

**Title: Assistant Professor of Strawberry Breeding and Genetics and Director Elect of the UC Strawberry Breeding Program**  
**Department of Plant Sciences, University of California, Davis**

The Department of Plant Sciences in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of California, Davis is recruiting an Assistant Professor of Strawberry Breeding and Genetics and Director-Elect of the Strawberry Breeding Program. This is an academic-year (9-month), tenure-track position with teaching, research, outreach/engagement, and service responsibilities. The appointee is expected to conduct mission-oriented research and outreach/engagement activities relevant to the California Agricultural Experiment Station (<https://caes.ucdavis.edu/research/aes>). This is an outstanding opportunity to lead the prestigious Strawberry Breeding Program of the University of California. We seek an exceptional candidate for this role, from either academia or industry, who is committed to developing and deploying cutting-edge plant breeding technology to ensure the continued development of successful commercial cultivars of strawberry with enhanced disease resistance, quality, and climate resilience for both field and indoor growing systems.

UC Davis is committed to hiring leading research faculty with an outstanding commitment to teaching, research, and service who are from and/or will promote historically underrepresented and marginalized communities and who will address the needs of our increasingly diverse state and student population. Successful candidates will help advance UC Davis' strategic goal of improving access and building an inclusive community for all marginalized populations.

**Responsibilities:**

The Department of Plant Sciences is seeking applicants that focus on fundamental and applied plant breeding, genomics, and genetics to enable continued success of the Strawberry Breeding Program. The appointee is expected to lead the Strawberry Breeding Program, following a two year overlap with the current breeder to ensure a smooth transition, and release commercial cultivars. The breeding program is well supported for cultivar development; additional competitively funded research will increase our understanding of strawberry genomics and genetics and ensure the program continues to release successful cultivars. The appointee will be responsible for teaching all or part of undergraduate and graduate classes in plant breeding, genetics, statistics, or quantitative genetics as assigned by the department chair, e.g., PLS 120 (Applied Statistics in Agricultural Science); PLS 12 (Plants and Society); and/or PLS225 (Quantitative Genetics). The typical teaching load is equivalent to two undergraduate courses per year (on a quarter system) and additional graduate teaching. Participation in and development of outreach/engagement programs, and performance of departmental and university service is expected. This hire is of key strategic importance to the department and campus, with significant out-facing interactions with multiple stakeholders in California and globally, across the strawberry industry.

**Qualifications:**

Required qualifications include Ph.D. or equivalent in plant science, breeding, genetics, genomics, physiology, developmental biology, or related field at the time of appointment; experience, productivity, and creativity in plant breeding, crop improvement, quantitative genetics, plant biology, or related field; a strong commitment to teaching and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students; interest in, understanding of, and commitment to enhancing diversity by including groups that are under-represented in the academy through extension education, research, and/or service as stated in the candidate's Statements of Contributions to Diversity; evidence of communication skills and collegiality consistent with effective departmental, campus and professional citizenship; outstanding verbal and written communication skills; interest in, understanding of, and commitment to the land-grant mission; and excellent interpersonal skills and an eagerness to work with an interdisciplinary team in a collegial atmosphere.

Preferred qualifications include post-doctoral experience; success in scientific publication; experience in cultivar development; experience or potential to obtain extramural support for research activities; experience or the potential to teach courses in crop improvement, quantitative genetics, genetics and genomics, and/or crop production and management; experience in leadership and organizational skills to manage a large, complex program with both fundamental and applied research outputs; demonstrated ability or potential to build relationships with stakeholders, state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector; and experience working internationally.

**Salary:**

Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**Applications:**

Application materials must be submitted via the following website: <https://recruit.ucdavis.edu>. The position will remain open until filled. To ensure consideration, applications should be received by 15 March 2022.

Required application materials include: 1) curriculum vitae including publication list, 2) up to three publications, 3) transcripts if the applicant is within five years of Ph.D. degree, 4) statement of research accomplishments, 5) statement of teaching accomplishments and philosophy, 6) statement of future research plans relevant to the Strawberry Breeding and Genetics Program, 7) Statement of Contributions to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and 8) the names, addresses, including e-mail, of four professional references not at UC Davis (they may also provide two additional references, who may be from within UC Davis, if they wish) and an [Authorization to Release Information form](#) Additional inquiries should be directed to Dr. Charles Brummer, [ecbrummer@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ecbrummer@ucdavis.edu), chair of the search committee, or Dr Gail Taylor, chair of the Department of Plant Sciences ([gtaylor@ucdavis.edu](mailto:gtaylor@ucdavis.edu)).

*The University of California is committed to creating and maintaining a community dedicated to the advancement, application, and transmission of knowledge and creative endeavors through academic excellence, where all individuals who participate in University programs and activities can work and learn together in a safe and secure environment, free of violence, harassment, discrimination, exploitation, or intimidation. With this commitment, UC Davis conducts a reference check on all first-choice candidates for Academic Senate Assistant Professor or Lecturer with Potential for Security of Employment, Steps 4, 5, or 6, or Acting Professor of Law positions. The reference check involves contacting the administration of the applicant's previous institution(s) to ask whether there have been substantiated findings of misconduct that would violate the University's Faculty Code of Conduct. To implement this process, UC Davis requires all applicants for any open search for assistant professor to complete, sign, and upload the form entitled "Authorization to Release Information" into RECRUIT as part of their application. If an applicant does not include the signed authorization with the application materials, the application will be considered incomplete, and as with any incomplete application, will not receive further consideration. Although all applicants for faculty recruitments must complete the entire application, only finalists considered for Academic Senate Assistant Professor or Lecturer with Potential for Security of Employment, Steps 4, 5, or 6, or Acting Professor of Law positions will be subject to reference checks.*

*UC Davis is an affirmative action/equal employment opportunity employer and is dedicated to recruiting a diverse faculty community. We welcome all qualified applicants to apply, including women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities.*