

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND POLICY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS**  
**VIRGINIA TECH**

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The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics invites applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor with a specialization in agricultural trade and policy. The position is 70 percent research and 30 percent teaching. This is a 9-month, academic-year appointment with expectations of applying for and obtaining external funding.

*Research Appointment:* The successful candidate is expected to have strong quantitative skills and establish a nationally-recognized research program focused on agricultural trade and policy issues. Areas of relevant research interests include, but are not limited to: the impact of regional and multilateral trade agreements; non-tariff measures affecting trade; productivity and trade competitiveness, including trade and global value chains; trade and the environment including land use and climate assessments; the interface of food systems supply chains, input markets and foreign direct investment; and emerging trade policies and disputes. The successful candidate will be expected to develop and maintain effective outreach efforts that extend the visibility of their research program to inform decisions taken in state and national government and by stakeholders within commodity, agribusiness and other non-government organizations on globalization and agricultural trade issues. The person filling this position will have the support of and opportunity to contribute to and collaborate with the new Center for Agricultural Trade (CAT) (<https://aaec.vt.edu/extension/Agricultural-Trade-Center.html>) within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) as well as other faculty and graduate students within the department.

The successful candidate will also have the opportunity to engage in transdisciplinary research, curriculum, and/or outreach initiatives with other university faculty working in the Global Systems Science Destination Area (GSS/DA) with which this position is associated. The GSS/DA is focused on the transdisciplinary study of the dynamic interplay among natural and social systems. Faculty working in this area are collaborating toward solutions to critical social problems emergent from human activity and environmental change. For more information on the GSS/DA see <https://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas/da-overview/da-global-systems.html> and for Virginia Tech's DA initiative more generally, <https://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas.html>.

*Teaching Appointment:* The successful candidate will be expected to teach each year in the department's graduate and/or undergraduate programs in agricultural trade, quantitative policy analysis or food-systems related courses. Advising/mentoring graduate students at the master's and PhD levels is also expected.

**Required Qualifications:**

- PhD in Agricultural/Applied Economics or Economics
- Demonstrated qualifications to establish a nationally recognized externally funded research program in agricultural trade and policy
- Strength in econometric and/or quantitative simulation modeling
- Graduate coursework relevant to agricultural trade and policy analysis and/or related food systems economics

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Record of peer-reviewed publications
- Experience applying for grants or other sources of external funding to support research, outreach or student experiential learning
- Experience teaching course(s) in agricultural trade, policy analysis and related food systems economics fields
- Experience working with clientele such as firms, industry groups and government agencies
- Demonstrated experience with interdisciplinary teaching and/or research in areas that align with Virginia Tech's university-wide, multi-disciplinary focus within the GSS/DA

**Department, College, University and Community:** The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics is a growing unit with about 300 undergraduate majors, 50 graduate students and 25 faculty members (<http://www.aaec.vt.edu>). The Department is located in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (<http://www.cals.vt.edu/>) which has about 3,200 students in 12 academic departments. Virginia Cooperative Extension, also located within the college, delivers research-based information to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia through county/city extension offices, 4-H educational centers, and Agricultural Research and Extension Centers (<http://www.ext.vt.edu/offices>). Virginia Tech (<http://www.vt.edu/>) is located in Blacksburg, VA (<http://www.blacksburg.va.us/>) with a full-time student population of 32,000+ students. Blacksburg is nestled in the New River Valley, close to the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Appalachian Trail, and was recently ranked by Bloomberg's Businessweek as the best place in the U.S. to raise kids, and by Forbes as one of the top 25 places in the U.S. to retire (<http://stepintoblacksburg.org/home/live/accolades/>).

The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics offers unique opportunities for developing applied research programs that have meaningful impacts on decision makers. The Department has undergraduate programs in agribusiness and applied economic management with specializations in a number of areas (<http://aaec.vt.edu/academics/undergraduate.html>). The Department has close collaborations with other units within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and across campus. In addition, Virginia and the mid-Atlantic region possess dynamic agricultural sectors with diverse international trade interests ranging from traditional commodities (e.g., grains, vegetables and livestock) to emerging areas (e.g., local/organic food, green industry, viticulture and aquaculture/ seafood).

**Application Procedure:** A review of applications will begin December 1, 2017 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. Members of the search committee will be available to meet with prospective candidates at the Allied Social Science Meetings (ASSA) in Philadelphia, PA, January 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Position is available to start August 10, 2018. Applicants need to complete an online application at [www.jobs.vt.edu](http://www.jobs.vt.edu), posting # TR0170165 and submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, graduate transcripts, a statement of research interests, a statement of teaching philosophy, and a list of names and contact information for three references. Direct inquires or questions about this position to Dr. Jason Grant, Search Committee Chair: Phone: (540) 231-7559; Email: [jhgrant@vt.edu](mailto:jhgrant@vt.edu)

*Virginia Tech has a strong commitment to diversity, and seeks a broad spectrum of candidates including women, people of color, and people with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities desiring accommodations should notify Dr. Grant by the review date.*