Faculty of AgriSciences
Department of Forest and Wood Science

Senior Lecturer / Lecturer
(Ref. AW03/366/1119)

The Department of Forest and Wood Science (DFWS) carries out high quality research and education at an international level in close collaboration with the South African plantation based forest industry, which intensively and sustainably harvests 18 million m$^3$ annually from a resource base of 1.35 million hectares (ha) using short, management-intensive rotations. The industry depends heavily on well-informed forward operational planning, which is an essential part of good forest management to ensure profitable, sustainable resource supply. Such current and future decision-making across the full forestry value chain must be supported by high quality, well understood data. Within DFWS we see forest planning as having a fundamental role in integrating the data generated from measurements and models. We link closely with the new and developing Agro-Informatics initiative within the faculty, and are adapting our focus to ensure that data-driven decision support is in line with trends in the revolutionary changes in use of remote-sensing and field-based technologies.

Duties:

The incumbent will contribute to training Forest Science graduates with strong skills in the area of forest resource planning and management and will develop a research direction to underpin and support best practice in this important area of forest science. Specifically, he/she must integrate data science initiatives and research in DFWS, in the wider University and industry, with teaching and research that pertains to forest planning;

- Responsible for undergraduate teaching in compliance with general focus of DFWS, specifically with regards to forest planning and resource management and with a role in teaching forest economics;
- Undertaking high quality research leading to publications in internationally recognised peer-reviewed journals;
- Supervising PhD and M.Sc. students;
- Developing regional, national and international academic networks;
- Working collaboratively with the South African and international forest industries;
- Working collaboratively with relevant researchers and clusters at the University;
- Actively seeking and managing external research funding;
- Involvement with administrative service delivery at departmental, faculty and university level.
Requirements:

- A PhD degree in Forest Science or a related field;
- At least three years’ experience in the field of forest planning and/or resource management;
- Relevant peer-reviewed research publications commensurate with the level of appointment;
- Relevant student or employee supervision experience related to research objectives;
- Proven ability to work within a multi-disciplinary team;
- Ability to function within a multilingual University environment.

Recommendations:

- Experience in the field of data science, computational thinking and informatics, particularly as these pertain to forest planning and decision support;
- Experience in the area of forest economics;
- National and international recognition within the broader field of forest planning;
- Proven administrative and managerial skills.

Commencement of duties: 1 April 2020

Closing date: 17 December 2019

Enquiries: Dr David Drew on 021 808 3295, or at drew@sun.ac.za
Enquiries regarding remuneration/benefits as well as technical assistance with the electronic application process: Human Resources Client Services Centre on 021 808 2753

The University is committed to employment equity (EE), and appointments will be made in line with the EE plan for the specific environment as well as Stellenbosch University’s institutional EE Plan.

The University reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Your application, comprising a comprehensive curriculum vitae (including the names and e-mail address of at least three referees), must reach the University before or on the closing date of the advertised post.

Apply online at www.sun.ac.za/english/careers

The University reserves the right to investigate qualifications and conduct background checks on all candidates.

Should no feedback be received from the University within four weeks of the closing date, kindly accept that your application did not succeed.