

**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT  
DIRECTOR  
SCHOOL OF PACKAGING**  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Michigan State University

Packaging, the third largest global industry, is expected to reach \$975 billion dollars by the end of 2018. The impact of this market on the global economy continues to demand highly trained professionals and scientific research that produce innovative and sustainable solutions to support economic growth worldwide. The School of Packaging (SoP) at Michigan State University (MSU), rated #1 by Universities.com Best Colleges 2017, has been creating knowledge and awarding degrees in the science and technology of packaging since 1952. As the pioneer of the packaging discipline and the sole packaging Ph.D. degree granting institution in the United States, the MSU SoP has been preparing educational leaders for the packaging discipline across the globe resulting in an incontestable reputation and the creation of a community for excellent research and education for all. Packaging is an interdisciplinary field integrating science, engineering, technology and management to protect and identify products for distribution, storage, sale, and use. It encompasses the process of design, evaluation, and production of packages. It is a system integral to the value chain that impacts product quality, user satisfaction, distribution efficiencies, and safety. The MSU SoP, through its educational, research, and outreach programs, contributes to the economic development and quality of life of citizens within the State of Michigan and globally through highly relevant educational experiences and cutting-edge research. To continue to lead the packaging industry and the academic fields, the MSU SoP invites applications and nominations for the position of Director.

**Job Responsibilities**

The Director of School of Packaging provides facilitative leadership to the School in all teaching, research, and outreach programs and is expected to maintain and enhance a creative and productive environment for faculty, staff, and students. The Director serves as the principal representative of the School with authority and responsibility for administrative decisions. The Director reports directly to the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and interacts with leadership of other disciplinary units on campus.

Key responsibilities of the Director include:

- Provide transformational leadership while sustaining an environment of high performance, scholarship, and innovation to meet societal, scientific and industry needs, and promote national and international prominence of the School;
- Collaborate with faculty, academic partners, industry and alumni to identify existing and emerging global opportunities and develop strategic short- and long-term plans for school's enhancement;
- Recruit outstanding diverse faculty, staff and students, assign responsibilities, evaluate performance, and promote faculty, student and staff development;
- Execute exemplary leadership philosophy to instill a sense of community wherein each member will thrive by fostering a culture of inclusion, creativity, collaboration, achievement and mentoring;
- Manage and enhance fiscal, physical and human resources to meet unit goals and objectives;
- The Director will leverage their career experiences to enhance the ongoing capital campaign to create funding opportunities for new faculty to join the School and update the School's teaching and research facilities;
- Create, foster and enhance current and new stakeholder relationships including alumni, industry, governmental agencies, NGOs around the world, as well as disciplinary and interdisciplinary groups to continue to advance the mission and vision of the school;
- Effectively communicate with media about issues relevant to the packaging industry and market the importance of packaging education and research programs to stakeholders.

## **Qualifications**

The MSU SoP is seeking a dynamic individual with academic and/or industry experience as well as outstanding record of achievements. This should include a documented record of scholarship, leadership, team building, and management. The applicant should have an appreciation for the range of disciplines related to the field of packaging and the missions of teaching, research, innovation and outreach. The successful candidate must possess outstanding communication and interpersonal skills, along with the ability to promote the MSU SoP and increase its national and international prominence. Qualified candidates must have a doctorate in packaging or a discipline closely connected to the broad field of packaging such as engineering, material science, natural sciences, food science, business, or education. Candidates with strong connection to and/or experience in industry are encouraged to apply.

## **About School of Packaging**

The School maintains an enrollment of approximately 500 undergraduate students specializing in two concentrations: Packaging Science and Packaging Value Chain management; 40-50 on-campus M.S. students, 20-30 on-line M.S. students, and 10-20 Ph.D. students. The SoP supplements on-campus learning with internship and study-abroad programs that provide industry-based and international learning experiences to students. The average placement rate has consistently exceeded 90 percent over the past 5 years. The School also provides a variety of outreach activities, including both on-site and off-campus educational programs for packaging professionals. The School is actively supported by the MSU Packaging Alumni Association and an Industry Advisory Board.

As the only university offering a Ph.D. program in packaging, the School of Packaging at MSU attracts students from a variety of disciplines around the world. The school is poised for significant growth to meet the rising need of the packaging industry. Furthermore, the highly collaborative and productive faculty provides a very positive environment for professional growth and program expansion. Recognizing the need to continue to systematically advance the discipline of packaging, a strategic plan developed by the faculty has identified (i) Packaging Distribution and Value Chain, (ii) Packaging Materials and Sustainability, and (iii) Food, Health and Biomedical Packaging as three key strategic platforms that form the basis for its research, teaching and outreach missions forming a solid basis for future growth. With this in mind, we anticipate several new faculty hires in the next few years. SoP faculty research funding portfolio includes grants from NIH, USDA-NIFA, and industry.

## **About the University**

Michigan State University (MSU) is the nation's pioneer land-grant university. It is one of the top research universities in the world and home to nationally ranked and recognized academic, residential college, and service-learning programs. MSU is a diverse community of dedicated students and scholars, athletes and artists, and scientists that provide regional, national, and international leadership in basic and applied research, excellence in teaching, international engagement, and strong Extension programs that partners with diverse stakeholders to bring science-based responses to food, energy, and the environment.

MSU enjoys a park-like campus with outlying research facilities and natural areas. The campus is located in the city of East Lansing, adjacent to the state capital city of Lansing. The Lansing metropolitan area has a diverse population of approximately 450,000. Local communities have excellent school systems and place a high value on education. The University is proactive about its obligations under the ADA, and provides individual accessibility plans to students and employees with disabilities. Michigan State University is also proactive in exploring opportunities for employment for dual career families, both inside and outside the University, and respects all family forms. Information about MSU's dual career support can be found at <http://miwin.msu.edu/>. Information about WorkLife at MSU can be found at <http://worklife.msu.edu/>.

## **Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University is committed to achieving excellence by creating and sustaining an accessible and inclusive culture that values cultural and academic diversity. We are an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The College is particularly interested in candidates of all backgrounds who are committed to the principle that academic excellence is achieved through open access and proactive inclusion.

## **Salary and Benefits**

Salary is negotiable and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. MSU offers a generous benefits package (see details at <http://www.hr.msu.edu>).

## **To Apply**

Applicants for the position of Director are requested to submit: 1) a cover letter describing your interest in the position with an emphasis on your experience and philosophical approaches to achieving a culture of diversity and inclusion; 2) an up-to-date CV; and 3) names and contact information of three references who are familiar with your work, experience and leadership skills online at <http://careers.msu.edu> (posting #YYYYYY). Review of the applications will begin March 2019 and the search will remain open until the position is filled. The position is a full-time, 12-month appointment. The expected start date is August 2019 or as negotiated.

For more information on this position, please contact the Search Committee Co-Chairs:

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