

Job Description

Assistant Professor, Physics / Astronomy



Assistant Professor, Physics / Astronomy
San Diego Community College District

Closing Date: 3/14/2019

Position Number: 001452

Location: San Diego Mesa College

The Position:

From San Diego Mesa College President Pamela Luster:

San Diego Mesa College seeks energetic and dedicated candidates to apply for academic positions. The College is committed to academic excellence and diversity, equity and inclusion among its faculty, staff, and students. As the “Leading College of Equity & Excellence”, we take responsibility for equitable outcomes and work together to create successful pathways for all of our students.

As the largest college in the San Diego Community College District, the institution enjoys a solid financial standing, state of the art facilities, and a world class faculty and staff. For 55 years, Mesa College has been on the leading edge, from offering a Community College Bachelor's Degree, to being the #1 California Community College to graduate students with an Associate Degree for Transfer in 2016.

Candidates who believe that they can contribute and demonstrate a commitment to equity and excellence by creating the conditions that matter for our students to succeed are encouraged to apply.

Applications are being accepted for the position of Assistant Professor, Physics/Astronomy, at San Diego Mesa College. The position begins in late August 2019. Mesa College is located in the Kearny Mesa area of the city of San Diego and is one of three colleges in the San Diego Community District. Assignments may include some combination of day, evening, Saturday, and/or off-campus classes.

While the current vacancy is at Mesa College, applicants are subject to assignment at any District facility at the option of the Chancellor.

In addition, applications submitted may serve to establish an eligibility list for similar vacancies that may occur in the District throughout the academic year. Final appointment of this position will be dependent upon the outcome of the State budget.

Major Responsibilities:

The position is a part of the Physical Sciences Department, which reports to the Dean of the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. The department offers courses in the disciplines of Astronomy, Engineering, Geology, Oceanography, Physical Science, and Physics. Teaching duties will primarily focus on lower division lecture/laboratory courses in physics for science/engineering majors.

Teaching may also include lower division algebra-and/or calculus-based physics courses for life-science and physical science majors.

Courses may also include one or more of the following additional disciplines: astronomy. Ongoing responsibilities include supervising and instructing students, maintaining office hours for student advisement and counseling, participation with other college faculty on academic committees, and assisting with department outreach activities.

Additional responsibilities include curriculum development and administrative duties related to program review and student success.

Qualifications:

Master's in physics, astronomy, or astrophysics

OR

Bachelor's in physics or astronomy

AND

Master's in engineering, mathematics, meteorology, or geophysics

OR

the equivalent.

Desired Qualifications:

The successful candidate will have:

- Recent experience and/or knowledge of teaching college-level physics/astronomy lecture and laboratory courses to students from historically underrepresented groups.
- Experience and/or knowledge in working with students of great diversity in socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic background, including those with different levels of academic preparation and varying physical and learning abilities.
- Experience with and/or interest in improving physics/astronomy education using strategies that foster a diverse and inclusive learning experience, enabling all students to fully participate in the learning process.
- Experience and/or interest in co-curricular activities, including planning, implementing, and teaching in programs designed to support student success and scientific identity development.
- The ability to develop and implement research program/projects for science major students.
- Current knowledge of instructional practices and culturally responsive pedagogical techniques for engaging historically underserved students.
- Experience in and/or knowledge of laboratory curriculum development.
- Experience engaging in outreach activities outside of the classroom.
- The ability to make effective classroom presentations by demonstrating a working knowledge of learning theory, techniques of teaching, and subject matter mastery.
- The ability to integrate computer and other technologies as teaching and learning aids, including laboratory and online applications.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with students, colleagues, administrators, instructional laboratory technicians and other staff.
- The ability to develop a vision and provide leadership for the physics/astronomy discipline, including areas contributing to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Ongoing participation in professional development activities in physics/astronomy.
- Upper division or graduate coursework (preferred, but not required) in at least one of the following additional disciplines: astronomy.

Pay Information:

Class 1, Step A – Class 6, Step C (\$5,783.69 – \$7,793.19) per month based on the current AFT – COLLEGE Faculty Tenured-Tenured Track Monthly Salary Schedule.

Initial salary placement for this Assistant Professor is commensurate with required education and related teaching experience as outlined in section A2.1 of the AFT Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement and it is non-negotiable. The District offers a comprehensive fringe benefit package including employer paid medical, dental, vision plans, sick leave, and opportunities for professional development. This position is FLSA Exempt and may not accrue overtime. Benefits will be provided under the terms of the AFT-Guild, Local 1931 – Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement. Annual Salaries will be recalculated for service less than a full academic year based on Education Code §87815, any required adjustment will be made with-in the first

pay period. Travel reimbursement for interviewees traveling more than 200 miles, one-way, may be paid according to geographic location (see SDCCD Travel Stipend Policy, Rev 7/14/2011). Typically, Assistant Professors earn tenure after 4 years and promote to Associate Professor. The SDCCD Employment Web Page provides a link to employee collective bargaining agreements and handbooks, and more information about terms and conditions of employment to include salary and benefits.

To apply, visit: <https://apptrkr.com/1407052>

All applicants must have demonstrated cultural competency and sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, and ethnic backgrounds of community college students and staff.

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