Department Chair, Biological Sciences

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, invites applications for Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences. Applicants must have a Ph.D. and obtained the rank of Associate or Full Professor at their current institution. Evidence of significant intellectual contributions to their field of research, a strong record of publication and extramural funding, and a demonstrated commitment to teaching in a biological sciences department at both the undergraduate and graduate level are required. The successful candidate is also expected to foster, lead, and manage an integrative department with consideration of institute policies and procedures. The successful candidate should also demonstrate a commitment to the promotion of diversity and inclusion among faculty, staff, and students. While no defined research focus is required for the position, the successful candidate’s expertise should complement and advance existing research within the department and university. Candidates with prestigious achievements in their field and exceptional national and international reputations will be eligible for consideration for significant endowment support through appointment as a Shelby Distinguished Professor. 
https://provost.ua.edu/Shelby/

The Department of Biological Sciences has approximately 1,800 undergraduate students pursuing BS degrees in biology, microbiology, and marine science. In addition, the department has approximately 130 graduate students enrolled in Biology MA and MS, Marine Biology MS, and Biology PhD programs.

The University of Alabama is the state’s flagship public university with an R1 rating for research activity. UA enrolls over 38,645 students. UA has ranked among the top 70 public universities in the nation by U.S. World and News Report’s annual college rankings for more than a decade, and has produced 62 Goldwater Scholars, 16 Rhodes Scholars, 16 Truman Scholars, 41 Hollings Scholars, and 17 Boren Scholars. The University of Alabama is also a leader among public universities nationwide for enrollment of National Merit Scholars with more than 1,088 currently enrolled. UA was named a Top Producing Institution for Fulbright U.S. Student Awards for the sixth time in eight years. There are currently 35 faculty who have received NSF Career Awards, the nation’s most prestigious recognition of top-performing young scientists.

UA is located in Tuscaloosa, a metropolitan area of over 268,000, with a vibrant economy, an innovative and progressive community, and excellent quality of life. It offers exceptional educational, cultural, sports, and recreational opportunities to faculty and their families. Tuscaloosa also provides easy access to mountains and water recreation, tremendous biodiversity, and is one hour from Birmingham, three hours from Atlanta, and five hours from the Gulf coast.

Questions about the position should be addressed to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Steve Thomas (sathomas16@ua.edu). To apply, go to https://facultyjobs.ua.edu, complete the online application https://careers.ua.edu/jobs/search/AS, and upload: (1) a cover letter; (2) a CV; (3) a three-page statement describing your past administrative experience, your approach to...
departmental management, and vision for the department; (4) a three-page statement describing past research achievements and future goals; (5) a one-page statement of teaching interests and philosophy; (6) a one-page statement on the ways in which issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion has shaped your approach to teaching, research, and service; and (7) a list of three to five references (including contact information). The search committee will request letters of reference as needed. Consideration of applications will begin December 1st, 2023, and will continue until the position is filled. Before hiring, the final candidate must pass a pre-employment background check. The start date is August 16, 2024. Additional information about the Department of Biological Sciences and this position can be found on our website at http://bsc.ua.edu. The University of Alabama is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access Employer and is strongly committed to the diversity of our faculty and staff. Applicants from a broad spectrum of people, including women, members of ethnic minorities, and disabled persons, are especially encouraged to apply.