Associate Director of the Master of Engineering Program in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Cornell University

Cornell is a community of scholars, known for intellectual rigor and engaged in deep and broad research, teaching tomorrow’s thought leaders to think otherwise, care for others, and create and disseminate knowledge with a public purpose.

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) and the College of Engineering seek an exceptionally well qualified individual to serve as Associate Director of the Master of Engineering (MEng) Program in MSE at Cornell University.

We seek a person with a Ph.D. in MSE and/or equivalent industrial experience related to MSE in an engineering field, and anticipate an appointment at the level of Senior Lecturer, or Lecturer, depending on experience and qualifications. A combination of excellent technical knowledge, pedagogical skills, interpersonal and leadership skills, as well as visibility in the field of MSE is required.

Our program is in a strong growth mode and we seek a person for a 30% to 50% position in the first year (approx. June 2015 to May 2016) and a 100% position thereafter. It will be possible to structure the position to maintain some outside effort such as consulting. This is a 3 year term appointment.

The MSE MEng Associate Director is expected to take a leading role in developing, refining, and improving the MSE MEng program and will be responsible for its success as well as its day to day operations. Primary areas of responsibility include:

1. Program development and execution: Work with tenured faculty to develop “tracks,” groups of courses that provide knowledge and skills of interest to industry partners and students. Work with corporate partners to generate company-sponsored student projects that meet both student and industry needs. Work with other colleges, schools, and departments at Cornell (e.g. Johnson Graduate School of Management, Cornell Law School, other departments in Engineering and other colleges) to create meaningful learning experiences for students interested in business-related careers (e.g. innovation, management, ethics, etc.). Teach at least one course per year, with content to be determined in collaboration with the MEng Committee and the MSE Department Director.

2. Marketing and recruiting: Ensure that the best possible students worldwide apply for and matriculate into the MSE MEng program.

3. Corporate relations: Work with MSE-related businesses to find and capitalize on synergies. Recruit and ensure the success of company-sponsored student projects. Identify skills and knowledge that businesses need that are appropriate to the MSE MEng program and work to ensure that the MSE MEng program provides them. Help employers and students find excellent matches. Connect appropriate Cornell faculty with businesses that have specific technical needs.

4. Student experience: Welcome and advise students. Facilitate student access to campus services (Career Services, International Students and Scholars Association, Innovation and Business-related organizations and activities, Writing and speaking workshops and training,
etc.). Arrange special sessions (a few each semester) on “soft skills” development (resume writing, job search, interviewing, etiquette and ethics in the United States, etc.—these may often be available though guest speakers). Proactively identify and resolve issues that cause problems for students that are directly related to the program.

5. Continuous improvement: Develop and maintain a set of program quality metrics. Advocate for changes that will improve the quality and impact of the program.

The MSE MEng Associate Director is a voting member of the MSE MEng committee, which consists of the MEng Director (chair; a tenured faculty member who serves as advocate and link to the tenure track faculty for the program) and two other tenure track faculty, and has a vote on the faculty regarding MEng (and other) issues at the discretion of the Department Director.

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Cornell University is one of the premier MSE programs internationally. We earned this position through our leadership in innovative interdisciplinary research and our dedication to providing an exceptional education at all levels. Through our MEng program, we expect to produce a cadre of exceptionally well-trained people at the post graduate level who will become strong leaders and innovators in MSE-related businesses worldwide.

Applications including a resume, a statement on teaching and research interests, copies of publications or preprints, and names of several references should be submitted online at: https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/5515

Applications will be reviewed starting May 1, 2015 and will be accepted until this position is filled.

Cornell Engineering

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We're an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.