LFS 496 Career Development

Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

Position Title: Community Engagement Assistant

Background
Located on unceded xʷməθkʷəy̓əm Musqueam territory, the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (CSFS) at UBC Farm is a unique research center that aims to understand and fundamentally transform local and global food systems towards a more sustainable, food secure future. The CSFS at UBC Farm is a living laboratory committed to finding solutions to both local and global challenges facing food systems sustainability and translating solutions to improve personal, community, and environmental health.

The Career Development in Land and Food Systems Course aims to engage UBC students with their local food system and create opportunities to experience the working environment of a food sustainability focused organization. Students work alongside food systems practitioners and faculty to increase their understanding and knowledge of food systems work, from organic agriculture to food production methods, food-focused community engagement, and business management.

The UBC Farm is engaged in a number of programs and events that aim to enhance community food literacy and to encourage advocacy on issues of public concern including environmental stewardship, healthy diets and lifestyles, and social development. The Community Engagement Assistant plays a vital role in community outreach events and programs by interacting with the public at weekly outreach events on- and off-campus, in particular the Wednesday Bookstore Market outside the UBC Bookstore, as well as at occasional Saturday UBC Farm Farmers’ Markets. The Community Engagement Assistant is an enthusiastic and dedicated UBC Farm ambassador who is ready to educate and inform the community about the UBC Farm’s role in food system sustainability.

Students are expected to enroll in the Career Development in Land and Food Systems course (LFS 496 - 3 credits) twice: once in the Summer semester and once in Winter 1 semester, for a total of 6 credits over two semesters.

Duties
The Community Engagement Assistant will report to the Communications Manager and will work alongside the UBC Farm Ambassador and market staff on the following tasks:

- Attending the weekly Wednesday Bookstore Market (11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) to educate and inform students and the UBC community about food systems literacy, sustainability and the UBC Farm;
• Researching and attending events that will increase student and community members’ awareness and interactions with the UBC Farm;
• Taking photos and crafting compelling social media posts about the events;
• Help create program specific outreach materials;
• Contribute to community engagement data collection and reporting.

Qualifications
• Must be a UBC student
• Excellent verbal communication skills
• Comfortable using social media
• Ability to work both in a team and individually
• Capable of using excel to create reports an asset

Position Details
• May to December 2020
• 6-9 hours per week
• Flexible schedule to be determined with the candidate.
• Must be available Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Some weekday evenings and weekend availability is preferred.
• This is an unpaid, for-credit placement

How to apply
• Apply by submitting one PDF document combining a cover letter and résumé.
• The cover letter should be maximum 500 words, state which position you are applying for, and what you hope to gain from such an experience or how you feel this experience would contribute to your overall learning and education at UBC.
• Email: Melanie Kuxdorf, melanie.kuxdorf@ubc.ca
• All applications should clearly refer to “LFS 496 Career Development Course”
• Application deadline: March 15, 2020
• Please no phone calls
• More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm can be found at ubcfarm.ubc.ca