THE OPPORTUNITY:

The College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) at Washington State University (WSU) seeks a visionary and distinguished leader to be Founding Chair of the newly established Department of Viticulture and Enology. The position offers an exciting opportunity for leadership in developing new strategic initiatives and in further advancing established areas of excellence in teaching, research, and extension. Members of the Department conduct teaching, research, and Extension activities to train and inform students and stakeholders working in wine and juice grape production and wine and winemaking.

The Department of Viticulture and Enology is dedicated to the continuing development and expansion of scientific and technical knowledge to its diverse stakeholders including wineries, wine and juice grape growers, consumers, students, governmental, and private agencies. Washington’s wine and juice industries were founded in the 1930s and have grown into one of Washington’s premier enterprises, today contributing more than $8 billion to Washington State’s economy.

The Department’s mission is to create and translate information for the development of industry and academic leaders, innovation through extraordinary research, teaching, and Extension/outreach for the region and the world. The successful candidate will be located at the state-of-the-art Wine Science Center on the WSU Tri-Cities campus in Richland, WA.

The Founding Chair will be an individual with outstanding academic or industry credentials who can articulate and execute a clear, shared vision for leading and developing the Department, while promoting a shared sense of collegiality, mutual respect, and support within the Department, College, University, and industry. The Founding Chair will have opportunities to make disciplinary contributions across functional areas according to their interests and skill set.

WSU Position #211923

TITLE:
- Founding Chair, Department of Viticulture and Enology
- Permanent, full-time, 12-month, at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor, eligible for tenure or other negotiated status such as Career Track Associate Professor or Professor at time of hire

LOCATION:
- Washington State University—Tri-Cities Campus, Richland, WA

SALARY:
- Competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience

START:
- August 1, 2022; negotiable

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER.

Members of ethnic minorities, women, special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam-era, recently separated veterans, and other protected veterans, persons of disability and/or persons age 40 and over are encouraged to apply.
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1890, Washington State University is a comprehensive land-grant university with teaching, research, and Extension missions, and one of two research universities in Washington State. WSU is organized into ten academic colleges, the Honors College, and the Graduate School. It has an enrollment of more than 31,000 undergraduate and graduate students on six campuses (Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, Vancouver, Everett and Global) with approximately 21,000 students located on the main campus in Pullman, WA. WSU ranks among the top 60 public research universities and is a Carnegie I, Doctoral/Research Extensive University. WSU strongly values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students and seeks to ensure a welcoming community for all.

Further information about WSU can be found at: www.wsu.edu and wsu.edu/about/facts/.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Founding Chair is responsible for all aspects of the curriculum offered by the Department, distributing the teaching, research, and extension responsibilities, overseeing the equipment/facilities assigned to the unit, allocating and supervising departmental funds, conducting annual reviews of faculty and staff, and performing other duties assigned by the Dean of the College, Chancellor, and Provost. The Founding Chair will oversee an academic program that grants a B.S. degree in Viticulture and Enology and a high-demand Extension certificate program. Graduate degrees that include aspects of viticulture and enology are currently offered through other disciplinary programs. The Founding Chair will also support faculty and staff in the Department of Viticulture and Enology, as well as affiliate departments, in developing and conducting research and Extension/outreach.

QUALIFICATIONS

• Earned PhD in viticulture or enology or a closely related discipline
• Demonstrated record of success in leadership involving fiscal and personnel management of a department, program, or other diverse scientific, commercial, or academic unit
• Demonstrated record of accomplishments in research, teaching, Extension, outreach, and/or leadership in the viticulture or enology industries
• For tenure and/or Professor rank, candidates must have a proven record of accomplishments in research, teaching, and/or Extension commensurate with department, college, and university standards for tenure and rank

THE TRI-CITIES CAMPUS

WSU Tri-Cities is a leading public research and teaching university located in Richland, WA along the beautiful Columbia River in the diverse and growing Tri-Cities (Richland, Kennewick, and Pasco). With a focus on energy, environment, and agriculture, the campus delivers career-connected learning and innovative research that addresses economic and social challenges. For more information visit: tricities.wsu.edu and visit-tri-cities.com
THE DEPARTMENT OF VITICULTURE AND ENOLOGY

The newly inaugurated Washington State University Department of Viticulture and Enology (V&E) grew from the V&E Program (wine.wsu.edu) and is a comprehensive education, research, and Extension unit that supports the region’s winemakers and wine and juice grape growers and prepares students for successful careers in the related industries. Tracing its roots to the birth of Washington’s wine industry in the 1930s, the program has added millions of dollars in value to the state’s economy through discovery and practical applications. The in-state, economic impact of Washington wine is over $8 billion. A strong partnership exists between Washington grape growers, wineries, and WSU. The Washington State Wine Commission dedicates about 25 percent of its annual budget to support viticulture and enology research.

The Department currently consists of six core and 11 affiliate faculty located on the Tri-Cities and Pullman campuses and at WSU Research and Extension Centers. Over 100 undergraduate students major in V&E and more than 20 graduate students work with core or affiliate V&E faculty throughout several academic units. Each year, students in the program are awarded over $122,000 in scholarships. Research funding, including multi-year and multi-institutional collaborative grants, is currently at $9 million while private donations since 2010 have totaled just over $12.1 million. In 2021, the Washington State Grape and Wine Research Program funding was $1.2 million.

The Department is housed in the $23M Ste. Michelle Wine Estates WSU Wine Science Center (wine.wsu.edu/centers/wine-center/), which opened in the fall of 2015 on the WSU Tri-Cities campus in Richland, WA. This state-of-the-art facility was provided through the generous support of the Washington State Wine Commission, Auction of Washington Wines, Washington Winegrowers Association, Washington Wine Technical Group, Washington Wine Industry Foundation, and the Washington State Grape Society; companies such as Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, Wine Spectator, and Northwest Farm Credit Services; governmental partners including the State of Washington and the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and hundreds of grape growers and winemakers. Research vineyards and controlled plant growth facilities are housed at the WSU Prosser Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center (iarec.wsu.edu).

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, HUMAN, AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES

The College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) at Washington State University is an expansive and diverse college that includes 12 academic units three Extension program units, four research and extension centers distributed across the state, 13 subject matter centers, and one tribal and 39 county Extension offices. CAHNRS fosters disciplines that serve at the interface of scientific discovery and its application to the advancement of society and improvement of the human experience. Our mission is to provide global leadership in discovering, accessing, and disseminating knowledge that contributes to producing a safe, abundant food and fiber supply; promotes the well-being of individuals, families, and communities; enhances sustainability of agricultural and economic systems; and promotes stewardship of natural resources and ecological systems. CAHNRS personnel embrace the opportunity to fulfill the university’s land-grant mission by making groundbreaking research discoveries, by utilizing innovative approaches to teaching and learning, and by delivering relevant, progressive Extension programs that synergistically generate outcomes that enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Washington State, as well as for people around the globe. For more information, visit https://cahnrs.wsu.edu/.
APPLICATION PROCESS:

Screening of applicant materials will begin on April 15, 2022 and will continue until the position is filled.

To apply, visit: https://hrs.wsu.edu/jobs/. A complete application will include: 1. A letter of application describing your vision for the position, professional goals, relevant academic and administrative preparation, and experience in leadership positions, 2. Current curriculum vitae, 3. Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) statement (1 page maximum) describing your past experiences, current interests/activities, and/or future goals to promote a climate that fosters diversity, equity, and inclusion and, 4. Name, title, organization, phone number, and email address of four individuals willing to serve as references.

Please contact Dr. Richard Zack, Search Committee Chair, at zack@wsu.edu, 509-335-7247 for questions concerning this position. All qualified individuals are encouraged to apply.


WSU employs only US citizens and lawfully authorized non-US citizens. All new employees must show employment eligibility verification as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

WSU is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact Human Resource Services: 509-335-4521(v), Washington State TDD Relay Service: Voice Callers: 1-800-833-6384; TDD Callers: 1-800-833-6388, 509-335-1259(f), or hrs@wsu.edu.