

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

Position: Director/Executive Director of Innovation Partnership Development

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center is seeking a full-time Director of Innovation Partnership Development. Located in St. Louis, Missouri, the Danforth Center is an independent, not-for-profit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition through plant science. The Danforth Center addresses global challenges at the nexus of agriculture and the environment by facilitating fundamental discovery and enabling translation into commercial and humanitarian solutions. The Center is the hub of a plant science innovation community consisting of public and private entities, including a vibrant start-up community.

The Director of Innovation Partnership Development is expected to establish and lead collaborative efforts to develop and maintain business relationships and partnerships that help deliver on the Danforth Center's mission, particularly in relation to the Center's role in building regional agtech and bioscience strength. Duties include:

- Plan and execute mission-relevant business strategies and partnerships to advance the Danforth Center innovation ecosystem
- Promote, grow and strengthen BRDG Park on Danforth Center campus, including managing/updating the BRDG master plan, tenant onboarding initiatives, BRDG culture and community development
- Cultivate, manage and grow business relationships with developers and other stakeholders operating in and around the Danforth Center campus
- Cultivate, manage and grow relationships with 39N organizations, Helix Center, government entities, and the broad STL innovation community
- Collaborate on team to assure Danforth Center technologies are licensed to the private sector, and Danforth Center spin-out companies are facilitated
- Collaborate on communication and marketing of Danforth Center and BRDG contributions to the innovation community, the region and beyond
- Lead team to plan and execute Danforth Center-based AgTechNext conference

Qualifications

Required qualifications: Master's degree (MBA desired); extensive executive-level experience in the agricultural technology industry; extensive experience working with developers, financial institutions, start-up communities and entrepreneurs; and a commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The candidate will embody Danforth Center core values: Collaboration, Diversity & Inclusion, Innovation, Integrity & Respect, Environmental Sustainability, and Stewardship.

The Danforth Center is partnering with Kennedy Consulting Group to fill this position. To apply, please submit the following **1)** curriculum vitae, **2)** cover letter including a statement

describing how your experience and interest aligns with the mission of the Danforth Center (*Mission: To improve the human condition through plant science*), and **3**) names and contact information for three references. Potential references will not be contacted without prior notification to the candidate. All materials must be submitted via email to: Jack Kennedy at kennedyjack716@gmail.com.

About the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

Founded in 1998, The Donald Danforth Plant Science Center is an independent, non-profit organization with a mission to improve the human condition through plant science. Our focus is scientific research at the nexus of food, energy and the environment to improve the productivity and sustainability of agriculture. We assemble interactive teams of scientists and develop unique platforms to discover underlying principles about how plants work. We then convert that knowledge into useful crops and products, and partner with organizations that are best positioned to solve problems where they exist around the world. The Center's work is funded through competitive grants from many sources, including the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Energy, National Science Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Donald Danforth Plant Science Center is proudly an equal employment opportunity employer. Employment decisions at the Danforth Center are based on merit, qualifications, and abilities. It is our policy that the Danforth Center does not discriminate in employment opportunities on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or national origin and status as protected veterans or individuals with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation to apply for this position, please contact Human Resources, at 314-587-1033 for assistance.