Assistant/Associate Professor (5-yr term)
McCain Foods Potato Industry Research Chair
Department of Engineering
Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture
Truro, Nova Scotia

The Faculty of Agriculture, Dalhousie University campus is located in Truro, NS. Offering technical, undergraduate and graduate programs in agriculture, environment and related life and social science disciplines, the Faculty of Agriculture educates future leaders and generates knowledge and innovative solutions for healthy, sustainable societies. This position will be collocated in the Engineering Department of the Faculty of Agriculture and in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

The Department of Engineering in the Faculty of Agriculture invites applications from qualified candidates for a full-time, five-year term faculty position in precision agriculture in potato production at either the Assistant or Associate Professor level, depending on the candidate. The McCain Foods Potato Industry Research Chair (IRC) is expected to develop an advanced and innovative research program in applying precision agriculture technologies to the potato industry. The position is funded through a partnership with the Potatoes New Brunswick and McCain Foods Limited. The incumbent will liaise with the potato industry through meetings and committee work, providing leadership and support in his/her areas of expertise. They will attract external funding for research, including national granting council funding, and publish in peer-reviewed journals and other respected venues. The incumbent will provide classroom and laboratory instruction in the technical, undergraduate, and graduate programs of the Faculty, and supervise undergraduate and graduate students in their thesis work. They will become an active and engaged member of the Faculty, working collegially on projects and committees to promote continuous improvement in research, teaching and learning at Dalhousie.

The candidate must have a PhD in Mechanical Engineering or Agricultural Engineering. It is desirable to have experience in developing and implementing precision agriculture technologies for spot-application of agrochemicals and the agriculture industry. The selected candidate must be eligible for licensure as a registered professional engineer with the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia and as a professional aerologist. The selected candidate should have demonstrated ability or potential to lead multidisciplinary teams; to publish original research in peer reviewed journals; to obtain competitive research grants; and to teach and effectively communicate in both oral and written formats. Expertise is required in at least three of the following: (i) computer programming and electronics application in agriculture, (ii) innovative technologies related to precision agriculture, (iii) development of real-time sensing and control systems, (iv) application of sensor and control systems for site-specific crop management, and (v) developing real-time data collection, analysis, and management tools and developing crop management support systems. The candidate should also have demonstrated potential or excellence in conducting research and technology transfer, the ability to supervise graduate student research, excellent communication, computer programming, electronics and interpersonal skills, and an ability to work in co-operation with a number of university, industry and producer groups. Practical experience in agricultural machinery operations (tractor driving, operation of harvesters, sprayers, seeders, etc.) and maintenance with a hands-on approach are also required for the position. Farming background would be an asset.

The salary is defined by the DFA Collective Agreement, depending on qualifications and experience. A completed Self-Identification Questionnaire is needed, which is available at www.dal.ca/becounted/selfid.

Applications should submit a cover letter stating qualifications and experience, a curriculum vitae, teaching dossier and detailed research plan with references available upon request. The completed applications should be sent before Oct 20th, 2017 to: Peter Havard, (Search Committee Chair). Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture, Banting Building, PO Box 550, Truro, NS B2N 5E3 phavard@dal.ca

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