

Harry Janes, Biology, Rutgers University

Candidate Biography

Dr. Janes is a research professor in the department of Plant Biology and Plant Pathology at Rutgers University. His research focuses on the impact of environmental conditions on plant growth and development. He is a specialist in the management of plant production systems in controlled environments and is an advisor to commercial greenhouse operations. His research has led to the publication of over 80 journal articles and the volume he edited on "PCR Cloning Protocols" is used in many graduate and advanced undergraduate laboratory courses. Additionally, he has two patents dealing with economically and efficiently enhancing plant yield. Dr. Janes also directed the NASA Specialized Center for Research and Training (NSCORT) in NJ. The educational programs of the NSCORT included graduate and undergraduate fellowships, a seminar series, summer internships at NASA centers and a program focusing on elementary science education. Dr. Janes has also lead Rutgers efforts to create the Agricultural Biotechnology Center. Dr. Janes was the first acting director of the center. Additionally, he has served as the founding director of the Rutgers EcoComplex, This center is dedicated to moving science from the lab to real-world applications, and to promoting New Jersey as a center for environmental innovation. Dr. Janes also served as the Editor-in-Chief for the Journal "HABITATION" for 8 years. HABITATION, an International Journal for Human Support Research was designed to

meet the needs of a field of study aimed at addressing the challenges of supporting human activities within controlled environments. A 3-time alumnus of Rutgers Dr. Janes is active in alumni activities and has been inducted as a "Loyal Son" of Rutgers by the Rutgers Alumni Association.

Candidate Statement

I have been a faculty member at Rutgers for 35 years. I believe that faculty need to be engaged in all aspects of their school and profession. I have served as a representative to the Rutgers AAUP executive council for 4 years and serve on its government relations committee. I also serve on the budget committee of the NJ state AFT. I have been a member of the Rutgers University Senate for 14 years and have served as the elected faculty representative to the Rutgers Board of Governors for 4 years, where I also served on the government relations committee. I have presented testimony to NJ state legislative committees and have advocated for increased higher education funding at both the state and federal level. Additionally, I am a member of the New Brunswick faculty council and I have served for 2 years as the acting chair of the Horticulture Department. My commitment to teaching is evidenced by my continuous participation in our Introductory Biology course (an average of 700 students each year) for the past 30 years. I also teach the Plant Science course and help coordinate the department's graduate seminar. During my career at Rutgers I have been an active researcher, teacher and activist. I believe that faculty input into University policy and

decision making is essential. Current issues resulting from a national and state economic crisis have raised questions about faculty workload and the fate of our negotiated contracts. Additionally the status of contingent faculty needs to be strengthened with long term contracts and health benefits. Threats to the tenure system must be answered aggressively. I believe that active participation in the AAUP is the best mechanism for dealing with these issues.