



## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant Professor Agricultural Systems Modeling Michigan State University

**POSITION:** Michigan State University seeks candidates for a fixed-term Assistant Professor Position in Agricultural Systems Modeling (100% research, with opportunities for teaching, graduate student mentoring, and outreach) to begin August, 2014. The position will be appointed 60% in the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences (PSMS) and 40% in the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering (BAE). Funding for the position is available for five years. Following an initial three-year appointment, the position will be renewed annually based on satisfactory performance. The position is expected to develop an outstanding, grant-supported research program addressing complex agricultural systems in an international context.

**RESPONSIBILITIES and QUALIFICATIONS:** We are looking for an outstanding individual with experience in application of models and other analytical tools to understanding farming systems. The successful candidate will be expected to have agricultural systems expertise, with a deep understanding of production processes and interactions among climate, soil, plants, livestock, and management through use of simulation models and/or statistical approaches. Examples of research areas include developing improved adaptation and mitigation strategies to cope with climate change and variability, assessing adoption potential and impact of new technologies on smallholder farming system performance and food security, social-ecological agricultural systems, and elucidating drivers of sustainable intensification and improved soil and water management. Experience with widely used models such as DSSAT or EPIC, agent-based models or advanced statistical methods would be a plus. Applicants must have a doctorate in a field such as agronomy, soil science, agricultural/biosystems engineering, ecology, crop modeling, geography, or a closely related discipline, and show evidence of excellence in research and a

closely related discipline, and show evidence of excellence in research and a demonstrated ability to obtain grant funding.

The newly formed Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences, which includes the former Departments of Crop and Soil Sciences and Plant Pathology, is an internationally recognized department of more than 50 faculty members, with diverse interests spanning applied and fundamental research. The highly ranked Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering has unique expertise in combining biology and engineering in systems contexts and focuses on food, quality, safety and biosecurity, sustainable ecosystems management, and renewable energy systems. The BAE Department offers BS (accredited by

ABET), MS, and PhD degree programs in biosystems engineering.



College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

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Michigan State University provides excellent opportunities for collaboration in international agricultural research with faculty and research centers such as the Global Center for Food Systems Innovation (GCFSI), the Food Security Group, top US programs for African and Latin American Studies; Gender in a Global Context (GENCEN), the Center for Global Change and Earth Observations, Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems, and Environmental Sciences and Policy Program (ESPP).

**TO APPLY**: Qualified individuals should submit a letter of application, a statement of research interests, curriculum vita, and names and contact information for three references to:

Prof. Sieg Snapp, Search Committee Chair,
Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1325
Telephone 517-282-5644, E-mail: <a href="mailto:snapp@msu.edu">snapp@msu.edu</a>.

Applications for this position should be submitted online at https://jobs.msu.edu (posting #9290). Review of applications will begin May 15, 2014, and continue until the position is filled.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. The University actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities.