

# Assistant Project Scientist - Agricultural Sustainability Institute (College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences)

Job #JPF04436

- AGR & ENV SCI DEANS OFFICE / Agricultural and Environmental Sciences / UC Davis

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## APPLICATION WINDOW

**Open date:** September 9th, 2021

**Next review date:** Wednesday, Sep 22, 2021 at 11:59pm (Pacific Time)

Apply by this date to ensure full consideration by the committee.

**Final date:** Sunday, Oct 31, 2021 at 11:59pm (Pacific Time)

Applications will continue to be accepted until this date, but those received after the review date will only be considered if the position has not yet been filled.

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Agricultural Sustainability Institute (ASI) is currently recruiting for an Assistant Project Scientist to work in active research program investigating topics relevant to the research areas of sustainable agriculture.

This is a 100% (full time) position for 1 year with the possibility of extension based on satisfactory performance.

Our mission is to ensure access to healthy food and to promote the vitality of agriculture today and for future generations. We do this through integrative research, education, communication, and early action on big, emerging issues.

The Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis brings together the expertise of more than 70 UC Davis faculty, staff, postdoctoral fellows, graduate student researchers, and undergraduate student assistants to address big and emerging issues related to food and farming sustainability.

We partner with farmers, ranchers, agribusiness, non-profits, policy makers, and local communities to ensure that our research and teaching respond to the needs of the people of California and the world.

### NATURE AND PURPOSE

The Project Scientist makes significant and creative contributions to a research or creative project in his/her academic discipline. The appointee possesses the subject matter expertise and the creative energy necessary to function at a high level of competence. The appointee will participate in activities to increase, improve, or upgrade competency. Appointees with Project (e.g., Scientist) titles may engage in University and public service. They do not have teaching responsibilities. Although the Project Scientist is expected to work independently under the general guidance of an academic member with an independent research program (i.e., Professor, Professional Researcher, Specialist in Cooperative Extension, etc), he/she is not required to develop an independent research program or reputation. He/she will carry out research or creative programs with supervision by an individual in an academic title that carries with it automatic Principal Investigator status. The Project Scientist does not usually serve as a Principal Investigator but may do so by exception.

### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

#### I. RESEARCH AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT (80%)

Research activity and project management (50%)

This position requires creative contributions to and collaborative development of an active research program investigating topics relevant to the research areas of sustainable agriculture (including agroecology, regenerative agriculture, organic agriculture, indigenous agriculture, and permaculture) and sustainable food systems (including alternative food networks broadly, sustainable value chains, food justice and food sovereignty organizations and movements, etc.). The candidate will help to determine research goals in consultation with the Principal Investigator. He/she will design specific projects, including the selection of appropriate methods and techniques for data gathering and analysis. In some cases the candidate may oversee/lead students or technicians regarding the technical aspects of the research, including methods development, trouble-shooting problems, interpreting results and planning follow-up research.

Publication (15%)

The candidate will publish research results in peer-reviewed journals, books and other outlets either independently or in collaboration with the PI or other members of the research team.

Grant Acquisition (15%)

The candidate will assist in developing proposals for funding from federal and state agencies and other funding organizations. The candidate will prepare and

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assist in the preparation of reports as required by granting agencies. The candidate will interact with funding agencies and prepare modifications of budgets and other grant components as needed.

### II. PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE AND ACTIVITY (15%)

The candidate will participate in professional societies and conferences appropriate to his/her specific field and will serve as a reviewer of research proposals and scientific publications as appropriate. The candidate will attend seminars to present research results and may give oral presentations to public and professional interest groups. When appropriate, the candidate may also coordinate and/or give presentations at seminars, laboratory meetings or educational functions.

### III. UNIVERSITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE (5%)

The candidate will engage in public outreach activities that include presenting scientific research results to the general public and providing relevant advice to individuals and public agencies. The candidate will engage in University service activities such as guest lecturing and committee service. Teaching classroom courses is not an expectation of this position.

*UC Davis was ranked #1 in 2016 on Forbes Magazine list of the 13 most important STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) universities for women, and is actively seeking the U.S. Department of Education Hispanic Serving Institution designation. UC Davis celebrates the multi-cultural diversity of its student body by creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for students through such organizations and programs as the Center for African Diaspora Student Success; the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual Resource Center; Casa Cuauhtémoc Chicano-Latino Theme House; Asian Pacific American Theme House; ME/SA (Middle Eastern/South Asian) living-learning community; Multi-Ethnic Program (MEP); Chicano/Latino Retention Initiative; and Native American Theme Program.*

*UC Davis is a smoke- and tobacco-free campus effective January 1, 2014. Smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of unregulated nicotine products (e-cigarettes) are strictly prohibited on any property owned or leased by UC Davis--indoors and outdoors, including parking lots and residential space.*

*COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. For the safety and well-being of the entire university community, the policy requires, with few exceptions, that all students, faculty and staff be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus before they will be allowed on campus or in a facility or office. This requirement will be subject to implementation guidelines and any local procedures for enforcement. For more information, please visit: <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2021/07/ucs-covid-19-vaccine-policy.html>*

**Program:** <https://asi.ucdavis.edu/>

**Division:** <https://caes.ucdavis.edu/>

## QUALIFICATIONS

**Basic qualifications** (required at time of application)

PhD in Geography, Environmental Studies, Environmental Sciences, Agroecology, or related field. (must have degree by start of position).

**Preferred qualifications**

- Training in both social and biophysical sciences.
- Experience working with Cooperative Extension.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

**Document requirements**

- Curriculum Vitae - Your most recently updated C.V.
- Cover Letter
- Statement of Research
- Statement of Contributions to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Contributions to diversity, equity, and inclusion documented in the application file will be used to evaluate applicants. Visit <https://academicaffairs.ucdavis.edu/faculty-equity-and-inclusion> for guidelines about writing a statement and why one is requested.  
(Optional)

**Reference requirements**

- 3-5 required (contact information only)

**Apply link:** <https://recruit.ucdavis.edu/JPF04436>

**Help contact:** [mariroyer@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mariroyer@ucdavis.edu)

## JOB LOCATION

Davis, California