FOUNDING CHAIR – SCHOOL OF CHEMICAL, MATERIALS, AND BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

The College of Engineering at the University of Georgia seeks an exceptional scholar, educator, and leader to be the Founding Chair of the School of Chemical, Materials, and Biomedical Engineering. The School was recently formed to bring identity to our programs, grow interdisciplinary research and education in the college, and to enhance the administrative structure of our college for the benefit of students, staff, and faculty. The UGA College of Engineering is embedded in a top-ranked liberal arts, land-grant institution and is designed to take advantage of its position as the only engineering program in a comprehensive, research-intensive university in the state of Georgia. Since its founding in 2012, the college has added five new degree programs, increased its enrollment from 400 students to 2,000 students, hired over 50 faculty members and staff, and tripled its research awards and expenditures.

The School of Chemical, Materials, and Biomedical Engineering currently consists of 15 full-time faculty members and has over 300 students enrolled in 6 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The combination of these disciplines is intentional and one of the opportunities that the Founding Chair will have is to work with the faculty to enhance the interdisciplinary connections between these engineering disciplines. Research activities within the School are highly interdisciplinary and represent the college theme of use-inspired fundamental research in bio/catalysis, green chemistry and process engineering, metabolic engineering and synthetic biology, bio/materials, tissue engineering, etc. Example areas of interest include development of smart, nanostructured, bio and bio-inspired materials; development and improvement of biological and biochemical processes; and investigation of biomolecular, cellular and physiological behaviors, functions, and processes. Additional information is available at http://www.engineering.uga.edu/.

The Founding Chair will report directly to the Dean of the college and will have responsibilities that are consistent with those of a department head or department chair of a more traditional academic unit. She or he will have budgetary authority for the School and have supervisory responsibilities for staff within the School. She or he will also be expected to recruit, retain, and mentor outstanding faculty and be committed to the principle of diversity and inclusion in our students, staff, and faculty. The Chair will also have authority over matters concerning allocation of resources such as space, matching funds, etc. and will act as a mentor to School faculty. She or he will be responsible for coordinating the instructional assignments for the undergraduate and graduate programs that are administered by the School, and will be responsible for ensuring continued accreditation of all degree programs. The Founding Chair will work with the Dean on assuring the integrity of the annual evaluation process for all faculty and staff.
The Founding Chair will be expected to immediately lead the faculty through a forward-looking strategic planning process that will prepare the School for growth while ensuring that high quality programs flourish at all levels. The planning process will be based on the comprehensive infrastructure and faculty hiring plans within the college. The planning process will be a unique opportunity for the Founding Chair to have a lasting impact on the trajectory of the School far into the future. The Founding Chair must be an effective communicator. Teaching responsibilities may be assigned.

A PhD in an engineering discipline or related field is required. Applicants are expected to be leaders who have a strong record of scholarship, teaching, and service. Applicants at the full professor rank or equivalent non-academic position are strongly preferred, although applicants at other ranks or equivalent credentials will be considered if their accomplishments warrant tenure at the rank of Professor. Preferred qualifications also include experience in administration of academic and/or non-academic organizations, experience in staff supervision, and experience in budgetary management. The applicant must have demonstrated the ability to work and communicate effectively with a diverse group of faculty, staff, students, and administrators to achieve common goals and to maintain rapport with a variety of stakeholders, such as industry representatives and alumni. The applicant must also have demonstrated the ability to grow and sustain interdisciplinary teaching and research activities and will be expected to promote these activities to enhance the School resources.

Applicants are asked to submit the following information:

1. A full curriculum vita.
2. A one-page (or less) statement of interest in the position that includes a description of the applicant’s leadership style.
3. A two-page (or less) document describing how the applicant will work with our faculty, staff, and students to promote interdisciplinary activities and create a community of learning, discovery, and innovation within the School.
4. The names, titles, and contact information for five professional references.

Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. All applications received before February 20, 2017 will be given full consideration. Please submit applications at the following website: http://facultyjobs.uga.edu/postings/1751. For any questions, please contact Dr. Yajun Yan, Chair of the Search Committee, at yajunyan@uga.edu or 706-542-8293.

About the University of Georgia
The University of Georgia is a public land-grant and sea-grant university located in Athens, GA. It is the oldest state-chartered institution in the United States, and currently enrolls more than 34,000 students across 17 schools and colleges. Ranked among the top 20 public institutions by US News and World Report, UGA is a research-intensive university that prides itself on providing high-quality undergraduate, graduate, and professional education.

About Athens, GA
Athens, GA is located approximately 70 miles northeast of Atlanta, GA. Consistently voted one of the best college towns in the United States, Athens has a thriving business, restaurant and music scene. It is the gateway to numerous leisure activities in northern Georgia and is conveniently located about 75 minutes from Atlanta-Hartsfield International Airport.

The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation or protected veteran status.