Position Description for Director  
Charles D. McCrary Institute

Auburn University, the Office of Vice President for Research and Economic Development, the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences invite applications for the Director of the Charles D. McCrary Institute. The Charles D. McCrary Institute will focus on practical, interdisciplinary research and emerging innovations to provide timely solutions for the protection and security of infrastructure systems and conservation that are essential to our way of life. The Institute is initially funded by a gift from the Alabama Power Foundation to honor Charles D. McCrary. Mr. McCrary recently retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of Alabama Power Company following a distinguished career of leadership and service.

Auburn is one of the nation’s premier land, sea, and space grant institutions. In the 2015 edition of U.S. News and World Report, it was ranked 48th among public universities. The institution is both research-active and committed to maintaining teaching excellence, offering bachelors, masters, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. Its fall of 2014 enrollment of 25,912 students is comprised of 20,629 undergraduates and 5,283 graduate students, including 1,072 professional-doctoral students. There are 1,209 full time instructional faculty members distributed across nine colleges and three schools with degrees offered in 200 academic programs. Auburn University is nationally recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, positive work environment, exciting student life, and the beauty of its campus. It is geographically located in a moderate climate with easy access to both beach and mountain recreational facilities and is situated along the rapidly developing I-85 corridor between Atlanta, Georgia and Montgomery, Alabama.

The goal of the Charles D. McCrary Institute will be to provide significant expertise for the development of next generation technologies to improve the security and operation of our nation’s infrastructure and natural resources while driving our economy and improving quality of life. The institute initially will focus its efforts in two important programmatic areas of research including infrastructure security and resource conservation. To ensure the success and direction of the Institute, Auburn University will form the Charles D. McCrary Institute Advisory Council that will help align the institute’s resources with its mission. Overall administrative support at the university level for the Institute will be provided by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development with academic support provided by the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences.

The successful candidate will have a national reputation of research excellence and will oversee and direct the day-to-day operation of the Institute. As Institute Director, this individual will be recognized as a leading expert with exceptional research credentials who will continue to conduct research, as well as establish, develop, and oversee the operations of the Institute. This nationally recognized expert will hold a faculty position in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and, as Institute Director, will report administratively to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development to provide overall university direction and administration for the Institute. Faculty status is negotiable within the allowable position title requirements. Depending on experience, qualifications, and interest, the successful candidate will be appointed as either a tenure-track (associate/full professor) or non-tenure-track appointment.
Significant emphasis will be placed on developing collaborations with external entities to further expand the breadth and depth of the Institute’s impact. These strategic collaborators will include regional industries, non-profit organizations, as well as federal and state agencies to include national laboratories, as appropriate. The individual selected for the Director position will be expected to provide strategies and practices to expand and sustain the operation of the Institute, including recruiting, retaining and training qualified faculty and students. The Director will also be responsible for solicitation of sponsored research program funding and to assist with development of proposals for philanthropic gifts to support the Institute.

Minimum qualifications are a Ph.D. degree (or equivalent experience) in engineering or related technical area; demonstrated ability to produce meaningful research results; demonstrated abilities in management and entrepreneurial activities, strategic planning and relationship building; an ability to follow through on strategies, project priorities and achieve results; excellent written and interpersonal communication skills; and commitment to collaborative leadership.

Desired qualifications include: experience as a tenured/tenure track faculty at a peer institution and/or engineering experience at the corporate or national laboratory level; a strong record of scholarship; an ability to attract and sustain externally sponsored research funding to support research; administrative experience in developing projects from inception to fully operational phase; expertise in managing organizations, projects and financial matters; and experience in working with and managing advisory boards or councils.

Application packages should include curriculum vitae, a statement of qualifications and vision for leading the Institute; faculty rank and salary are commensurate with experience and qualifications.

While applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled, interested parties are highly encouraged to submit their materials to the address below by February 15, 2016 to ensure optimal consideration. For more details about the College, please see http://eng.auburn.edu/. For additional University information go to https://web.auburn.edu/ir/default.aspx.

Search Committee-Director for the Charles McCrary Institute
Attention: Managing Director
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1025 West Everett Road, Suite #4
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Auburn University is an EEO/Vet/Disability Employer

The candidate selected for this position must be able to meet eligibility requirements to work in the United States at the time appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the proposed term of employment.