



Associate Dean and Director, Extension and Outreach College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

As an integral part of the [College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences \(ACES\)](#), the [University of Illinois Extension](#) drives sustainable development, lifelong learning, and community resilience in critical areas such as the environment, food and agriculture, health, community, and economy. Through innovative research, cutting-edge technology, and strategic partnerships, Illinois Extension empowers individuals and communities to thrive in an evolving world. By extending knowledge, developing educational programs, and fostering collaborations, it supports the College of ACES' goal of serving as a catalyst for positive societal change.

Position Overview

The associate dean and director, Extension and outreach, provides leadership, vision and strategic direction for statewide public outreach and research-based education to advance the land-grant mission of the University of Illinois. Specifically, the associate dean and director, University of Illinois Extension and outreach will:

- Provide visionary leadership that addresses the challenges and opportunities associated with major program initiatives, including outreach programs to promote the initiatives of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).
- Integrate Extension outreach with campus faculty, internal or external to the College of ACES, involved by promoting collaboration with the statewide network of county directors and Extension educators to provide high impact educational, research or outreach programs.
- Work effectively with University of Illinois administrators; state and national leaders; industry leaders, growers, and producers; non-profit and private organizations and government agencies, to deliver programs, report accomplishments, and develop and obtain new revenue streams that will enhance Extension's ability to address emerging opportunities.
- Maintain close working relations with state and county governments and local Extension Councils, and provide leadership for developing relations with Federal government organizations.
- Lead and provide direction for all aspects of University of Illinois Extension, including budget and grant management, staffing, field operations and programming. Provide oversight for off-campus facilities including three regional offices and 27 units serving all 102 counties.
- Provide leadership to state and federal grant-funded programs (e.g., Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program –Education, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program).
- Work to increase visibility and program outreach in urban areas in Illinois as well as develop cooperation and understanding between urban/rural needs and access to Extension's resources and opportunities.
- Actively participate and represent University of Illinois Extension in state and national meetings to further the University of Illinois Extension's outreach objectives and new initiatives.
- Participate as a member of the ACES Executive Administrative Team in college-level decision making, serve in an advisory capacity to the dean concerning resource allocation, sabbatical leave, strategic planning, program prioritization, responses to university level requests and initiatives, and other initiatives.
- Comply with Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity and Access policies and guidelines in commitment to achieving a diverse workforce.

Application Due

February 28, 2025

Proposed Start Date

June 1, 2025

Salary

Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience, while also considering internal equity. The budgeted base salary range for the Associate Dean and Director position is \$115,000 to \$200,000.

To Apply

Go To:

<http://go.aces.illinois.edu/1028547>

Apply for this position using the Apply Now button at the top or bottom of the posting and upload a letter of application/interest that includes a statement of their leadership philosophy and experience including perspectives on inclusion and accessibility, curriculum vita, a vision statement for University of Illinois Extension, and contact information for three professional references (include name, title, address, phone, email).

More Information

This is a full-time 100% appointment. ACES invites applications for a faculty position as a full professor tenured or non-tenure track clinical professor paid for nine months of service over twelve months.

The associate dean and director, Extension and outreach, reports to the dean of the college and works closely with the associate dean for academic programs, associate dean for research, associate dean for international programs and the associate dean for diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as the department heads within the college, to encourage and support the development and maintenance of a strong, dynamic Extension and outreach organization.

Required Qualifications:

Applicants must have a doctorate in a relevant field of study and demonstrate a record of scholarly activity commensurate for either the rank of professor in the [tenure-track promotion system](#) or clinical professor in the [specialized faculty system](#) at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Preferred Qualifications:

Proven Leadership in Extension and Engagement

- Demonstrated track record in administration and vision for Extension and/or public engagement as university-wide priorities.
- Ability to leverage faculty expertise across ACES departments and other colleges to advance Extension's strategic goals.

Strategic Collaboration and Advocacy

- Capacity to act as a compelling partner within the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus and with external constituencies to enhance visibility and impact.
- Evidence of productive collaboration with academic leaders and external stakeholders on Extension and engagement initiatives.

Visionary and Strategic Planning

- Demonstrated ability to articulate and implement innovative organizational visions.
- Skilled in translating institutional strategies into actionable goals with prioritized short- and long-term objectives.

Organizational and Fiscal Leadership

- Expertise in navigating complex organizational, political, and fiscal challenges typical of public research universities.
- Experience in improving practices, advocating for resources, and managing complex budgets.
- Success in securing grants and mission-aligned revenue.

Innovative and Inclusive Leadership

- Proven ability to recruit, develop, and retain a diverse team of professional and support staff.
- Skilled in change management, conflict resolution, and consensus building, with a transparent, team-oriented leadership style.

Philanthropy and External Funding

- Ability to collaborate with college and university leaders to build philanthropic support for Extension and engagement priorities.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

- Evidence of success in working with diverse populations across race, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, abilities, and other dimensions.

Knowledge of Trends and Innovation

- Current understanding of Extension service issues and trends.
- Ability to integrate digital engagement strategies alongside traditional methods to meet evolving needs.

Land-Grant University Expertise

- Knowledge of and/or experience with disciplines relevant to Illinois Extension programs.
- Demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service at a land-grant university.

This is a security-sensitive position. Comprehensive background checks, including but not limited to a criminal conviction information check, and a review of the Registered Sex Offender list, will be conducted.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. Convictions are not a bar to employment. The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. For more information, visit [Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct](#) in Prior Employment. The University of Illinois must also comply with applicable federal export control laws and regulations and, as such, reserves the right to employ restricted party screening procedures for applicants.

As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System uses [E-Verify](#) to verify [employment eligibility](#).

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer that recruits and hires qualified candidates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability or veteran status. For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EOO>.

About the University, College, and Unit:

The [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign](#) is a public land-grant research university in Illinois in the twin cities of Champaign and Urbana. It is the flagship institution of the University of Illinois system and was founded in 1867. The university serves the people of Illinois through a shared commitment to excellence in teaching, research, public engagement, economic development, and health care. Faculty, staff, and students share their knowledge, expertise, and resources with residents in every corner of the state through public service and outreach programs.

The [College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences](#) (ACES) at the [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign](#) stands at the forefront of innovation and impact through cutting-edge research, transformative education, and collaborative outreach. Home to [Illinois Extension](#), including [4-H](#), we are catalysts for economic and community development in Illinois and beyond. Our top-ranked [academic programs](#), designed to foster global leadership and scholarly excellence, empower the next generation of leaders to shape a more sustainable and equitable future. Together, we champion robust food systems, nurture thriving families and communities, and steward a healthy planet.

For additional information, view the [College of ACES strategic plan](#) and [23-24 Annual Report](#).

[University of Illinois Extension](#) develops educational programs, extends knowledge, and builds partnerships to support people, communities, and their environments as part of the state's land-grant institution. Extension serves as the leading public outreach effort for [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign](#) and the [College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences](#) in all 102 Illinois counties through a network of 27 multi-county units and over 700 staff statewide. Extension's mission is responsive to eight strategic priorities — community, economy, environment, food and agriculture, health, partnerships, technology and discovery, and workforce excellence — that are served through six program areas — [4-H](#) youth development, [agriculture and agribusiness](#), [community and economic development](#), [family and consumer science](#), [integrated health disparities](#), and [natural resources, environment, and energy](#). For more information, view the [Illinois Extension Strategic Plan](#).

The [Doris Kelley Christopher Illinois Extension Center](#) will serve as the future home of Illinois Extension. The plan for this building project is complete, and construction is expected to start in 2025.

Application Procedure:

To apply, go to <https://go.illinois.edu/1028547>. Apply for this position using the Apply Now button at the top or bottom of the posting and upload a letter of application/interest that includes a statement of their leadership philosophy and experience including perspectives on inclusion and accessibility, curriculum vita, a vision statement for University of Illinois Extension, and contact information for three professional references (include name, title, address, phone, email). To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by 6:00 p.m. (CST) on **February 28, 2025**. This position will remain posted until filled. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be given full consideration.

For further information, contact Dr. Rodney Johnson, Search Committee Chair via e-mail at rwjohn@illinois.edu. For questions regarding the application process, please call 217-333-2137.



College of ACES

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN