Assistant Professor Position in Unmanned Aircraft Systems
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
The Ohio State University

DESCRIPTION

The Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at The Ohio State University invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in the broad area of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at the rank of Assistant Professor. Research advances in the fundamental areas of aerospace engineering are critical for future development of UAS and their safe & efficient integration into the national airspace. Research areas of interest within the broad topic of UAS include, but are not limited to: guidance, navigation, and control of autonomous vehicles; distributed control, sensing, and navigation; artificial intelligence; remote sensing; state estimation; intelligent sensor fusion; integrated propulsion; and biologically-inspired UAS / MAVs.

QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates with demonstrated technical expertise, creativity, and leadership are sought. A particular emphasis will be placed on candidates at the frontier of research and education. A doctoral degree is required in Aerospace or Mechanical Engineering, or in a related field appropriate to the scope of the position. Candidates who can successfully work in a collaborative environment are sought. Applications from underrepresented minority groups are particularly encouraged. The anticipated start date is August 2017. Screening of applicants will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

ABOUT OHIO STATE

This position will be affiliated with the Aerospace Research Center (ARC), http://arc.osu.edu/uas, an interdisciplinary research center within the OSU College of Engineering. The Center supports a robust collaborative environment, facilitating connections among approximately 40 faculty from across the University who are actively engaged in UAS research. Faculty expertise spans the areas of positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT); robust flight in wind gusts; UAV icing; vision-based localization and object tracking; precision agriculture; law; policy; spectrum; communications and control links; autonomous systems; human factors; data analytics; flight testing; vehicle state estimation and control; and remote sensing. The Center is also a leading member of the FAA’s Center of Excellence for Integrating Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in the National Airspace System (NAS), which is a 10-year center started in 2015 to study the complex problems associated with safe and efficient integration of UAS in the NAS. The successful candidate is invited to engage with and contribute to this vibrant community of scholars working in the domain of UAS-related research.

Opportunities exist to take advantage of several key facilities at OSU for research and education. The Aerospace Research Center includes an indoor UAS flying area and multiple wind tunnels. The OSU Airport (KOSU), is a University-owned and operated airport and the 4th busiest in Ohio, with a track record of safe UAS operations in Class D airspace. The Transportation Research Center, which is a non-profit corporation affiliated with OSU, is a proving ground for road vehicles and is an ideal environment for manned/unmanned and air/ground vehicle teaming. The Ohio UAS Test Center, part of the Ohio Department of Transportation, provides administrative support for obtaining FAA approval for UAS flight operations.

The Ohio State University College of Engineering comprises more than 330 faculty members, offers 15 graduate degree programs in engineering and architecture, and is home to a number of federally-supported research centers, state supported research and commercialization centers of excellence and industrial consortia. The College’s annual research expenditures were over $120M in 2015, and comprise
a key component to the University’s position as 10th among public universities nationally in research expenditures and 2nd nationally among public universities in industrial research expenditures. The College continues to aggressively support multi-department, interdisciplinary initiatives in aerospace-related research, with aerospace and mobility being among the top research and strategic hiring priorities in the College.

To build a diverse workforce, Ohio State encourages applications from individuals with disabilities, minorities, veterans, and women. Ohio State is an EEO/AA Employer. The Ohio State University is committed to establishing a culturally and intellectually diverse environment, encouraging all members of our learning community to reach their full potential. Columbus is a thriving highly rated metropolitan community and we are responsive to dual-career families and strongly promote work-life balance to support our community members through a suite of institutionalized policies. We are an NSF ADVANCE Institution and a member of the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Higher Education Recruitment Consortium. For more information about the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at OSU, please visit http://mae.osu.edu/.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this position will be accepted until the position is filled. Applications should include a cover letter, CV, research and teaching statements of 2-3 pages each, and contact information of at least four references. Application materials should be submitted as a single PDF to https://mae.osu.edu/employment/faculty-position-UAS.