

Faculty Position: Biology Education Research – Postdoctoral Fellowship

North Dakota State University invites inquiries, nominations, and applications for this 9-month position to begin 15 December 2011 or as soon thereafter following hiring approval.

The Department	The Department of Biological Sciences has 17 tenured/tenure eligible faculty members and offers BA/BS, MS and Ph.D. degrees. There are approximately 500 undergraduate and 50 graduate students enrolled in its programs. Undergraduate degrees are offered in biological sciences, biological sciences education, botany, comprehensive science education, and zoology. Graduate degrees are offered in biology, botany, and zoology; the department also participates in several interdisciplinary graduate programs, including Cellular and Molecular Biology, Environment and Conservation Sciences, Genomics and Bioinformatics, Natural Resources Management, and STEM Education. Research in the department is clustered into three main focal areas: developmental and regulatory biology; ecology, evolutionary, and conservation biology; and STEM education. For more information and to apply, see http://www.ndsu.edu/biology/
The University	From the first 30 students in 1890 to about 14,400 enrolled today, NDSU is a student-focused, land-grant, research university. Combined with a strong commitment to student success and the advancement of research in all disciplines, NDSU offers a dynamic environment for students to participate in improving themselves and the world around them. As a land-grant university, NDSU provides cultural and educational outreach to the residents of the state, region and beyond. NDSU is classified as a very high research university by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, placing it in the nation's top 108 private and public universities. NDSU is the first and only institution in North Dakota to receive the prestigious categorization.
The Community	Fargo combines the safety and friendliness of a small town with the cultural offerings of a large city. With a metro-area population of nearly 200,000, Fargo-Moorhead is the largest community between Minneapolis and Seattle. The city consistently appears on national lists of the best places to live and is noted for its safety, health care, recreation, job opportunities and economic development. The community offers museums, movie theaters, shopping, concerts and sporting events at many venues. Bus service both around campus and in the community is free for NDSU students. An international airport and a commercial bus line serve Fargo-Moorhead. Residents enjoy North Dakota's four seasons, which allow for a wide variety of outdoor activities, from ice fishing and cross-country skiing in the winter to golfing, boating and outdoor live music events in the summer. Fargo Moorhead has 175 public parks covering more than 3,000 acres. The parks offer nearly 100 miles of trails for hiking, biking and running, plus facilities for baseball, softball, swimming, tennis and hockey.
Position Description	The Department of Biological Sciences at North Dakota State University has a 9-month, postdoctoral fellowship, beginning 15 December 2011 or as soon thereafter following hiring approval. The successful candidate will work with a group of core faculty in STEM education whose areas of research include biochemistry, biology, mathematics, and physics education. The postdoctoral researcher will work on several research projects in STEM education, including characterizing the cognitive level of introductory undergraduate STEM courses and investigating the role of external visualizations in undergraduate biology, chemistry, and biochemistry. In addition to working with project personnel, the postdoctoral fellow will mentor undergraduate assistants, teach one undergraduate cell biology course, and pursue questions about learning in STEM. Salary is competitive.
Minimum	Candidates must 1) have a Ph.D. degree from an accredited institution in a life sciences discipline; 2) have demonstrated interest in research in teaching and learning of biology at the undergraduate level; 3) provide evidence of ability to teach Cell Biology (Zoology 370) at the undergraduate level; and, 4) have strong oral and written communication skills, including demonstrated ability to work/collaborate with others.
Preferred	Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated 1) interest in STEM education research at the undergraduate level; 2) ability to collaborate on interdisciplinary projects; 3) experience in dealing with complex datasets and use of multivariate statistics; and, 4) experience with relational databases and use of web-based technology.
Application	Applicants must submit a cover letter; a curriculum vitae; a description of research interests and plans (2 pages maximum); a statement of teaching philosophy (2 pages maximum); and contact information (including telephone numbers and e-mail addresses) for three professional references. All application materials must be submitted online at: http://www.ndsu.edu/biology/
	Review of applications will begin 15 December 2011 and continue until the position is filled.
	Questions regarding the search may be sent to ndsu.biological.sciences@ndsu.edu

NDSU is an equal opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity and has an active career partner program. NDSU is an NSF ADVANCE Institution. This position is exempt from North Dakota Veterans' Preference requirements.