of irrigated row crop agriculture. The campus also leases an additional 300 acres of hay ground.

The NCTA veterinary technology program facilities include a clinic, a surgery suite, x-ray rooms, a necropsy laboratory, a clinical pathology laboratory, a teaching amphitheater, and extensive animal holding facilities.

As a college within the University of Nebraska system, NCTA faculty enjoy generous system benefits, including a tuition waiver for 15 credits per year for employees or dependents attending any system university. Two NCTA faculty are currently utilizing this benefit to complete their PhDs.

NCTA faculty are eligible for promotion, with appropriate raises, through traditional academic ranks. As an institution, NCTA does not award tenure. NCTA faculty work closely with our system land grant university, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, located 3 ½ hours to the east. NCTA is located in rural western Nebraska, in the bucolic town of Curtis with a population of approximately 900. The town is 45 minutes south of North Platte, approximately 4 ½ hours east of Denver and the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, and 4 ½ hours west of Omaha. Characteristic of the rural Great Plains ecosystem, the region is largely composed of cattle ranches, irrigated row crop agriculture, and wildlife habitat. The area is known for its abundant turkeys, whitetail deer, mule deer, and a small but growing elk herd.

To apply, go to UNL Employment website, <http://employment.unl.edu> and search for requisition F_190098. Click “Apply for this Job” and complete the faculty form. Attach a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and contact information for three professional references, including phone numbers and email addresses.

The University of Nebraska is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer, which seeks and encourages expression of interest from minorities and groups traditionally under represented.