

Department of Entomology (MC0319)

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AQUATIC ENTOMOLOGIST

Virginia Tech's Department of Entomology seeks to attract a tenured or tenure-track faculty member in the area of aquatic entomology, and priority will be given to applications at the Assistant Professor rank. This position is a part of a robust and diverse cluster of faculty contributing to transdisciplinary research, teaching, and/or outreach initiatives that align with our Global Systems Science Destination Area.

The Global Systems Science Destination Area is focused on the transdisciplinary study of the dynamic interplay among natural and social systems. Faculty working together in this area are collaborating toward transdisciplinary solutions to critical social problems emergent from human activity and environmental change. Work in this area also embraces equity in the human condition by seeking the equitable distribution and availability of physical safety and well-being, psychological well-being, respect for human dignity, and access to crucial material and social resources throughout the world's diverse communities. Visit provost.vt.edu/destination-areas.html for more information about this initiative. This position will be based on the main campus at Virginia Tech, a land-grant university in Blacksburg, Virginia, situated in the scenic New River Valley.

Responsibilities: A successful candidate would be expected to contribute to research, scholarship, and teaching in ways that support department objectives and contribute to the Global Systems Science Destination Area. Areas of research could include (but are not limited to): arthropod communities in fresh- or brackish-water systems, ecology and management of pestiferous arthropods with aquatic stages, bioindicators of environmental quality, the effects of human refuse and water quality on the reproduction of native arthropods as well as pathogenic species, invasive species in aquatic systems, environmental impact of human activities, or other suitable areas, depending on candiate's interest and experience. Preference will be given to individuals with an established track record in aquatic ecology/invertebrate research, a demonstrated ability to secure extramural funding and publish in high quality, peer-reviewed journals. The incumbent is expected to teach and develop courses at the undergraduate level (for example, Aquatic Entomology and Freshwater Biomonitoring), to develop courses at the graduate level as appropriate, contribute to innovative curricula, and mentor undergraduate and graduate students. The incumbent will also support the mission of the land-grant university by participating in outreach and engaging local, state, and regional stakeholders.

Several current faculty members from the departments of Biological Sciences, Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation and Biological Systems Engineering have projects working directly or indirectly with invertebrates in freshwater systems and are coming together with other faculty to more broadly address solutions for our freshwater systems. A successful candidate will be expected to engage in Global Systems Science initiatives with other faculty across the university working in this area.

Virginia Tech is strategically investing in hiring innovative faculty to advance its vision to grow beyond boundaries and become a premier 21st century global land-grant institution through our Destination Areas and Strategic Growth Areas. As interconnected areas of strength,

Destination Areas focus on faculty collaborations that grow across disciplines to create innovative and transformative solutions to global issues, and position Virginia Tech as a premier destination for talent and creative exploration.

Virginia Tech also recognizes the critical importance of diverse teams of scholars. Our university seeks to diversify its faculty along multiple dimensions, including those that have been historically marginalized and excluded. Virginia Tech is a public land-grant university, committed to teaching and learning, research, and outreach to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. Building on its motto of *Ut Prosim* (that I may serve), Virginia Tech is dedicated to serving in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence—<u>InclusiveVT</u>. We seek candidates who adopt and practice efforts to increase access and inclusion to create a community that nurtures learning and growth for all of its members. Virginia Tech actively seeks a broad spectrum of candidates to join our community in preparing leaders for the world.

Qualifications: Applicants are required to hold a Ph.D. in entomology, biology, zoology, or a closely related field and have demonstrated experience with scholarly, interdisciplinary research. Assistant Professor level candidates must show potential for significant scholarship and teaching ability, while Associate Professor or Professor level candidates must demonstrate significant scholarship and teaching ability. Applicants must have a commitment to engage in a campus community working to grow an inclusive culture and practices while building diversity among faculty, staff, and students. Applicants must posses excellent communication and collaboration skills and have a strong interest in, and commitment to, working with diverse populations.

<u>Application</u>: Applications will be accepted online at https://listings.jobs.vt.edu/postings/80310. The same entry portal is being used for several positions in this cluster hiring initiative. Applicants must submit a formal cover letter addressing scholarship interests and qualifications, a brief statement describing the applicant's interest in and experience working with diverse groups and underrepresented populations, brief statements of teaching philosophy/experience and research interests/experience, a current curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information of three references who can assess the applicant's qualifications for this position. Inquiries concerning the position or application process should be directed to Dr. Stephen Schoenholtz, search committee chair, at schoenhs@vt.edu. Review of applications will begin December 1, 2017.