

Call for applications: Director of Agrotecnio

Opening Date: November 20, 2022 - Closing Date: January 15, 2023

The **Fundació Centre de Recerca en Agrotecnologia** (Agrotecnio) is part of the **CERCA** network of Catalanian Research Centers (<https://cerca.cat/en/>). The mission of **CERCA** is to ensure the effective development of the Catalan research system through maximizing synergies, inter-center coordination and strategic cooperation: **CERCA** also aims to maximize impact of the research carried out by its research centers, and to facilitate dialogue with public and private stakeholders.

Agrotecnio (<https://agrotecnio.org/>) research addresses the key elements of the food production chain in an integrated way, focusing on important crops and animals of commercial importance, rather than model systems. Agrotecnio carries internationally competitive fundamental and applied research, underpinning translational strategic objectives and disseminates the outputs to society, including the private sector. The Center brings together more than 150 scientists from the Universities of Lleida (UdL) and Barcelona (UB), ICREA (Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies, <https://www.icrea.cat/en/>) scientists, and its own personnel. Research in Agrotecnio is organized in 15 research groups in three areas: agriculture and environmental sciences, livestock and food science and technology, and is supported by national and international funding bodies. Agrotecnio is located in the UdL Agriculture, Food Science, Forestry and Veterinary Campus in the city of Lleida.

Candidate profile

Candidates should be able to demonstrate an established record of scientific excellence, experience in research management in any of the three research areas of Agrotecnio. The ideal candidate needs to have the vision required to lead an internationally competitive research Center. He/She should have experience in managing international projects or consortia. In-depth knowledge of the European and Spanish scientific scene is essential. While English is the operating language of the Center, working knowledge of Catalan or Spanish will be an advantage.

Job description

The Director will have the following responsibilities:

- Provide the scientific vision and develop further the strategic goals of the Center.
- Manage, organize and lead the Center's research and innovation activities.
- Ensure the financial sustainability of the center by diversifying its funding sources.
- Maintain close contact with CERCA and lead the periodic evaluation of the Center.
- Present Agrotecnio's research program to the Governing Board of Trustees.
- Perform any other functions mandated by the Board of Trustees.

Applications

Applicants should submit a CV and cover letter briefly justifying their suitability for the position by e-mail to the Director of CERCA at applications@cerca.cat by January 15, 2023. The appointment will initially be for a period of 4 years. It may be extended through a subsequent 4-year period. Salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience. Informal inquiries are welcome and may be sent to the same email address listed above.

Agrotecnio is an equal-opportunity employer and particularly encourages women and those from under-represented minorities to apply. Agrotecnio is also a holder of the “Human Resources Excellence in Research (HRS4R)” award from the European Commission.

Selection procedure

Agrotecnio’s Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) will review all applications, according to the requirements stated in the call, and prepare a shortlist of qualified candidates. A selection panel chaired by the Director of CERCA, consisting of one member from the *Departament d’Acció Climàtica, Alimentació i Agenda Rural*, Generalitat de Catalunya, one member from the University of Lleida, and the chair of Agrotecnio’s SAB will interview the shortlisted candidates.

During the interview, the candidates will be expected to give a short summary of their CV and present their vision for Agrotecnio in moving forward. The selection committee will compile a ranked list of up to three candidates and submit the list to the Board of Trustees. The later will then select and appoint the new Director of Agrotecnio.

Tentative Calendar:

- November 20, 2022. Call for applications
- January 15, 2023. Application deadline
- January 31, 2023 List of shortlisted candidates by SAB
- February 28, 2023. Appointment announced by the Governing Board of Agrotecnio