



321 Richardson Hall, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-5752
Telephone 541-737-2244 Fax 541-737-1393

Position Number: 002-1041

**Forest Soil Organic Biogeochemist
Department of Forest Science**

POSITION: Forest Soil Organic Biogeochemist

RANK: Assistant or Associate Professor, tenure-track

LOCATION: Department of Forest Science, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

POSITION AVAILABLE: March 1, 2006

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE: August 15, 2005 for full consideration

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Department of Forest Science at Oregon State University invites applications for a tenure-track Forest Soil Organic Biogeochemist position. One of four departments in the College of Forestry, the Department of Forest Science conducts research and educates graduate students about forest health, productivity and conservation. The Forest Soil Organic Biogeochemist will conduct graduate-level teaching and will be expected to develop a successful, extramurally-funded research program. This position is supported by the Center of Excellence for Subsurface Biosphere Education and Research.

The Center of Excellence for Subsurface Biosphere Education and Research is one of six strategic initiatives supported by OSU's newly adopted strategic plan (<http://oregonstate.edu/leadership/strategicplan/subsurface.html>). It is an outgrowth of the NSF-funded Subsurface Biosphere Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program (<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/igert/>), and brings together faculty in five OSU Colleges (Agricultural Sciences, Engineering, Forestry, Oceanic and Atmospheric Science, and Science). The Center serves to: tie the biological and earth scientists and environmental engineers closer together to make fundamental contributions to the better understanding of biogeochemical cycles; foster new technologies in interdisciplinary efforts to study soil processes in a more holistic fashion; emphasize the interaction between microorganisms, water, and the physico-chemical properties of the subsurface; and promote the engineering of environmental processes for clean-up of contaminants, as well as fostering the development of nanotechnology.

OSU one of only two American universities to hold the Land Grant, Sea Grant, Space Grant and Sun Grant designation and is a Carnegie Doctoral/Research-Extensive university. OSU is located in Corvallis, a community of 53,000 people situated in the Willamette Valley between Portland and Eugene. Ocean beaches, lakes, rivers, forests, high desert, the rugged Cascade and Coast Ranges, and the urban amenities of the Portland metropolitan area are all within a 100-mile drive of Corvallis. Approximately 15,700 undergraduate and 3,400 graduate students are enrolled at OSU, including 2,600 U.S. students of color and 950 international students.

The university has an institution-wide commitment to diversity, multiculturalism, and community. We actively engage in recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce and student body that includes members of historically underrepresented groups. We strive to build and sustain a welcoming and supportive campus environment. OSU provides outstanding leadership opportunities for people interested in promoting and enhancing diversity, nurturing creativity, and building community.

The Department of Forest Science is located in Richardson Hall, which provides excellent office, laboratory, classroom, computer, GIS, and distance education space. The Department enjoys a strong working relationship with other OSU academic units and the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Laboratory, all located near Richardson Hall. The College of Forestry administers a nearby 14,000 acre forest used for research, teaching, and extended education and jointly administers the H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest, an NSF LTER site, with the USDA Forest Service. The College of Forestry supports a sophisticated computer network for electronic connectivity between the three-building forestry complex, county Extension offices, the College Forest, the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, and collaborating agencies. Additional information about the Department of Forest Science can be found on the Department's web page (<http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/fs/>).

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Teach a graduate-level course in own area of expertise related to forest soil organic biogeochemistry
2. Contribute to teaching of core graduate courses in the Forest Science Department and interdisciplinary programs through guest lectures and occasional special-topics courses or modules
3. Advise M.S. and Ph.D. students in Forest Science and interdisciplinary programs
4. Develop a strong, externally funded research program related to processes of soil organic matter formation and transformation, potentially including soil-mineral interactions. This could include the natural processes involved in the inputs, transformations and outputs of carbon in soils of both natural and managed forest ecosystems.
5. Bring new and enhance existing analytical capability to the OSU campus through innovative application of modern methods (e.g., ^{13}C -NMR, compound-specific stable isotope analysis, x-ray microscopy/spectroscopy, etc.)
6. Interact and collaborate with students and scientists in allied departments, programs and agencies
7. Play a key role in the Center for Excellence for Subsurface Biosphere Education and Research.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

Early career applicants are encouraged to apply, especially if excellent potential in the required qualifications can be demonstrated. Potential for achievement will be given strong consideration when evaluating applicants.

REQUIRED:

1. Ph.D. in chemistry, soil science or related discipline
2. Evidence of high potential for attracting external funding for research in forest soil organic biogeochemistry
3. Evidence of high potential to develop an internationally-recognized research program
4. Significant experience using modern analytical methods in studies of soil chemical and microbial processes in the context of natural and managed forest ecosystems
5. Evidence of potential for excellence in teaching and advising
6. Ability to collaborate effectively as a member of interdisciplinary research groups
7. Evidence of strong commitment to excellence in teaching; experience or training indicating excellent performance in the teaching and advising components of this position

PREFERRED:

1. Post-doctoral experience in a field related to this position
2. Potential to become an effective leader of interdisciplinary research groups
3. Potential for relating soils research to other aspects of forest ecosystem dynamics and to managed forest systems
4. Demonstrable commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity

Preference will be given to candidates at the Assistant Professor level; however, applicants with a strong record of research productivity, teaching proficiency, and other relevant experience may be considered at the Associate Professor level.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS, SALARY AND FRINGE BENEFITS:

0.75 FTE, tenure-track Assistant or Associate Professor position (approx. 75% Research, 25% teaching). Competitive salary commensurate with professional qualifications. Benefits include state retirement, group health, dental, life and disability, reduced tuition rates for employee or dependent at Oregon University Systems schools (restrictions apply), annual leave and sick leave.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Barbara Bond, Search Committee Chair, Department of Forest Science, 330 Richardson Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, 97331-5752. Email: barbara.bond@oregonstate.edu.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

For full consideration, all materials must be received by August 15, 2005. Incomplete applications will not be considered. A complete file consists of:

1. Letter summarizing qualifications and vision for the position.
2. Curriculum vitae.
3. Copies of 3 of the candidate's most important publications.
4. Names and contact information for three references.

Applications should be sent to: Glenda Serpa, Department of Forest Science, 321 Richardson Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis OR 97331-5752.

Oregon State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer and has a policy of being responsive to the needs of dual-career couples.