



COLLEGE OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND PLANNING

Associate Director of the School of Landscape Architecture & Planning and Chair of the Department of Urban & Regional Planning in the UF College of Design, Construction and Planning

Job Description

The University of Florida's Department of Urban & Regional Planning (URP) seeks a visionary leader and proven educator who is committed to advancing issues of equity, diversity and inclusion to serve as Associate Director of the School of Landscape Architecture and Planning and as Chair of the Department of Urban & Regional Planning.

Our mission is to prepare future practitioners and scholars committed to advancing the efficacy, impact, and knowledge of the discipline of urban and regional planning, to engage in research and scholarship that enhances the understanding and practice of the profession, while addressing societal challenges and serving to the communities of our state, nation and the globe.

We seek applications from candidates who align with our mission, are passionate about working with faculty and students, are committed to research and creative scholarship, are respected researchers and educators, and who operate with the highest levels of ethical standards and integrity.

The position is a twelve-month appointment and is available from July 1st, 2022.

The Department and School

The University of Florida (UF) is a top-tier public, comprehensive, land-grant research institution, currently ranked 5th among all U.S. public universities by U.S. News and World Report. UF is dedicated to achieving and maintaining a culture of educational and research preeminence and the Department of URP within School of Landscape Architecture and Planning shares this drive while continuing to build on a strong tradition of research and teaching excellence, external engagement, and student achievement.

The Department of Urban & Regional Planning benefits from a collaborative environment with the Department of Landscape Architecture (LAE), also housed in the School of Landscape Architecture and Planning. The School builds on the synergies of the two disciplines and enjoys fostering rich opportunities for collaboration with scholars and experts in sustainability, environment and design, systems thinking, policy making, and regionalism. The School, created in 2009, benefits from a unique association with other allied design disciplines in the College including Architecture, Construction Management, Historic Preservation, Interior Design, and Sustainability. The Department's mission is further supported by interdisciplinary research pursued by integrative research institutes, including the College's Florida Institute for Built Environment Resilience (FIBER), the Florida Water Institute, and Florida Climate Institute, as well as multiple other Centers within the School and College.

This is a pivotal and exciting moment for the profession and the Department of URP. The Department of URP consists of a collegial faculty of twelve core, full-time members, as well as faculty affiliated with College research centers and programs. The Department, founded in 1975, was first accredited in 1978 and offers a master's degree in URP (we are the first and only in the country to include accredited degrees being delivered both fully-online and via a traditional campus-based program), a large STEM designated Ph.D. program, a graduate minor, an undergraduate minor, a combined undergraduate-master's degree (4+1), a graduate certificate in Urban Analytics and is in the final approval stage of a new Master of Science in Urban Analytics. Our growing and vibrant faculty are nationally and internationally recognized and are among the most productive in the country consistently attracting significant amounts of research funding every year.

The Associate Director and Chair will be responsible for contributing to the impact, focus and reputation of the Department of URP. As Associate Director and Chair, the position will directly report to the Dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning, and works closely with the department chairs, faculty and key stakeholders in or affiliated with the Department of URP. As Associate Director, this position will work with the Director of School to create a cohesive vision for the School. It requires a certain type of leadership; someone who is able to lead dynamic new initiatives while developing current strengths within the respective programs; and identify and support focused research engagement and creative scholarship; and is able to cultivate student learning and foster alumni relations while promoting impactful outreach on the campus and in local, state, national and international contexts.

Importantly, the Associate Director and Chair position places a premium on innovation supported through a collegial environment. Openness to diverse ideas as well as openness in decision-making are essential skills for this position. Other leadership qualities include a vision to identify and develop a cutting-edge agenda in research, creative scholarship, teaching and service. Importantly, the Associate Director and Chair should be able to cultivate shared synergies between landscape architecture and urban & regional planning. He/she also needs to contribute to college-wide planning, fundraising, and engagement at the university level.

Finally, the Associate Director and Chair will also need strong interpersonal skills as an advocate for the Department's stakeholders, including the professional community and program alumni. Further, it is critical to uphold an academic culture in the Department and School that demonstrates a commitment to diversity and equal opportunities across race, ethnicity and gender. In sum, the Chair sets the vision for the Department and establishes new opportunities while building on existing strengths for the Department and School through shared governance with stakeholders. In addition to administrative responsibilities, the Associate Director and Chair will also be asked to lead by example, create and support a research culture within the Department and School, and is expected to assist with meeting the departmental teaching needs (albeit at a reduced load).

This search is following an aggressive timeline. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Applications will be reviewed beginning November 29th

Job Qualifications

Required:

- Ph.D. in urban and regional planning or related field, such as urban studies, city planning, spatial planning, urban geography, etc.
- Distinguished record in teaching, funded research, creative scholarship, and service, sufficient to merit tenure upon hire at the rank of Professor.
- Academic administrative experience including management of budgets, personnel, and curriculum development at undergraduate or graduate levels
- Excellent communication skills
- Understanding of the importance of fundraising and alumni relations
- A demonstrated record of:
 - Advancing the knowledge of urban and regional planning and its evolving role in society and effectively communicating its value within government, industry, and academic sectors
 - Experience with extramural funding for research or funding that supports creative scholarship
 - Commitment to undergraduate and graduate education, including online education, engagement with students, and promotion of student success
 - Commitment to faculty development and mentoring
 - Commitment to advancing issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion

Desired:

- Certification with the American Institute of Certified Planners
- Experience with professional program accreditation at undergraduate and graduate levels
- Experience with online education
- Experience establishing and implementing a strategic plan with clear goals and outcomes
- Experience working with intercollegiate, interdisciplinary, and international partnerships and programs
- Commitment to collaboration across college disciplines, institutes, and centers
- Experience with attracting, developing, and retaining outstanding faculty and staff
- Experience in fundraising and working with donors
- Experience with marketing and communications
- Experience working with advisory boards and maintaining relationships with alumni and industry professionals
- Experience in leading and/or actively participating in the field's professional and academic organizations

INSTRUCTIONS

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Interested applicants are required to apply at <https://jobs.ufl.edu>. To ensure full consideration, the required documents should be submitted by November 29, 2021 when the Search Committee will begin reviewing applications and will continue until the positions are filled. A completed application should include a CV, letter of interest and vision for the department/school, research agenda/portfolio, and names and contact information for a minimum of three references (the references will not be contacted prior to receiving permission from applicants). For additional information, contact Robert Cox, Ph.D., Search Committee Chair (robcox@ufl.edu).

Final candidate will be required to provide official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered "official" if a designation of "Issued to Student" is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at <http://www.naces.org/>.

The University of Florida is an equal opportunity institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff.

The University of Florida is An Equal Employment Opportunity Institution. If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352/392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800/955-8771 (TDD). Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. Searches are conducted in accordance with Florida's Sunshine Law.