



**POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
ASISTANT/ASSOCIATE/PROFESSOR**

July 7, 2006

RANK AND NATURE OF POSITION: Assistant/Associate/Full Professor; twelve-month tenure track. The position is 100% Extension.

WORK LOCATION: Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

JOB DESCRIPTION: Serve as Director of the Louisiana Center for Rural Initiatives (LCRI). The mission of LCRI is to improve the socioeconomic well-being in rural communities by (1) providing leadership that assures focused, applied rural development research and community outreach, (2) increasing awareness and understanding of rural development conditions, issues, strategies and policies in Louisiana, and (3) providing rural community stakeholders and policy makers with information necessary for public-policy decision making. As Director of the LCRI, the incumbent will be expected to provide leadership in the coordination of applied rural development research and extension in the LSU AgCenter. Applicant must have a commitment to grantsmanship, research-based outreach programming, and applied rural development research. The successful candidate will develop collaborative relationships with other universities, colleges, local, state, and federal agencies or governmental entities and regional organizations focusing on rural or community development. Provide programmatic supervision for Community Rural Development Area Agents. Incumbent will develop educational programs in the areas of rural and community development (e.g. demographics, tourism, rural entrepreneurship, natural resource base development, etc.) The dissemination of research based information through a variety of appropriate outlets is expected (including professional journals). All faculty are expected to participate in professional organizations and university committees (including graduate student committees). Travel as needed to satisfy job responsibilities will be required.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Applicant must have a Ph.D. in a social science with an emphasis on rural, community, or regional development. Preferred areas include Agricultural Economics, Economic Geography, Regional Development, and Rural Sociology. Experience with Cooperative Extension and/or a leadership role in an academic research and/or research and outreach unit is highly desirable. Applicant must have interest in mission-oriented research for promoting rural development in Louisiana, especially in persistent poverty areas. Applicant must be innovative and show excellent interpersonal skills to work effectively with academic faculty, extension faculty, Federal, state and local governments, non-profit organizations and stakeholders.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The LSU AgCenter has an attractive benefits package with a wide variety of benefit options. Current benefits offered include retirement, multiple medical insurance options, supplemental insurances (dental, live, long-term disability, accident, vision, long-term care, etc.), Tax Saver Flexible Benefits Plan (saves tax dollars on some child care and medical expenses), university holidays (14 per year, typically includes a week off at Christmas), generous annual (vacation) and sick leave benefits, Employee Assistance Program, and possible educational leave and tuition exemption for coursework at campuses of the LSU System. Specific benefits depend on job category, percent effort and length of employment.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 29, 2006 or until a suitable candidate is selected.

DATE AVAILABLE: Upon completion of the selection process.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Letter of application should specifically address candidate's qualifications for position and provide (1) complete professional resume, (2) transcripts of all college credits, (3) three letters of recommendation, and (4) other pertinent data. Letters of recommendation should candidly evaluate both strengths and weaknesses of the applicant for the position. Submit application to:

Dr. Gail L. Cramer, Professor and Head
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225/578-3282

Email: gcramer@agcenter.lsu.edu

Web site: www.lsuagcenter.com