Faculty Vacancy Announcement

Department: Education
Position: Open rank Professor of Early Childhood Education and Director of Early Childhood Education
Salary: Negotiable within the ranges established in the Collective Bargaining Agreement
Posting Date: April 24, 2015
Start Date: August 15, 2015

Description

The University of Montana Western seeks applicants to fill a position in the Early Childhood Program in the Department of Education. This position is a full time, 10-month, tenure track position beginning August 15, 2015 and extending through May 31, 2016. Faculty will not be expected to be on campus until August 15, 2015 and their academic year duties will end in early May upon submission of their spring semester grades.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate will provide all aspects of leadership associated with the ongoing operations of Montana Western’s Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program and those associated with a tenure-track faculty position. Education programs at Montana Western support a constructivist learning model, with an emphasis on experiential education and application of research into practice. The ECE Director will engage in service, scholarship, and teaching with a half-time release to administer the ECE Program. The ECE Program, which is the largest ECE program in the state of Montana, offers on-campus and online degree programs as well as several satellite campuses offering face-to-face coursework to 200+ students. Degrees include Associate’s and Bachelor’s Degrees in ECE and a new Pre K-Grade Three Bachelor’s Degree. The Montana Western Dillon campus houses a nationally accredited preschool lab site offering Reggio Emilia-inspired curriculum.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will hold a doctorate in ECE or a related area and will show evidence of leadership and administrative skills. For example, the successful candidate will verify the following: strong oral and written communication skills, effective advocacy and collaboration at the community and state levels, expert coaching skills and supervisory experience with ECE professionals and paraprofessionals, budget oversight experience, and successful fund raising and/or grant writing. In addition, the successful candidate will provide evidence of, or potential for, experiential and constructivist teaching methods with adult learners, scholarly work, and service. The ECE Director will have at least three years of experience teaching in an early childhood setting. Preferred competencies include successful face-to-face and online teaching in a higher education setting as evidenced by student evaluations. Strong ABD may be considered.

Application

Send a letter of application responding to the job description, a curriculum vita, unofficial transcripts (official transcripts will be requested upon hire), evaluations of teaching, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five (5) current professional references. Send hard copy application materials to:

Dawn Zimdars
Early Childhood Education Search Committee
University of Montana Western
710 S. Atlantic Street
Dillon, MT 59725-3598
Telephone (406) 683-7176 for further information or email the search chair, jen.gilliard@umwestern.edu. Please do not email application materials except on the prior approval of the search chair. Initial screening of applications will begin on May 20th and will continue until the position is filled.

**The University and Dillon Area**

The University of Montana Western, located in Dillon, Montana is an innovative institution nestled in a scenic valley in the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Montana. The current campus student headcount is 1,447 and the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for student enrollment is approximately 1,392.

Montana Western has over 60 full-time faculty members, features small classes for all students and has been recognized for excellence by U.S. News and World Report. Montana Western’s small size and focus on education innovation have earned it the reputation of being a place where faculty and staff chose to collegially and creatively make a difference in the education of students. *Experience One* provides the opportunity for excellent faculty to thrive. Montana Western faculty members have won five consecutive prestigious CASE/Carnegie Professor of the Year awards, including one U.S. Professor of the Year and four, nationally selected, Montana Professors of the Year. These were the last five CASE awards granted to any faculty members in the state of Montana. Montana Western is the first and only public four-year college in the nation to use block scheduling in which students take a single class at a time. This immersion learning program facilitates increased opportunities for experiential types of learning.

Dillon, a community of 5,000 people, is known for outstanding public schools, safe environments, recreational opportunities and an excellent quality of life.

*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.*