Tenure Track Assistant/Associate Professor in Industrial Design

The Industrial Design Program, School of Architecture + Design, College of Architecture and Urban Design, at Virginia Tech is looking for ambitious and engaged colleagues to join the faculty as tenure track assistant or associate professors for the academic year beginning Fall Semester of the 2015 academic year. Salary, rank, and teaching assignments are commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The Position

The primary responsibility is to teach a design studio in the accredited undergraduate Industrial Design Program (BS.IDS) each semester and other courses across the Industrial Design curriculum. The candidate will have the opportunity to contribute to the program’s innovative Module offerings.

Appointment to the rank of Assistant Professor carries with it professional responsibilities in teaching/learning, research/discovery, and outreach/engagement/service. Assistant Professors are expected to practice innovative modes of teaching in accordance with the School's pedagogical traditions, integrating their teaching activities with the School's ongoing research initiatives, scholarship, and creative activities; and engage in outreach and/or service work, including community service-learning projects, service to the profession, service to students through advising work, or service to the School, College, or University through participation on various committees, etc. Associate Professors demonstrate substantial professional accomplishments by evidence of an appropriate combination of outstanding teaching, creative scholarship, and recognized performance in academic and professional service.

Minimum Required Qualifications

A terminal degree in Industrial Design (MA, MS, MFA, MID) is required. Candidates should demonstrate an excellent body of work in design, as well as experience in teaching design studio and other courses across the Industrial Design curriculum. Successful candidates should demonstrate a teaching style that effectively integrates the learning experience of the design studio with the program’s growing initiatives in areas such as user-centered design, interdisciplinary/collaborative product development, research-based design education, and connected device experience. Special preference will be given to a candidate that is comfortable with the tools and methods involved in developing design experiences spanning both physical and digital media (Arduino, Rasberry Pi, etc.).

The Industrial Design Program

The Industrial Design program takes pride in a polytechnic tradition that promotes theory and practice as equally critical components of an industrial design identity. This identity acquires particular meaning within the context of Virginia Tech’s tradition of “Hands-on, Minds-on,” which emphasizes collaborative and project-based learning, culminating in a senior thesis. The Program is a highly ranked, award winning, User-Centered Design program with a continually evolving and developing curriculum which prepares our graduates to be leaders in the profession. It advances a pedagogy and undergraduate studio environment that provide unequaled interaction and collaboration across years and disciplines.

The program is actively involved in collaborative and cross-disciplinary projects and activities across campus and beyond, including Virginia Tech’s newly established Center for the Arts, and the Institute for Creativity, the Arts and Technology. Our outreach and study abroad programs include opportunities nationally in Chicago and the Washington, DC area, and internationally in Switzerland, China, and India.

The Industrial Design program is one of four programs housed in the School of Architecture + Design, which includes Architecture, Interior Design and Landscape Architecture, and is one of four Schools in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. Students and faculty in the program have access to
outstanding facilities and equipment, both digital and analog, and each of our approximately 135 students over our four-year curriculum has his/her own desk in our open-studio setting.

Our graduates work in some of the best corporate and consulting firms in this country and internationally. Visit our Alumni News page for a partial listing of firms where our graduates have worked or are working now.

The University

Virginia Tech, founded in 1872 as a land-grant institution, is currently ranked as a Top 25 Public University by US News & World Report and a Top 25 Public Research University by the national Science Foundation. Through a combination of its three missions of learning, discovery, and engagement, Virginia Tech continually strives to accomplish the charge of its motto: Ut Prosim (That I May Serve). As the Commonwealth's most comprehensive university and its leading research institution, Virginia Tech serves a diverse population of 30,000+ students and 8000+ faculty and staff form over 100 countries, and is engaged in research around the world. Invent the Future of Virginia Tech.

Blacksburg

Blacksburg is home to 41,700 local residents. Because of the town’s award-winning services, reasonable cost of living, safety, moderate climate, and abundant leisure activities, Blacksburg is consistently ranked among the country’s best places to live and has earned a reputation nationwide as a well-managed, stable, and forward-looking community. In 2011 and 2012, Bloomberg Businessweek named Blacksburg the best place in the United States to raise children. Blacksburg has been ranked among the nation’s best places to live by Blue Ridge Country Magazine, Men’s Journal, 50 Best Small Southern Towns, The Sporting News, and Retirement Places Rated. Outside Magazine ranked Blacksburg a top-10 “dream town” for outdoors enthusiasts with natural resources for hiking, biking, whitewater rafting, and climbing.

Application Process

Applicants must complete and submit the online faculty application at http://listings.jobs.vt.edu referencing posting TR 0140154. The search will remain open until the position is filled, but to be assured full consideration, complete applications should be submitted by January 31, 2015. Candidates also must submit a cover letter, a resume/curriculum vitae, a statement of the candidate’s approach to teaching, and the names and contact information for three current references as attachments to the online application. In addition, candidates must submit supplemental materials (not returnable), including a portfolio with examples of professional and/or creative work and of the work of students taught, samples of research and scholarship, and/or other pertinent information supporting their application.

Please submit your supplemental materials to:

Henri T. de Hahn, Director
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
School of Architecture + Design (MC 0205)
1355 Perry Street, Rm. 201 Cowgill Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24061, USA

Visit the Industrial Design home page to download a Position Announcement PDF with embedded links.