

## NOTICE OF VACANCY

Title: Assistant/Associate Professor of Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication

Description: 12-month, permanent, full-time, tenure-track/tenured position

Location: Department of Crop and Soil Sciences  
College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences  
Washington State University  
Pullman, Washington

Salary: Competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience; excellent benefits

Start Date: July 1, 2022 (negotiable)

### THE OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (CSS) in the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) at Washington State University (WSU) seeks a dynamic, motivated, and collaborative leader/educator to develop an innovative agricultural and natural resources communication program that aligns with university, student, and industry needs. The position offers an exciting opportunity to develop new courses, as well as a new minor in Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication. The new hire will also build capacity within WSU Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program to effectively communicate information about complex agricultural, food, environmental, and natural resource issues using cutting-edge communication approaches and technologies. Within CSS, the successful applicant will complement existing Human Dimensions faculty who work in the areas of agricultural education, rural sociology, agricultural technology and production management, and systems thinking.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful applicant will be responsible for leading and executing a vision for Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication curriculum and program development. They will work closely and collaboratively with students and faculty in CAHNRS and the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication, as well as with industry representatives and other stakeholders. A critical aspect of this position will be the ability to provide an inclusive environment for all students and collaborate with interdisciplinary and multi-cultural teams.

The successful candidate will develop several new courses to serve as the core curriculum for a new undergraduate minor in Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication. There may be an opportunity to also develop and teach at least one graduate-level course. The expected teaching load will be approximately 2–3 courses per semester. Teaching will focus on strategic communication, digital media production, intercultural communication, and related topics (as deemed appropriate) with an emphasis on agricultural, natural resource, and related sciences. Newly developed courses will complement existing courses in the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication.

The successful candidate will collaborate with faculty in WSU Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program to build capacity in the use of evidence-based communication tools and to enhance stakeholders' understanding of complex agricultural, food, environmental, and natural resource issues. They will work directly with 4-H Extension Coordinators, youth, volunteers, other youth-serving organizations, and other stakeholders to develop and employ innovative and effective communication strategies.

The successful candidate will collaborate with colleagues and stakeholder groups concerned with effective agricultural and natural resources communication at the local, state, and national levels. They will be expected to engage in scholarly activities related to curriculum development, instruction, learning tools, and/or Extension programming. They will also disseminate findings through professional conferences, Extension publications, academic journals, and other channels.

A key strength of the CAHNRS undergraduate degree programs is close engagement with industry to ensure relevance of the curriculum, develop a robust pipeline for student placement, and generate external resources to support the programs. The successful applicant will foster engagement with industry and enhance student learning experience through the development of relevant internship pipelines and career opportunities. The successful candidate will also provide advising support for the Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication minor.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Required:**

- Earned Ph.D. in Agricultural Communication, Environmental or Natural Resources Communication, Science Communication, Communication, or a closely related discipline at the time of hire.
- Demonstrated ability to deliver high-quality undergraduate courses using relevant instructional approaches, pedagogy, and technology.
- Demonstrated potential for effective curriculum development.
- Demonstrated potential for creating outstanding outreach/education programs for a wide diversity of audiences.
- Demonstrated knowledge and ability to work effectively with individuals and groups of diverse cultures, backgrounds, and ideologies.
- Effective written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills.
- For appointment at the Associate rank, applicants must additionally have a history of high-quality instruction, curriculum development, and/or outreach/education program development related to Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication.

### **Preferred:**

- Demonstrated effectiveness in post-secondary curriculum development.
- Evidence of scholarly research activity, publications, and/or extramural funding.
- Experience with Cooperative Extension, especially related to agriculture, natural resources, and/or 4-H youth development.
- Experience in journalism, mass/digital media, public relations, marketing, news and television broadcasting, audio/video production, or a related field.
- Experience in applied agriculture and/or natural resources.

## **DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND SOIL SCIENCES**

Faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (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 100 graduate students currently enrolled. In addition, we host graduate students pursuing an M.S. in 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; Organic and Sustainable Agriculture; and Agriculture and Food Security) and Integrated Plant Sciences (with majors in Agricultural Biotechnology; Field Crop Management; Fruit and Vegetable Management; Landscape, Nursery, and Greenhouse Management; Viticulture and Enology; and Turfgrass Management). Facilities include a 30-acre organic farm on the Pullman campus, five dryland agronomy farms within a 120-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 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 <https://css.wsu.edu/>.

## **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 12 academic units, 3 extension program units, 4 research and extension centers distributed across the state, 13 subject matter centers, and 1 tribal and 39 county extension offices. 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 <https://cahnrs.wsu.edu/>.

## **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 10 academic colleges, the Honors College, and the Graduate School. It has an enrollment of more than 31,000 undergraduate and graduate students on four campuses (Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, and Vancouver) with approximately 21,000 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. For more information, visit <https://wsu.edu/> and <https://wsu.edu/about/facts/>.

## **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: <https://pullmanchamber.com/>.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Screening of applicants begins January 16, 2022 and will continue until the position has been filled. To apply, visit <https://hrs.wsu.edu/jobs/> (position #R-3854). Applicants must attach the following documents to their online application:

- 1) Curriculum vitae;
- 2) Cover letter describing your training, qualifications, and interest in the position;
- 3) Teaching statement (1 page maximum) addressing your experience, philosophy, and pedagogical approaches;
- 4) Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) statement (1 page maximum) describing your past experiences, current interests/activities, and/or future goals to promote a climate that fosters diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- 5) Names and contact information for four professional references.

For questions about the position contact Dr. Jessica Goldberger, Search Committee Chair, at [jgoldberger@wsu.edu](mailto:jgoldberger@wsu.edu).

---

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 veteran, persons of disability and/or persons age 40 and over are encouraged to apply.

WSU employs only U.S. citizens and lawfully authorized non-U.S. citizens. All new employees must show employment eligibility verification as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

WSU 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).