Faculty Vacancy Announcement

**Department:** Biology

**Position:** Assistant Professor of Biology, Full-time, tenure-track, 10-month position

**Salary:** Negotiable within the range established in the Collective Bargaining Agreement ($40,000 to $56,000)

**Union Affiliation:** MEA/MFT

**Posting Date:** October 22, 2014

**Start Date:** August 1, 2015

**Description**

The University of Montana Western seeks applicants to fill a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the Biology Department. The successful candidate will teach a variety of undergraduate courses including introductory majors and non-majors biology courses and General Botany as well as potentially General Ecology and other courses in the selected candidate’s area of interest. It is anticipated that at least one half of the successful candidate’s teaching load will be non-major biology courses. In addition, this faculty member must be willing and able to provide novel research projects to support undergraduate thesis and internship projects. Finally, the successful candidate will be required to hold regular office hours and be an active member of the Biology Department, advising students, assessing student learning outcomes, and serving on University committees.

**Qualifications**

Candidates must have an earned Ph.D. in plant community ecology or a similar biological field. ABD candidates will only be considered if a Ph.D. will be awarded prior to August of 2015. Candidates should have experience and evidence of excellence in undergraduate teaching and directing undergraduate research projects. Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated ability to teach effectively in compressed class formats. In addition, the successful candidate must be willing to serve on University committees, provide other types of university service, perform assessment of student learning outcomes, and show a willingness to work closely with undergraduate students and Biology faculty.

**Application**

Review of applications will begin December 1, 2014 and will continue until the position is filled. Application materials should include a letter of interest, copies of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts, a *curriculum vitae* including the contact information for three professional references, and concise statements about the candidate’s research interests and teaching philosophy, including how the applicant will incorporate experiential learning into their block classes at Montana Western. Please send application materials to:

Ms. Donna Rouse  
Biology Search Committee  
The University of Montana Western  
710 South Atlantic St. Dillon, MT 59725

Final candidates will need to successfully complete phone and onsite interviews.
The University and Dillon Area

The University of Montana Western, located in Dillon, Montana, is an innovative small institution located in a scenic valley in the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Montana. The campus enrolls approximately 1,400 students and has 60 full-time faculty members. Dillon, a friendly town of ~5,000, is known for its outstanding public schools, safe community, excellent recreational opportunities, and a fine quality of life. Montana Western’s small size and focus on educational innovation have earned it the reputation of being a place where faculty choose to work collegially and to create engaging classes and curricula that make a difference in the lives of our students. Montana Western is one of only a few schools in the nation that uses immersion scheduling (students taking one course at a time), allowing increased opportunities for experiential types of learning (see http://www.umwestern.edu for more information).

The University of Montana Western is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from qualified women, minorities, veterans and people with disabilities. Qualified candidates may request veterans, or disabilities preference in accordance with state law. Reasonable accommodations are provided in the hiring process for persons with disabilities. Finalists for this position will be subject to a criminal background investigation.