

Director, School of Plant Sciences

Position Summary

The University of Arizona (UArizona) seeks a creative and dynamic individual with an innovative mindset for the position of Director of the School of Plant Sciences

<https://cals.arizona.edu/spls/>. The School of Plant Sciences (PLS) is part of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. As Arizona's only land-grant university and a Hispanic Serving Institution, the school serves diverse students and communities across the state of Arizona.

The PLS Director will work closely with school faculty, the dean, nine other academic unit heads, two associate deans, the director of UArizona Cooperative Extension, the Office of International Initiatives, and Development, Alumni, Advocacy and Corporate Relations to implement the school's strategic plan and vision.

The school has more than 80 faculty and staff delivering research, instruction, and Extension programming, with four undergraduate majors (Plant Sciences, Sustainable Plant Systems, Applied Biotechnology, and Microbiology) and two graduate majors (Plant Science, Plant Pathology, both MS & PhD). Current enrollment across these degrees include 70 undergraduate and 25 graduate students. With over \$9M in annual expenditures, faculty are highly research active and extensively engaged in community research and programming. The school's Cooperative Extension programming includes Campus Arboretum, Crops/Soils, Fruits and Nuts, Smartscape, and Trees, Lawns and Landscaping.

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting directly to the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the Director is responsible and accountable for the vision, leadership, administration, and delivery of the school's education, research, and Cooperative Extension missions.

The Director must be a proven entrepreneurial and innovative leader with demonstrated ability in philanthropy, corporate and alumni relations, and excellence in business, financial and budget management and diversity, equity, and inclusivity initiatives. Non-academic sectors experience is positive but not essential. Able to build connections between the private sector/community entities and faculty research programs.

Benefits

Outstanding UArizona benefits include health, dental, and vision insurance plans; competitive family leave policies, life insurance and disability programs; UArizona/ASU/NAU tuition reduction for the employee and qualified family members; state and optional retirement plans; and access to UArizona recreation and cultural activities (see <https://hr.arizona.edu/employees-affiliates/benefits/>).

Diversity and Inclusiveness

At the University of Arizona, we value our inclusive climate because we know that diversity in experiences and perspectives is vital to advancing innovation, critical thinking, solving complex problems, and creating an inclusive academic community. As a Hispanic-serving institution, we translate these values into action by seeking individuals who have experience and expertise

working with diverse students, colleagues, and constituencies. Because we seek a workforce with a wide range of perspectives and experiences, we provide equal employment opportunities to applicants and employees without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information. As an Employer of National Service, we also welcome alumni of AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, and other national service programs and others who will help us advance our Inclusive Excellence initiative aimed at creating a university that values student, staff, and faculty engagement in addressing issues of diversity and inclusiveness.

Arizona Board of Regents Minimum Qualifications

Not applicable for this position.

Additional Minimum Qualifications

- * Advanced doctoral degree in a relevant scientific discipline.
- * Demonstrated excellence warranting appointment as Full Professor with tenure.
- * Proven leadership and management in achieving outputs and outcomes effectively and efficiently.
- * A demonstrated interest in, and strong commitment to, undergraduate and graduate education and instruction.
- * Understand Cooperative Extension and its role in translating scientific research to diverse communities including rural and underserved communities.
- * Knowledge of the private sector relevant to all aspects of the school.
- * Exemplary communication and interpersonal skills.
- * Exceptional business, personnel and financial knowledge, skills, and talents in a complex environment.
- * A demonstrated track record of achievements in inclusion, equity, and access.

Preferred Qualifications

- * Track record of innovation and entrepreneurial activity.
- * Working knowledge of diverse instructional modalities, such as online, distance learning, and professional certifications
- * Proven ability to work with advisory board members and other external stakeholder groups.

Documents required to be uploaded with this application

Cover Letter
Curriculum Vitae