President’s Informatics Faculty
Hiring Initiative

Call for Proposals

President Jere W. Morehead and Provost Pamela Whitten are pleased to announce the 2015-16 Presidential Hiring Initiative, which focuses on recruiting faculty across disciplines for a university-wide Informatics initiative. This initiative will create up to eight new tenure-stream positions for the purpose of enhancing the University’s ability to engage in Informatics-based instruction and world-changing scholarship.

Overview of the UGA Informatics Initiative

The amount of digital information available to both researchers and practitioners will continue to increase at a startling rate. The field of Informatics developed to facilitate the practice of information processing (which includes data collection, classification, storage, retrieval, analysis and dissemination), as well as the engineering of information systems. Informatics is inherently interdisciplinary, both as an academic discipline as well as in its applications, which are numerous and broad.

In the biomedical and health arenas, consider the tremendous amounts of data being generated through clinical trials, such as imaging of healthy and diseased tissues and individual medical records. Genome studies, of not only individuals but also many individuals within a species, are generating massive information, from medicine to agriculture. Social and political scientists are mining huge amounts of data from the Internet, social media and political polling, often with a geographic focus superimposed. Humanists are increasingly preoccupied with digital archives, while business analysts want access to large data sets for financial market analysis, supply chain management, risk assessment and other uses. Physical scientists are collecting countless images of molecular structure, as well as of the solar system and the universe. Environmental scientists are amassing data sets to track climate change and its impacts. Computer science and engineering are pivotal to the technological solutions that will incorporate informatics into all areas of study. Clearly, the applications of informatics are as diverse as our imaginations and, for this reason, the science of informatics is important to virtually every academic discipline/college at the University of Georgia.

General Information

Hires are expected to join UGA as qualified, tenure-stream faculty members. All proposed positions must be full-time on an academic year appointment. All schools and colleges are eligible to submit applications, and there is no limit to the number of applications a school or college can submit. However, each application must have the full support of the respective dean where tenure and promotion will reside. Hires may reside within a single unit, but creative interdisciplinary hires are encouraged.
At least 10% of the proposed salary must be provided by each participating school/college/department, with the remainder coming from central administration. Start-up packages also may be requested, with 80% funded centrally and 20% coming from the respective school(s) or college(s). Schools, colleges, institutes, or centers must commit space, moving expenses, and other start-up expenses not covered in the start-up package.

**Application Requirements** *(Please use the President’s Informatics Faculty Hiring Initiative application that can be found at [http://provost.uga.edu/index.php/fiscal-affairs/](http://provost.uga.edu/index.php/fiscal-affairs/))*

1. **Rationale.** Provide rationale for your proposed Informatics faculty hire. Describe the projected impact of the proposed hire on instruction, research and the opportunities for external funding and/or outreach.

2. **Position description.** Provide a brief description of the primary responsibilities associated with this position and how this position may affect undergraduate/graduate education.

3. **Budget.** Complete a budget with a request for salary and start-up funds.

4. **Signatures.** All proposals must be approved by the participating dean(s) and others if appropriate. If a vice president commits funds, he or she must indicate approval by signature as well.

Completed applications are due no later than **August 20, 2015.** Please submit all completed applications and accompanying materials as a single PDF to Chris Miller in the Office of Academic Fiscal Affairs at chrisjm@uga.edu.