



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Ohio State Wooster Seeks Project Communications Specialist

The Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR) in Wooster is seeking a Project Communications Specialist to develop content and lead marketing and communications efforts related to two USDA-funded projects, **From the Ground Up** (80%) and the **Northeast Ohio Agriculture Innovation Center** (20%). See details about these projects below.

This position will require creative and strategic thinking to produce a variety of communications products to enhance existing relationships and advance both long- and short-term project goals. The successful candidate will develop communications that represent the projects to internal and external constituencies using a variety of channels which may include print and graphic media, video and web communications, and digital and social media. They will use story telling techniques to describe the projects and their participants, to capture the attention of wide and diverse audiences. They will assist with FTGUp and NEO-AIC outreach and promotion at appropriate extension meetings, producer trade shows, and events, and collaborate with college and extension communications teams to ensure alignment with the university's brand, content, and editorial strategies where possible and necessary. They will participate in weekly in-person FTGUp and NEO-AIC team meetings on the OSU Wooster Campus to better understand the projects, identify opportunities for communicating project content, and leverage existing communications expertise on our project teams. These projects have funding for the next three years and can lead to additional opportunities with OSU after the projects are completed.

What we're looking for:

- Strong communication skills in a variety of media (including print and graphic media, video and web communications, and social media), and experience with effective storytelling.
- Experience developing and implementing communications strategies.
- Bachelor's degree in communications, journalism, media, and 2 years of relevant experience.
- Proven ability to work effectively on a team and build consensus.
- Knowledge of or experience with Midwest farming and food systems.
- Ability to work in-person on the OSU-Wooster campus.
- Ability to travel in Ohio (and potentially Missouri) as needed.

To Apply:

Applications should include a cover letter (explaining relevant background and fit for the position), a current resume, and names and contact information for three references. **The deadline to apply is October 4, 2026**

Current Ohio State students and employees can go here:

[https://www.myworkday.com/osu/d/inst/15\\$158872/9925\\$389420.html](https://www.myworkday.com/osu/d/inst/15$158872/9925$389420.html)

For those without a current Ohio State affiliation use this link:

https://osu.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/OSUCareers/job/Wooster-Campus/Project-Communications-Specialist_R159164-1?q=marketing+and+communications+specialist

If you have questions about this position, feel free to reach out to the project directors:

FTGUp: Dr. Douglas Jackson-Smith (Jackson-smith.1@osu.edu)

NEO-AIC: Dr. Shoshanah Inwood (inwood.2@osu.edu)



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Details about the two projects:

From the Ground Up: The FTGUp project is a USDA-funded Sustainable Agricultural Systems grant that involves five institutions (OSU, Central State University, the University of Missouri, Lincoln University (MO), and Solutions from the Land). Started in July 2024, this 5-year project is centered on farmer-led research and innovation to improve the agronomic and economic performance of conservation practices and accelerate their adoption in Missouri and Ohio. Leadership for project design and decisions is jointly shared between a Farmer Leadership Team and Project Management Team. The Project Communications Specialist would report to the Project Manager (Alex Jefferies) and Lead PI (Dr. Douglas Jackson-Smith), both of whom work out of the OSU CFAES Wooster campus, an interdisciplinary research station 90 minutes north of Columbus in the heart of a vibrant rural and agricultural landscape. See our project website (<https://www.ftgup.org>).

NEO-AIC: The Northeast Ohio Agriculture Innovation Center (NEO-AIC) is a new venture funded by the USDA Rural Development and is a 'one stop shop' for Northeast Ohio farmers seeking assistance with their value-added agriculture (VAA) business including: financial, legal, technical, regulatory, and value chain/marketing support. The NEO-AIC holistically approaches each client and tailors its approach based on each client's business needs and includes a focus on quality of life. The NEO-AIC project is directed by Dr. Shoshanah Inwood, a rural sociologist and faculty member in the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The office is located on the OSU-CFAES, Wooster campus. See our website (<https://senr.osu.edu/extension-outreach/northeast-ohio-ag-innovation-center>).