



POSITION DESCRIPTION

ENDOWED CHAIR IN ADVANCED FIBER-BASED MATERIALS

School of Materials Science and Engineering
College of Engineering and Science,
Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634-0971

Clemson University is poised to embark on a challenging enterprise as the beneficiary of a remarkable gift and of the foresight of the state of South Carolina. The School of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) at Clemson University has been granted a Chair in Advanced Fiber-based Materials, endowed through a donation from the J.E. Surrine Textile Foundation, and matched by funds from the South Carolina Research Centers of Economic Excellence (RCEE) Act. MSE at Clemson University, in conjunction with the Center for Advanced Engineering Fibers and Films (CAEFF), is soliciting applications and nominations for the **J. E. SIRRINE TEXTILE FOUNDATION ENDOWED CHAIR IN ADVANCED FIBER-BASED MATERIALS**. The *Surrine Chair* will be a preeminent scholar with an international reputation for research into the next generation of organic fiber based materials. The Surrine donation, together with the state RCEE match, will provide an endowment of up to \$8 million; the Chair is charged by the RCEE Act to focus on knowledge-based economic development as well as the traditional academic excellence expected of a chaired professor. The Chair will be supported in the economic development requirement through partners in this endeavor that include the Spiro Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership.

The *Surrine Chair* will be a dynamic, innovative leader with a distinguished track record of scholarship. The Chair will have an earned doctorate in materials science or closely related discipline with 10-plus years of academic and/or relevant industrial experience. Of particular interest are persons with research experience in biologically inspired materials and advanced functional polymers (including nanoscale materials, conducting polymers, and smart materials). The Surrine Chair will have extensive industrial and governmental contacts, a solid history of international, inter-disciplinary research, support and outreach activities, and a proven innovation record as evidenced by patents and licensed/commercialized technologies. The candidate will also be entrepreneurially minded having either created or consulted with new firms or have quantifiably contributed to business development or technology entrepreneurship. As a faculty member within the School of Materials Science and Engineering, the responsibilities of the Chair will include development and teaching of undergraduate and graduate courses, establishment of a strong and sustained research program, and demonstration of service to the University.

Nominations should include a brief introduction to the nominee, including his or her contact information. Applicants should submit a letter stating interest in the position that cites experience relevant to the above-noted candidate qualities, a curriculum vitae, and names and contact information for five references. Additional supporting documentation will include a statement of envisioned purpose and goals to be pursued as the Chair, including a teaching, research and entrepreneurship philosophy statement, of 1-2 pages on each topic, apropos the above statements on the Endowment vision and objectives. Informal inquiries, applications, and nominations should be directed to Dr. Michael Ellison, Chair of the Search Committee, at the address below. All application materials must be received by March 1, 2007 to receive full consideration; however the search will remain open until the position is filled. We expect that the position will be filled in August 2007, or at the latest, January 2008.

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