The School of Forest Resources (after January 1, 2012, the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences (SEFS)) at the University of Washington invites nominations and applications for the position of Director and Professor of SEFS. The School seeks candidates who, through their creative leadership and administrative experience, can help the School attain its vision in a time of bold new directions in teaching and research.

The mission of the School is to generate and disseminate knowledge for the stewardship of natural and managed environments and the use of their products and services through teaching, research, and professional and public outreach. Founded in 1907, SEFS became a unit of the UW’s College of the Environment in July 2009.

The School has 48 tenure-track and research faculty and 14 adjunct faculty from collaborating UW units including biology, fisheries, engineering, landscape architecture, and public policy. Current student enrollment is about 300 undergraduate and 175 graduate students in programs focusing on the theme of ecological, social, and economic sustainability of natural resources and environmental services at multiple scales and in local to global settings. Major new thrusts in biofuels, sustainable landscape ecology, and the effects of climate change on forested ecosystems are underway. The Director will play a key role in guiding these new directions. The School’s significant and longstanding relationships with external constituents include strong partnerships with Washington State University and an array of Washington State, federal, and local government agencies. A Visiting Committee of external stakeholders provides input to the Director on a wide range of challenges and opportunities.

Essential duties and responsibilities include leadership of students, staff, and faculty within the School; coordination with the College and University administration; and collaboration across the UW’s three campuses and with external constituents to ensure that the challenges of undergraduate and graduate education, research, and public engagement are met with vision and integrity. The Director serves as the School’s chief administrator and must assure excellence in teaching, training, and mentoring activities; foster participation in sponsored research; address faculty and staff hiring, promotions, and issues of performance; oversee budgets of the School’s central and field units; and assure high-quality infrastructure. Many administrative duties are shared with staff appointed by and reporting to the Director. The Director reports to the Dean of the College of the Environment in accordance with the UW Faculty Code and Governance. The Director, by legislative proviso, serves as a member of the Washington State Board of Natural Resources and as Director of the Institute of Forest Resources.

Required qualifications and characteristics: Candidates must have an earned doctorate degree; demonstrated success in leading productive teaching and research teams; a record of effective administrative experience; and the ability to effectively represent the School and engage its diverse constituencies locally, regionally, and globally.

Highly valued experience includes undergraduate or graduate student teaching, training, and mentorship; a record of collaboration with related physical, biological, and social science disciplines; and experience with inclusive strategic planning and fundraising.

We especially invite applications from candidates with backgrounds in forestry, natural resources, and environmental management and science and who are able to work with diverse academic and professional programs studying human-influenced natural resource and environmental systems spanning urban to wildland settings.

Application process: Applications will be reviewed beginning XXXX, 2011 and will continue until the position is filled. Interested candidates must submit a detailed letter of application addressing the stated essential responsibilities and qualifications and highly valued and other relevant experience, a current curriculum vita, and a list of five knowledgeable references with contact information. Application materials or questions may be sent electronically (preferred) to sefsdir@uw.edu or mailed to:

School of Forest and Environmental Sciences Director Search Committee
University of Washington, Box 352100
Seattle, WA 98195
(attn: Bruce Balick, Chair)

The University of Washington is building a culturally diverse faculty and strongly encourages applications from women and minority candidates. The University of Washington is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity employer.
Supplementary information of interest to applicants:

About SEFS. The School of Forest Resources (after January 1, 1010, The School of Environmental and Forest Sciences (SEFS)), www.cfr.washington.edu, is a founding unit in the University of Washington’s (UW) College of the Environment, created in 2009. The School has been actively engaged in an inclusive strategic planning process since 1995, with faculty, staff, and students meeting annually to review progress on the current three-year plan; this process has facilitated the hiring of a large cohort of new faculty (15 in the last five years) and the restructuring of the School’s undergraduate and graduate programs. Growing student enrollments reflect SEFS’ success in transforming its future in diverse directions of research and scholarship. The School was rated among the top three forest science graduate programs in the U.S. in a report released by the National Research Council in October 2010. Increasing the diversity of SEFS faculty, staff, and students is a priority, and tracking over the last decade has shown a steady increase.

Since its founding as the College of Forestry in 1907, SEFS has played a vigorous and highly visible part in the state and regional community. Along with its partners, the School is evolving to remain responsive to students and the needs of public agencies, corporations, and nonprofits in the science and management of natural resources and public and private lands throughout the region and the world. The School’s Northwest Environmental Forum, founded in 2003, provides a mechanism for collaborative decision making by government, industry, and nongovernment organizations to resolve land and water resource management issues in the Pacific Northwest region. The active pursuit of global engagement has been a hallmark of the School since its early days, including formative participation in large international research projects; today the School’s faculty and students continue active research and education all over the globe; a Peace Corps Masters International Program trains volunteers in forestry and natural resources; and international students and visiting scientists are an important part of the School’s community.

SEFS (then the College of Forest Resources) raised $20.1M during the most recent UW fundraising campaign, exceeding its campaign goal of $17M, a testament to the strength of the School’s alumni and constituent relations. At the beginning of the current fiscal year the value of SEFS endowments was $28.5M. Endowed funds provide generous support for student scholarships and fellowships distributing on the average $500K annually; in addition, the School has XX endowed faculty (professorship/chair) positions, as well as endowed funds that help support the UW Botanic Gardens and the bioresource science and engineering program, and that provide for discretionary funding by the Director. In September 2011 SEFS became the lead on a USDA-funded $40M collaborative project investigating the sustainable development of biofuels from woody biomass.

SEFS facilities include Anderson, Bloedel, and Winkenwerder Halls located on the UW’s Seattle campus; constructed in 1925 during the golden era of campus architecture, Anderson houses the director’s, administrative, and some faculty offices. Bloedel and Winkenwerder house laboratories and most faculty offices. Major field sites for teaching, research, and outreach include the 4,250-acre C. L. Pack Experimental Forest 70 miles south of Seattle; the Olympic Natural Resources Center near Forks, Washington; and the University of Washington Botanic Gardens, comprising the Center for Urban Horticulture on Union Bay, the 60-acre Union Bay Natural Area, the Elisabeth C. Miller Library, and the 230-acre Washington Park Arboretum managed in conjunction with the City of Seattle. The Arboretum is well known internationally, and its visibility is rising with new and expanding collections from the Pacific Rim. Other field sites include Lee Memorial Forest and the Thompson Research and Findley Lake Reserves. SEFS has longstanding collaborations at these and other sites with Washington State University and several city and state agencies.

For more information on the School, see:
   Current mission and vision statements: http://www.cfr.washington.edu/aboutTheSchool/schoolProfile.shtml
   Faculty research interests: www.cfr.washington.edu/SFRPublic/People/facultyTeachingResearch.aspx

Campus and Environs. SEFS is located centrally on the UW’s Seattle campus close to other science and natural resource units. The campus is surrounded by well-maintained neighborhoods and good housing. Excellent restaurants, varied shopping, parks, schools, local libraries and neighborhood centers, and a variety of innovative businesses, many with ties to the UW, lie within biking distance or a commute. The UW is a major regional hub for public transportation and is adjacent to two major freeways and major bicycle access routes. Light-rail connecting the Seattle campus, downtown, many neighborhoods, and the airport will arrive in 2016. The airport has the best on-time departure record in the U.S.

Seattle and environs enjoy a mild marine climate with an array of recreational opportunities, national parks and forests, mountains, islands, and lakes, and a liberal and culturally vibrant urban population. It is included among the 10 most livable large cities in the U.S. (and first on the U.S. West Coast) by The Economist. Downtown theaters, museums, concert and performance halls, and sports stadia are on the UW campus or within five miles. The local cost of housing and living is well below that in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Vancouver B.C. Seattle is best known for technology, health, pharmaceuticals, aviation, higher education, trade, and coffee; In the 209 census 56% percent of the adult population had a college degree. Citizen interest, engagement, and influence in the
destiny of the city are very high, as illustrated by the infamous, sometimes frustrating “Seattle process.” The business of Seattle is heavy on technology, health, pharmaceuticals, aviation, higher education, and trade with East Asia.