

Assistant Professor in Commercial Recreation
Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies (CARRS)
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR)
Michigan State University (MSU)

The Department of CARRS is a multi-disciplinary department that addresses critical issues at the interfaces of communities, agriculture, recreation, tourism, and natural resources, both domestically and abroad. Our mission is to assist the development of sustainable communities by conducting excellent scholarly research, teaching and outreach in (1) natural resource recreation and tourism systems, (2) education and civic engagement, (3) community, food and agricultural systems and (4) natural resources and the environment.

Appointment Overview: Assistant professor position, tenure stream, academic year (9 month) appointment. Funding lines: 35% university general fund, 30% Michigan Agriculture Experiment Station (MAES) and 35% MSU Extension (MSUE).

Position Description: The successful candidate is expected to develop integrated research, teaching, and outreach programs relevant to commercial recreation. We are open to a broad range of content and expertise areas, but will give preference to candidates having a background in the business disciplines, including economics, marketing, entrepreneurship and finance. Preference will also be given to candidates that have a demonstrated ability to work with commercial recreation industries in an outreach capacity. The successful candidate will be expected to develop an internationally recognized program of scholarly research. Development of external grants and/or contracts to support this research and the support of graduate students (with funding and as a mentor for thesis and dissertation research) are essential. The successful candidate will be expected to teach two (2) classes annually. These courses will be identified in consultation with the department chair based on candidates' interests and expertise as well as departmental needs. General departmental and university responsibilities are a component of all tenure-track appointments.

A priority focus of this position is to play a lead role in addressing the research, outreach, and education needs of commercial recreation businesses and industries (including boating) in Michigan, the Great Lakes region and beyond. The successful candidate will be expected to maintain and develop effective university and industry partnerships in concert with other MSU faculty, and to support the sustainable economic development of the commercial recreation industry.

Minimum Qualifications: Minimum qualifications for this position are a Ph.D. in fields relevant to the position, with preference given to business disciplines and those with an earned Ph.D. Additional requirements include demonstrated ability and interest in working with policy makers and commercial recreation entrepreneurs and industries at many levels and in a multi-disciplinary department. Previous teaching experience is also essential.

Salary: Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Application and Deadline Process: Closing date for applications is September 15, 2008. However, applications will continue to be received until the position is filled. It is anticipated that all applications will be reviewed by October 1, 2008 with interviews in October or November 2008. The preferred starting date will be August 16, 2009 although an option may be available to start January 1, 2009.

Applicants should electronically submit in a PDF file to the chair of the search committee (nelsonc@msu.edu): 1) a letter of application describing background fit to the above job description, 2) *curriculum vita*, 3) a brief essay (350 words) on outreach education and research philosophy. In addition by regular mail they should submit 4) official university transcripts, 5) three letters of reference (sent directly to the Search Chair), and 6) reprints of selected publications and/or evidence of outreach education program experiences. Submit applications and mail to:

Dr. Charles Nelson, Commercial Recreation Search Committee Chair
Dept. of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies
Michigan State University
131 Natural Resources Bldg.
East Lansing, MI 48824-1222

For further information please contact Dr. Nelson at nelsonc@msu.edu or (517) 432-0272. More information about the Department of CARRS can be found at www.carrs.msu.edu.

Michigan State University (www.msu.edu) is one of the nation's leading research institutions and is recognized internationally as a U.S. public university having a global reach. MSU has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research, and outreach for over 150 years. Founded in 1855 as the nation's first land-grant university, MSU was the prototype for dozens of land-grant institutions established under the Morrill Act. MSU is a member of the Association of American Universities, the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, and the Big Ten athletic conference.

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