

NOTICE OF VACANCY
Position #116131

Title: Assistant/Associate Professor of Plant Pathology
Location: Washington State University, Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Wenatchee, Washington.
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Washington State University provides health insurance and contributes to the TIAA-CREF retirement plan.
Effective: Negotiable

The Department of Plant Pathology (PIP) at Washington State University (WSU) is seeking to fill a full-time (12 months), research/extension, tenure-track/tenured position in fruit tree pathology at the rank of assistant or associate professor. The successful candidate is expected to develop a nationally and internationally recognized research and extension program leading to the development and adoption of effective approaches for management of pre- and post-harvest diseases of tree fruits grown in Washington State and the Pacific Northwest. The successful candidate will report to the Chair of the Department of Plant Pathology and the Director of the Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center.

Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will be part of a growing tree fruit research team at WSU that will include six endowed chairs over the next seven years funded by the tree fruit producers of Washington State and will have access to state of the art research orchard and the proposed fruit quality research facility. The successful candidate is expected to participate in transdisciplinary teams, collaborate with faculty at WSU as well as with state, federal and industry scientists in the region. Potential research areas may include, but are not limited to: investigation of pre-harvest management practices on post-harvest disease incidence, phyllosphere ecology, epidemiology and disease modeling, population biology and genetics, influence of storage environment on disease development, and development of effective disease control strategies for pre- and post-harvest diseases. The successful candidate is expected to acquire competitive grant funding from national, regional, state, and industry sources. The successful candidate will serve as a member of the tree fruit extension team and be expected to contribute to program development and delivery, and outcome and impact assessment. The person filling this position is expected to mentor and serve as major advisor for students working toward M.S. and Ph.D. degrees and teach at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The successful candidate will also be expected to contribute to student recruitment and retention, and participate in departmental, university, and professional service activities. The successful applicant will be expected to conduct a program of research consistent with the mission of the WSU Agricultural Research Center (<http://arc.wsu.edu>).

Qualifications:

Required.

1. An earned doctorate in plant pathology or related field at the time of hire.
2. Evidence of research productivity commensurate with career level.
3. Ability to develop an original research program addressing the biology and management of plant diseases.

Preferred.

1. Evidence of effective oral, written, and electronic communication skills.

2. Ability to teach and advise students.
3. Demonstrated ability in the application of molecular biology methods to the study of plant pathogens.
4. Ability to communicate with and interact effectively with stakeholder constituencies such as producer associations, agribusinesses, and other organizations and agencies.
5. Evidence of obtaining external funding in the form of competitive grants, gifts and in-kind resources to support programs.

Description of Job Site:

Washington State University (WSU) is a comprehensive land-grant research institution with the main campus located in Pullman, with branch campuses in Spokane, the Tri-Cities (Richland, Pasco and Kennewick), and Vancouver, Washington. There are ten colleges and a graduate school. More than 18,600 undergraduate and graduate students are served by the Pullman campus. WSU offers some 245 fields of study including more than 150 majors plus many minors, options and certificate programs. Bachelor's degrees are available in all major areas, with master's and doctoral degrees available in most. WSU is one of the largest residential universities in the West. The university's web page (www.wsu.edu) offers information about WSU and the surrounding area.

This position is located at the Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (TFREC; www.tfrec.wsu.edu/) in Wenatchee, WA, in one of the principal tree fruit production areas in Washington State. The TFREC is one of several research centers of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-ARS Tree Fruit Research Lab is located on the same campus. Comprehensive research projects are conducted by WSU and USDA collaborating scientists in all phases of orchard culture, pest and disease control, fruit harvesting and handling, fruit maturity, storage, grading and packaging. These programs also include basic science aspects of plant pathology, entomology, plant physiology, soil science, horticulture, economics and biochemistry. Research programs at the TFREC emphasize primarily apples, pears and sweet cherries although some research is conducted on other stone fruits. Production and postharvest research is also conducted in orchards of cooperating growers throughout the major fruit production areas of Washington and in cooperation with fruit packinghouses. The core of the TFREC facilities are the main center campus located in Wenatchee, which includes office, laboratory, and greenhouse space for WSU and USDA scientists. A newly dedicated state-of-the-art research orchard just outside Wenatchee provides field research facilities for these same scientists plus those from the main Pullman campus and other research centers around the state.

The Greater Wenatchee area has a population of approximately 65,000 and straddles the Columbia River in the center of Washington. In addition to excellent primary and secondary schools, Washington State University offers upper-division and graduate-level courses and programs through distance-learning opportunities located on the Wenatchee Valley College campus and the Tree Fruit Research Center. Wenatchee is located on the eastern edge of the Cascade Range, thus providing abundant recreational opportunities. In addition to local attractions, year-round art and cultural events, and a thriving seasonal farmers' market, the City of Seattle and the greater Puget Sound Region lie 150 miles to the west. For more information about Wenatchee and the region visit the chamber of commerce web site www.wenatchee.org.

The tenure unit for this position is the Department of Plant Pathology, which offers one of the most comprehensive plant pathology programs in the country. Faculty are engaged in a wide range of research activities that address biological, molecular, epidemiological, and biotechnological investigations into diverse groups of microorganisms that threaten the sustainability and profitability of

numerous economically important crops. Protecting crops from destructive diseases and ensuring plant health by using environmentally friendly and sustainable strategies are some of the core strengths of our department. Plant pathology faculty are located on the WSU main campus in Pullman and at Research and Extension Centers in Mt. Vernon, Prosser, Puyallup, and Wenatchee and on the campus of the University of Washington in Seattle. Several USDA-ARS scientists hold adjunct faculty appointments in the department. plantpath.wsu.edu

Application Submission Process:

Please apply online via <https://www.wsujobs.com>. The online application must include a cover letter, current curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information for four professional references. The cover letter should address, in distinct sections, all of the required and preferred qualifications for the position (including your areas of expertise), and research interests. Application screening will begin on February 25, 2013 and remain open until filled. For questions about the position, contact Dr. Tim Murray, Search Committee Chair, tim.murray@wsu.edu, 509-335-9541.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER. Members of ethnic minorities, women, special disabled 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.

WSU is committed to excellence through diversity, has faculty friendly policies including a partner accommodation program and an NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant (see <http://www.excelinse.wsu.edu/>).

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

Washington State University is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in their 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, Washington State TDD Relay Service: Voice Callers: 1-800-833-6384; TDD Callers: 1-800-833-6388, 509-335-1259, or hrs@wsu.edu.