Open Rank Professor Position in Leadership in Public Science (Natural/Social Science)

As part of the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program, NC State seeks a natural scientist passionate about being part of the new and exciting Leadership in Public Science cluster. The position will be an open rank, tenure/tenure track position to begin in August 2016. The cluster seeks innovative and transformative academic leaders who will build on a nationally leading, campus-wide strength in public science, science communication, citizen science, science education, and science outreach including partnerships with the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, the NSF-funded Your Wild Life project, and The Science House.

About the Cluster

The Leadership in Public Science cluster focuses on two areas of public engagement in science where NC State has the greatest strength: citizen science and science communication. Our interdisciplinary research will develop best practices and theoretical frameworks for improving the way researchers communicate their science and engage stakeholders. This work will take the form of (1) studying how best to communicate science to public audiences, (2) educating graduate students, postdocs and faculty on best practices in science communication, (3) researching how best to educate students about science, (4) doing science that directly engages the public and students and (5) facilitating synergistic relationships with already existing Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program clusters.

Four new positions will be established to support the growth of the cluster. They are: (1) a science education scholar (College of Education), (2) a science communication scholar (College of Humanities and Social Sciences), (3) a scientist specializing in using public science to reach underserved communities (College of Sciences), and (4) an environmental scientist addressing applied questions about our natural resources by using citizen science methods (College of Natural Resources).

About the Position

The Leadership in Public Science cluster seeks a scientist with a research program that engages the public and connects with non-technical audiences by working with citizen scientists and/or by involving new audiences in natural resource topics. The candidate will contribute to teaching undergraduate and graduate students in their disciplinary area, and is expected to be involved with outreach and engagement, and to collaborate with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences when appropriate. The successful candidate would be expected to attract sponsored funds for research and innovation in the engagement of the public in science, including underrepresented and underserved populations. The candidate will participate with other members of the Leadership in Public Science cluster. Working together, members of this cluster will organize science communication workshops, as well as convene state-wide, regional, national, and international scholars, public science communicators and educators, business and government leaders, and policy analysts across a wide range of disciplines to expand and extend scholarship and public understanding of science.
Successful candidates must have a Ph.D. in ecology, environmental science or a related field in the natural or social sciences and should have a strong capacity to teach at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, including mentoring of doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows. Candidates should have a demonstrated record of scholarship in an environmental field which includes forestry, wildlife, conservation, natural resource ecology, environmental policy, and geospatial analytics. Successful candidates will also have experience and passion in engaging students and the public in the exploration of science and the development of science literacy. Priority will be given to candidates that have demonstrated abilities to form interdisciplinary collaborations that reach across academic units. Inclusiveness and diversity are academic imperatives and thus, university goals. Applications and materials are accepted through our online system at https://jobs.ncsu.edu.

Confidential inquiries and nominations should be directed to:
Dr. Ken Zagacki (kzagacki@ncsu.edu)

Cluster Search Committee

David Berube (Communication)
Jason Delborne (Forestry and Environmental Resources)
Paulette Dillard (Shaw University)
Rob Dunn (Biological Sciences), cluster co-lead
Gail Jones (STEM Education)
Roland Kays (Forestry and Environmental Resources)
Holly Menninger (Biological Sciences, Director of Public Science Initiatives)
Jason Painter (Director of the Science House)
Nancy Penrose (English)
Walt Robinson (Marine Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)
Kathy Cabe Trundle (STEM Education)
Ken Zagacki (Communication), cluster co-lead
Lindsay Zanno (Biological Sciences)

Public Science-related research and facilities at NCSU:

ASSIST Engineering Research Center: http://assist.ncsu.edu/
The Engineering Place: http://www.engr.ncsu.edu/theengineeringplace/
FREEDM Engineering Research Center: http://www.freedm.ncsu.edu/
The Friday Institute: http://www.fi.ncsu.edu/
Genetic Engineering and Society Center: http://research.ncsu.edu/ges/
The Science House: http://www.thesciencehouse.org/
The South East Climate Science Center: http://globalchange.ncsu.edu/secsc/
The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program

The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program, launched in 2011, is recruiting some of the best and brightest minds to join NC State’s community of world-leading faculty at the forefront of this initiative. Guided by a strong strategic plan and an aggressive vision, new thematic clusters are adding over 75 new faculty members in 20 select fields to enhance the breadth and depth of NC State’s solution-driven research and innovation. The current 20 clusters have been selected on several important criteria:

- Ability to achieve national eminence in proposed topic
- Alignment with university strategic priorities
- Demonstration of real interdisciplinarity
- Potential to build on an existing university strength (or strength of the existing assets)
- Opportunity for faculty to engage in both research and teaching of proposed topic
- Ability to attract funding
- Commitment to share resources and physical infrastructure
- Inclusion of multiple colleges
- Demonstration of a balanced hiring plan with clear leadership
- Potential to attract diverse faculty

The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program is managed through the Office of the Provost. Using a faculty initiated proposal process, twelve clusters were announced in February 2012 and eight in April 2015.

- Bioinformatics
- Carbon Electronics
- Data-driven Science
- Digital Transformation of Education
- Emerging Plant Disease and Global Food Security
- Environmental Health Science
- Forensic Sciences
- Genetic Engineering and Society
- Geospatial Analytics
- Global Environmental Change and Human Well-Being
- Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Innovation + Design
- Leadership in Public Science
- Microbiomes and Complex Microbial Communities
- Modeling the Living Embryo
- Personalized Medicine Sustainable
- Sustainable Energy Systems and Policy
- Synthetic and Systems Biology
- Translational Regenerative Medicine
- Visual Narrative

To date, forty-one (41) new faculty have been hired via the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program. In addition to bringing outstanding new faculty to campus and moving NC State toward national eminence, the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program has seeded and nurtured an expanding culture of interdisciplinarity on campus. We invite you to explore more information about the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program and this cluster at http://ncsu.edu/workthatmatters.
About NC State University

NC State was founded with a purpose: to create economic, societal and intellectual prosperity for the people of North Carolina and the country. We began as a land-grant institution teaching the agricultural and mechanical arts. Today, we’re a pre-eminent research enterprise that excels in science, technology, engineering, math, design, the humanities and social sciences, textiles and veterinary medicine.

NC State students, faculty and staff take problems in hand and work with industry, government and nonprofit partners to solve them. Our 34,000-plus high-performing students apply what they learn in the real world by conducting research, working in internships and co-ops, and performing acts of world-changing service. That experiential education ensures they leave here ready to lead the workforce, confident in the knowledge that NC State consistently rates as one of the best values in higher education.

Each year, NC State adds $6.5 billion to the statewide economy, equivalent to creating more than 90,000 new jobs. That represents significant return on investment for the citizens of North Carolina in the form of research advances, innovative technologies, successful companies, skilled graduates and new jobs waiting for them.

Our 9,000 faculty and staff are world leaders in their fields, bridging the divides between academic disciplines and training high-caliber students to meet tomorrow’s challenges. Together, they forge powerful partnerships with government, industry, nonprofits and academia to remake our world for the better.

NC State is leading efforts to curb nuclear proliferation, develop a smart electric grid, create self-powered health monitors, help farmers confront climate change and build a new American manufacturing sector. Our award-winning Centennial Campus is home to more than 70 public and private partners— as well as the innovative Hunt Library, which Time magazine has dubbed “the library of the future.”
Raleigh and the Community

It all happens in one of the fastest-growing urban centers in America. A top spot for young professionals and families, Raleigh is nationally recognized as a city on the rise:

- No. 1 among the best places for business and careers (Forbes, 2014)
- No. 1 among U.S. cities attracting the most families (Forbes, 2014)
- No. 2 among America’s 15 best cities for young professionals (Forbes, 2014)
- No. 3 among the best midsize U.S. metro areas for college students (American Institute for Economic Research, 2014)
- Recently selected as a Google Fiber expansion city

With Durham and Chapel Hill, Raleigh anchors the Research Triangle, a national hotspot for high-tech enterprise. The top companies in the region — including IBM, Cisco Systems, SAS Institute, Biogen Idec and GlaxoSmithKline — are among the country’s best employers. They also lead the way in hiring new NC State graduates.

More than 125 years after its creation, NC State continues to make its founding purpose a reality. Every day, our career-ready graduates and world-leading faculty make the fruits of learning and discovery available to people across the state, throughout the nation and around the world.

For More Information:

NC State University at [https://www.ncsu.edu/](https://www.ncsu.edu/)
NC State: Think and Do at [https://www.ncsu.edu/think-and-do](https://www.ncsu.edu/think-and-do)
NC State’s Strategic Plan at [http://info.ncsu.edu/strategic-planning/overview/pathway-to-the-future/](http://info.ncsu.edu/strategic-planning/overview/pathway-to-the-future/)
NC State’s Commitment to Diversity at [http://oied.ncsu.edu/diversity/chancellors-statement-on-diversity/](http://oied.ncsu.edu/diversity/chancellors-statement-on-diversity/)

**NC State University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as an individual with a disability, or status as a protected veteran. Individuals with disabilities requiring disability-related accommodations in the application and interview process, please call 919.515.3148. We welcome the opportunity to work with candidates to identify suitable employment opportunities for spouses or partners.**