

May 16, 2022

Dear Scientists:

On behalf of the Department of Chemistry at Willamette University I am pleased to announce a national search for two Visiting Assistant Professors of Chemistry. A detailed description of the positions can be found in the attached job advertisement. Please read on for a brief introduction to the institution, to our department, and to the region in which we live.

*Willamette University: The College of Liberal Arts*

The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) at Willamette University is a community of roughly 1400 undergraduates and 130 faculty, dedicated to teaching, to learning, and to service. We hold dear the core values and goals of the liberal arts: that a meaningful education has not just depth, but breadth; that how you think is just as important as what you know; that vibrant intellectual relationships between faculty and students provide an ideal environment to explore and create knowledge; and, most importantly, that graduates leave our halls with the ability and motivation to make meaningful changes in their worlds.

*Chemistry at Willamette*

The students and faculty of the Department of Chemistry are a collection of distinct individuals brought together by a fascination with molecules. Our faculty are teachers and scholars, motivated not only by exploring our fields of research, but also by sharing our knowledge with colleagues, students, and the community. Close working relationships are the norm: faculty collaborate both in the classroom and in research; small classes promote faculty-student interaction; and students bond over late-night study sessions in the Chemistry Hearth. We embrace the idea that science, at its heart, is a collective endeavor, and thus that a strong, supportive, and diverse community of teachers and learners is essential to our mission.

*The Pacific Northwest*

We are fortunate to live, work, and play in and around Oregon's beautiful Willamette Valley. The University is located in Salem, OR, roughly the north-south midpoint of the Valley and a perfect jumping-off point for exploring the region. The western edge of the Valley is defined by the mountains of the Coast Range, behind which lie the ruggedly scenic Oregon Coast and the Pacific Ocean. To the east, the Cascade mountain range separates the Valley from the arid and beautiful High Desert of central and eastern Oregon. The Valley itself is a major center of agriculture – most prominently, many well-known vineyards producing award-winning wines – and is home to several mid-sized cities: Eugene, Corvallis, and Salem. Portland, Oregon's major metropolitan area, is located 50 miles north of Salem – and offers thriving food, drink, and artistic scenes.

Thank you for taking the time to learn a bit about us. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to get in touch with me ([dgriffit@willamette.edu](mailto:dgriffit@willamette.edu), 503-370-6418).

Best Regards,



David R. Griffith

Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of Chemistry  
Willamette University