ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS

Austin College’s Department of Physics invites applications for a full-time tenure track position in Applied Physics or Engineering Physics beginning Fall 2016. The successful candidate will have strong commitments to innovative teaching in a liberal arts environment and an active research program involving undergraduates. We seek an enthusiastic individual to contribute to our growing Pre-Engineering Program.

The Physics Department has a long history of implementing novel learning approaches. We believe that students learn physics best by ‘doing physics’. Exploration and active learning permeate throughout our curriculum. We anticipate that our future offerings in applied physics and engineering will continue in this engaging learning tradition. Teaching responsibilities for the new faculty member will include physics and engineering courses at all undergraduate levels, and contributions to college-wide programs such as freshman seminar and courses for non-science majors.

Student research is a vital component of the Physics curriculum. Every major takes two Research Experience courses (with different faculty members) to conduct original research. Austin College also funds a number of summer research projects. The new hire will be expected to develop a research program that is accessible to undergraduates, and will enrich the department’s internationally recognized research in superconductivity, atmospheric science, astronomy, and relativity. Although the area of expertise is open, we are particularly interested in applicants in materials science, solid state physics, biophysics, engineering physics, and environmental engineering.

Through the Pre-Engineering Program, we offer two pathways for students pursuing engineering careers: the Dual Degree Program in Engineering and the Gateways Program. In the Dual Degree Program in Engineering, a student spends the first three (or four) years at Austin College and then transfers to an undergraduate engineering school for two years, earning two bachelor’s degrees (one from Austin College and one from the engineering school). The Gateways Program provides preferred access for Austin College students to select graduate school programs, including those in physics and engineering. The new faculty member will actively participate in the Pre-Engineering Program by offering courses to prepare our students beyond Austin College. These courses may include Introduction to Engineering Design, Engineering Statics, Thermodynamics for Scientists and Engineers, Electronics, Research Experience, and Advanced Laboratory Techniques.

Austin College is a leading national independent liberal arts college located north of Dallas in Sherman, Texas. Founded in 1849, making it the oldest institution of higher education in Texas operating under original charter and name, the college is related by covenant to the Presbyterian Church (USA). Recognized nationally for academic excellence in the areas of international education, pre-professional training, and leadership studies, Austin College is one of 40 schools profiled in Loren Pope’s influential book Colleges That Change Lives.

A Ph.D. in physics, applied physics, engineering, or closely related field is required; post-doctoral, industry, and/or previous teaching experience is highly desirable. Candidates should include a letter of application, curriculum vitae, copies of graduate transcripts, a 1-page statement of teaching philosophy and a 2-page description of research interests. Submit materials via email to PhysicsSearch@austincollege.edu. Candidates should also request three letters of reference to be submitted to the same email address with candidate’s name in the subject line. Review of applications begins November 15, 2015 and continues until position is filled.

Austin College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer committed to a diverse faculty, staff and student body and welcomes all applicants. Must be legally authorized to work without sponsorship for employment visa status (e.g., H1B status).