

Job Description

Associate Professorship at the Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management

The Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management (INA) at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB) invites applications for one or two associate professorship(s). If only one sufficiently highly qualified applicant is identified, only one applicant will be employed.

The Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management has a total staff of about 100 employees and is responsible for UMB's bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programmes in ecology, natural resource management, renewable energy, nature-based tourism, and forest sciences. Currently, the department has about 300 bachelor and master students and about 50 doctoral students. INA also teaches students in other study programmes at UMB, such as the bachelor's programme in biology. The department's academic staff has a considerable national and international research portfolio, and publishes extensively in scientific journals, books and research reports. For more information, please refer to the department's website: <http://www.umb.no/ina-en/>

Ecology and natural resource management are fundamental areas of research and education at UMB generally and INA specifically. INA covers many research topics, ranging from natural to social sciences. The department's strategic plan for the period 2009-2012 has the following four priority areas:

- Renewable energy – potential and environmental effects
- Climate change – effects, mitigation measures and adaptation
- Conservation and use of natural resources – conflicts and possibilities
- Ecology, biodiversity and conservation biology

We are announcing one or two new position(s) as associate professor to further develop and strengthen the research activity within the department. For this/these position(s) we are seeking candidates who will contribute significantly to strengthen research in areas that already have a strong record at the department.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate(s) is/are expected to participate in the department's activities and responsibilities (research, teaching, outreach). In particular, it is expected that the successful candidate(s) contribute significantly to our research activity within research areas that already have a strong record at the department, through co-operating with other staff members, acquisition of external research funding, supervision of master and PhD students, and publication of research.

The successful candidate(s) will also be responsible for participating in the teaching activity at the bachelor, master, and PhD levels, including supervision of students at all levels. Outreach activities, such as the

participation in the community debate on a scientific basis, is desirable. The successful candidate(s) is/are obliged to take part in administrative duties and to become engaged in INA and UMB.

Qualifications

Applicants must have associate professor qualifications within scientific fields covered by the department. The successful candidate(s) must have a strong research record within research areas where the department has a strong position, in terms of scientific publications and PhD/post doc/researcher positions.

To a large and increasing degree, research depends on external funding. The successful candidate(s) therefore must have experience in initiating, establishing, and implementing externally-funded research projects, and has/have an established, well-developed, national and international network of co-operators. INA encourages cooperation and interaction among staff members, both within the department and among staff members at other departments at UMB. Therefore, it is desirable that the successful candidate(s) has/have the ability to collaborate successfully with research colleagues from other scientific disciplines than her/his own primary discipline.

Assessment of applicants

The suitability of the applicants for the position(s) will be assessed by a comprehensive evaluation of their ability to significantly contribute to research activities within areas where the department already has a strong record and position internationally and/or nationally. Applicants that cannot convincingly document knowledge of the strong research areas of the department, and also cannot convincingly show how they can contribute significantly to strengthen this activity will not be considered in the further process of identifying the successful candidate(s).

Applicants must describe their ambitions for the position in terms of the scientific content and volume of research activities and cooperation with other staff members at the department, and must also outline their ability to significantly contribute to already strong research areas at the department in a text of maximum 3 pages.

The scientific qualifications of suitable (see above) applicants will be evaluated by an independent expert committee that consists of one internal and two or more external members. The main emphasis will be on the volume and quality of the scientific production during the last five years. In addition, the ability of applicants in initiating, acquiring, establishing and implementing externally-funded research projects will be emphasised. Post doctoral experience is desired. The best qualified applicants will be invited for an interview and are also expected to give a trial lecture. The department will perform a comprehensive assessment of the highest-ranked applicants, additionally emphasizing teaching abilities and qualifications, dissemination of research results, creativity, and interpersonal skills. Any information and material that is to be evaluated in the assessment process must be submitted prior to the stated deadline. Each applicant must submit at least two letters of reference and certified copies of transcripts and diplomas electronically with the application.

Persons who already have been evaluated to have professor competency can apply for the position, and will be employed as a professor, if successful.

UMB is an equal opportunity employer and seeks to increase its number of female scientific staff. If two or more candidates are considered to have approximately equal qualifications, preference will be given to the female candidate(s).

Applications must be written in English.
