

Associate Dean for Extension/Assistant Director for Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resource Extension Programs

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Link: <https://www.auemployment.com/postings/21759>

The College of Agriculture (COA) at Auburn University (www.agriculture.auburn.edu/) and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) (www.aces.edu) are seeking applications for the position of Associate Dean for Extension and Assistant Director for Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resource Extension Programs. This 12-month administrative position will be located within the COA at Auburn University and fits within the organizational structures of COA and ACES. The Associate Dean/Assistant Director position reports jointly to the COA Dean and the ACES Associate Director. The position is classified as a tenure-track Extension Specialist with a COA and ACES administrative appointment. This position is a five-year appointment, subject to review. The Associate Dean/Assistant Director will be a member of the COA administrative team and a member of the ACES System Program Team to bring into alignment the programmatic visions and directions of the COA and ACES.

Responsibilities: The Associate Dean/Assistant Director provides vision and leadership in how Extension, research, academic programs, and other allied programs develop synergy to enhance collaborative research and evidence-based outcomes. The position provides coordination and leadership for Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resource Extension Programs carried out by ACES in collaboration with the COA, the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences (SFWS), and Alabama A&M University. The position is responsible for the coordination and integration of Extension programs that address timely issues in areas such as improving the productivity, sustainability and profitability of the state's diverse agriculture and horticulture industries, promoting a safe and secure food supply, increasing environmental stewardship, and developing informed consumers.. The Associate Dean/Assistant Director will:

- Develop and maintain strong working relationships with Department Heads in the College, the SFWS Dean, ACES program units, and County Extension Offices;
- Serve as a liaison between COA and ACES;
- Foster entrepreneurial approaches to engage faculty in the pursuit and procurement of revenue through grants, contracts, gifts and fees to expand programming;
- Mentor new Extension Specialists in COA and SFWS for agriculture, forestry, and natural resource programming;
- Provide input to Department Heads and SFWS Dean for the evaluation of Extension Specialists and professional staff with ACES appointments;
- Recommend changes to ensure constant improvement of Extension programming.
- Lead program needs assessment activities, priority program team plan-of-work development, delivery of transformational Extension programs, outcome evaluation and Impact reporting;
- Be responsible for the recruitment, hiring, supervision, mentoring and performance assessment of Regional Extension Agents;
- Provide leadership to assure program alignment with the annual plan-of-work and direction set by ACES, COA, and SFWS;
- Serve as the ACES representative to the Southern Region Agriculture and Natural Resource Extension Program Leaders Network;
- Provide leadership and guidance to priority program team coordinators and other team leaders;
- Foster the use of emerging pedagogy and communication technologies, including the appropriate media and social media, to engage new and diverse constituent audiences;
- Build teamwork through communication with ACES and departmental Extension Specialists, Regional Extension Agents, and others as appropriate.