Tenure Track Position in Chemistry at Hendrix College

The Department of Chemistry at Hendrix College (www.hendrix.edu/chemistry) is seeking to fill a tenure-track position to commence in August 2014. A Ph.D. is required and postdoctoral research experience is strongly preferred. Candidates must be committed to excellence in undergraduate teaching and sustainable research.

Hendrix has a strong dedication to interdisciplinary teaching through the common freshman course, The Engaged Citizen, and experiential learning, including research, as evidenced by the Odyssey Program (www.hendrix.edu/odyssey). The typical annual teaching load is four lectures and four laboratories. The College demonstrates its commitment to research by assigning a portion of the standard teaching load for chemistry faculty to research with undergraduates. The successful candidate will receive 50% time reassignment for research during the first year in this position and 25% thereafter with continued research success. The department is housed in a modern facility dedicated in 2001 that is a combination of recently constructed and completely renovated buildings. Ample laboratory space is available for both teaching and research, and competitive start-up funding will be provided.

Teaching responsibilities would include introductory chemistry courses and a discipline-specific upper-level course. Candidates able to develop interdisciplinary offerings in materials or environmental chemistry would be of particular interest. The specific research area is open though the typical anticipated disciplines are inorganic, analytical, or physical.

Hendrix is a distinguished liberal arts college of just over 1400 students with an endowment of $181 million. The College, related to the United Methodist Church, shelters a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. In spring of 2013, the College was named the nation’s #2 “up-and-coming liberal arts college” by US News and World Report. Along with curricular innovations such as the Odyssey Program and the Engaged Citizen, Hendrix has recently completed major state-of-the-art athletic facilities (2008 and 2013) and a new Student Life and Technology Center (2010). Additionally, the new 90-acre “Academic Village” neighborhood is adjacent to the campus with popular restaurants and student apartments along with the campus bookstore and single-family houses with a creek walking trail.

The wooded campus is an exciting and vibrant place for work and recreation. It is located in Conway, Arkansas, a city of over 60,000 located 30 miles north of Little Rock (pop. ~195,000) in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains. Conway also is the home of the University of Central Arkansas (~11,500 students) and Central Baptist College (~850 students). More about Conway and Arkansas can be gleaned from the local and statewide newspapers, www.thecabin.net and www.ardemgaz.com, respectively.
The Department of Chemistry consists of eight faculty members supported by a full time laboratory manager and a full time position devoted to instrumentation maintenance, laboratory development, and chemical hygiene duties. Chemistry faculty members serve the majors in Chemistry, as well as Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, Chemical Physics, and Environmental Studies. Virtually all of our majors are active in research with faculty and present their research at National ACS Meetings. For example, last spring, 25 students presented their research at the 2013 Spring National ACS meeting in New Orleans accompanied by six faculty and staff.

The Department has benefited from a major Department Development Award from Research Corporation, as well as by numerous research and/or instrumentation grants from NSF, NIH, ACS-PRF, Research Corporation, the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network, and the Sturgis Foundation. A pioneering green chemistry laboratory program has been implemented in the General and Organic Chemistry labs (www.hendrix.edu/greenchemistry). The junior year of the major is distinguished by an integrated, year-long Advanced Techniques in Experimental Chemistry laboratory.

Our ACS-approved department is well equipped with the usual major instrumentation (GC-MS, flame and graphite AAS, 400 MHz NMR, FT-IR, UV-VIS, HPLC, ultracentrifuge, low temperature freezer, ion chromatograph, various lasers, etc.). We sponsor a consistently award-winning chapter of Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society and have an active seminar program.

Interested candidates should send an application letter addressing the candidate’s interest in teaching in a demanding liberal arts environment, CV, all undergraduate and graduate transcripts, a statement of teaching philosophy, detailed research plans, and should arrange for three letters of reference (including the phone numbers and email addresses of the references) to the attention of Dr. Liz Gron by email at chemsearch@hendrix.edu or by conventional mail at:

Dr. Liz Gron  
Chair, Search Committee  
Department of Chemistry  
Hendrix College  
1600 Washington Avenue  
Conway, AR 72032

Questions may be directed to Dr. Gron at chemsearch@hendrix.edu.

Applications will be reviewed upon receipt until the position is filled.

Hendrix College adheres to the principle of equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to age, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin. Further, the College is committed to the maintenance of an atmosphere of civility and respect for all students, faculty, and staff.