POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Position Title: Research Scientist, Full-time
Location: Texas A&M AgriLIFE Research and Extension Center at Beaumont
Salary: Commensurate with experience
Starting Date: February 28, 2008 or until a suitable applicant is found

Duties: Primary responsibilities will be to 1) develop, verify, and validate web-based cropping system simulation models, 2) work as part of the Agroecosystems Research Group to conduct simulation based analyses addressing a) global climate change impact on agriculture at a local, state, national, and international level, b) the biological and economic suitability of candidate bioenergy crops for different regions of the U.S. and Texas, and c) water resource allocation, use, and biological/economic impact, 3) design and analyze results from field and laboratory experiments focusing on quantifying rice crop response to abiotic and biotic stresses, and 4) produce nationally peer-reviewed publications and nationally competitive research proposals. The individual selected for this position is expected to assume a co-leadership role as part of the Agroecosystems Research Group, which currently consists of two program leaders, three computer programmers, a research scientist, two research associates and two research technicians.

Physical requirements necessary to perform essential duties: Must be able to communicate effectively in English (both orally and in writing). Must be able to operate a computer (keyboard, screen visualization, etc.). Must have a valid Texas driver’s license, or obtain a valid license at the time of hire, and be willing to operate an automobile.

Educational requirements: Minimum qualifications are a Ph.D degree in a biological sciences discipline. A strong foundation in plant physiology, applied statistics, and computer sciences is highly desirable.

Work experience and skills: The successful candidate is expected to have a strong quantitative background, with experience in developing process-level biological simulation models. Demonstrated proficiency in C++ or C# programming is required, while proficiency with SAS or JMP statistical based analysis software is desirable. Experience with publishing peer-reviewed papers is required, while experience with writing nationally competitive grant proposals is highly desirable. Experience with three-dimensional plant architecture modeling, and carbohydrate and nitrogen metabolism at the plant structural level is desirable.

Supervision: The Research Scientist position will be supervised by the Center Director

Facilities: The Center is part of the Texas A&M AgriLIFE Research and Extension and is located 6 miles west of Beaumont, Texas, a city with ca. 120,000 residents. The Center has ca. 70 scientists and support staff. Facilities include ca. 1000 acres of land and assorted equipment, which is largely used for rice research, varietal improvement, and seed increase programs. The successful candidate will be provided with office space; a computer, and limited travel support.

Employment: Funding is available for a minimum of two years. Employment beyond this period is desirable, but is conditional upon demonstrated proficiency of the incumbent at writing nationally recognized peer-reviewed publications and grants. The applicant must have appropriate employment authorization document at the time of hire.

Contact Person: All applications should be submitted electronically and should include a cover letter summarizing the applicants major strengths, a c.v., a minimum of three references, with addresses and phone numbers, copies of the candidate’s five most relevant publications, and a list of previous grant submissions and grants. Applications packages (including publications), should be sent via email to the following:

Dr. Yubin Yang
Senior Biological Systems Analyst
Texas A&M AgriLIFE Research and Extension Center
1509 Aggie Drive
Beaumont, Texas 77713
Email: yyang@aesrg.tamu.edu

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