Call for Proposals for a New Faculty Position

The Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme (GAHDT) and the Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT) invite proposals for partnership with any ASC Department(s) (Tenure Initiating Unit(s)) on a tenure-track assistant-professor position working on the human and cultural dimensions of food, food justice or food security, to begin Autumn 2020. The position described in the proposal could fill needs in a variety of disciplines, geographical areas or historical periods, but must catalyze creative exchanges between GAHDT’s focus area Livability and InFACT’s Culture, Art and Design (CAD) hiring cluster. Faculty affiliated with InFACT’s CAD cluster work in the areas of food, agriCultures and communities; imaginative geographies for food; and food ethics, particularly in terms of just and inclusive food systems in Ohio, but with an impact on the nation and the world.

The position will be supported equally by both Discovery Theme areas. The aim of this partnership is to establish Ohio State as a leader in the integrated arts and humanities by developing cross-disciplinary collaborations, relational thinking, transformative cultural practices and community engagement. As is the case for all Discovery Theme positions, however, 50% of the support for the position must come from department/college sources. Partnerships between departments and colleges are encouraged, but a Tenure Initiating Unit must be clearly identified.

About the Discovery Themes, InFACT and GAHDT

OSU’s Discovery Themes seek to catalyze diverse ideas and people across disciplines and communities in order to expand the university’s capacity to address complex problems at both local and global scales. Discovery Themes build on the full strength of Ohio State’s teaching and research to pursue innovative approaches to collaborative knowledge-creation and community engagement.

InFACT is a transdisciplinary program aimed at developing sustainable food systems, balancing ecology, economy, technology and culture to promote the overall well-being of people, animals and the natural environment. InFACT focuses on building a systemic approach to transformational change in food systems, with each hire offering connectivity between current areas of strength at Ohio State (for more on InFACT hires see existing hires). InFACT hiring has concentrated in five clusters: Climate Resilient Agriculture; Health and Nutrition; Policy and Planning; Business Ecosystems and Entrepreneurship; and Culture, Art and Design.

GAHDT aims to establish Ohio State as a leader in the integrated arts and humanities by elevating cross-disciplinary collaborations, relational thinking, transformative cultural practices and community engagement, and by fostering critical reflection on how
methodological frameworks shape human decision-making and action. This tenure-track position maps onto the GAHDT Livability focus area, which highlights the transformative role of the arts and humanities in addressing challenges presented by the climate crisis, struggles for livable communities, environmental justice, land and food sovereignty, and social rights in health and cultural systems. For more on GAHDT see globalartsandhumanities.osu.edu.

To Submit a Position Description for Consideration

TIU heads (or deans) should submit brief proposals to Wendy S. Hesford, Faculty Director for the GAHDT, and Casey Hoy, Faculty Director for InFACT. Proposals (1-2 pages) should include the following information:

- Brief position description
- Brief description of how the position fits into the overall teaching/research needs in the unit(s)
- Brief description of how the position will contribute to Ohio State’s national presence as a leader in understanding the human dimensions of food security, the GAHDT Livability focus area, and the InFACT CAD hiring cluster.
- The proposed Tenure Initiating Unit (TIU) and a letter from the Chair of the TIU committing to the position.
- Exemplars (ideally 3-5), people doing the kind of work envisioned. These would not necessarily be people we could or would recruit but give a better idea of the work expected and that there are people who do that kind of work.
- A description of the apriori network envisioned for someone in the position, listing as specifically as possible who you’d expect the partners to be for someone in this position (individual faculty if known, departments, colleges, interdisciplinary programs, other DT positions and initiatives, external partners – academic, industry, NGO’s etc.).
- A list of the faculty who have collaborated on the position description and their connections or potential connections with the two DT initiatives.

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of faculty affiliated with both GAHDT and InFACT Discovery Themes, co-chaired by the Faculty Directors. Those chosen to move forward will be asked to complete a more detailed request that includes a job description, projected salary, space, and start-up costs.

Please send each of these items to the faculty directors of GAHDT and InFACT at the email addresses listed below by April 19, 2019 for consideration. Thanks,

Casey Hoy  
Faculty Director, InFACT  
hoy.1@osu.edu

Wendy Hesford  
Faculty Director, GAHDT  
hesford.1@osu.edu