



The Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial (PSM) Sciences is an internationally recognized department of more than 70 faculty members, with diverse interests spanning applied and fundamental research across agricultural systems and natural resources

Position Summary

Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources invites applications and nominations for Chairperson of the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences (PSM). PSM is an interdisciplinary department including Agronomy/Crop Science, Microbial Science, Plant Breeding and Genetics, Plant Pathology, Soil Science, Turfgrass Science and Management, and Weed Science. The Department provides a stimulating intellectual environment for engaged scholarship in promoting resilient agricultural systems. The successful candidate must demonstrate the ability to embody and convey the land-grant mission of teaching, research, extension, and outreach to multiple audiences; provide effective leadership and management of multidisciplinary programs; be a strong advocate for the Department; and provide leadership for the continuing development of outstanding regional, national, and international programs. The full time, 12-month appointment position is available beginning July 1, 2025.

Qualifications

The Department is seeking an individual with an outstanding record of achievement including leadership, team building, distinguished scholarship, and dedication to the land grant mission. The applicant should have an appreciation for the range of disciplines related to plant, soil, and microbial sciences and the diverse functions of teaching, research, extension, and outreach, and must exhibit preparedness for administration of a large, diverse department. The successful candidate must possess outstanding leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills, along with the ability to promote the Department and increase its national and international prominence. Qualified candidates must have a doctorate in a related discipline and meet the requirements for tenure at the rank of full Professor in the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences.

Required Application Materials

1) Curriculum vitae (CV), 2) Cover letter describing interest in the position with an emphasis on your experience and philosophical approaches, and 3) Statement on how you as Department Chairperson would go about achieving a community culture that recognizes and celebrates the importance of diversity and inclusion. At the end of the cover letter, please submit names and contact information for four academic references external to MSU familiar with your work. Letters from these academic references will only be required for finalists. In addition, please submit names and contact information for four administrative references who are familiar with your leadership skills. Letters from these administrative references are unlikely to be required. Your academic and administrative references may be contacted by the search committee at any time after you apply.

Questions regarding this position can be addressed to the Search Committee co-chairs: Christy Sprague, Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, sprague1@msu.edu, 517-353-0224 and Chad Cotti, Department of Agriculture, Food and Resource Economics, cotticha@msu.edu, 517-355-4567

To Apply: For consideration, submit your application online at
<http://careers.msu.edu> - Job Listing **990301**

Review of applications will begin: November 1, 2024