

Student Internship



Faculty of Land and Food Systems
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

Position Title: Local Food Economy Assistant

Background

Located on unceded 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 LFS Career Development Internship aims to engage UBC students with their local food system and create opportunities to experience the working environment of a food sustainability focused organization. Interns work alongside UBC Farm staff and faculty to increase their understanding and knowledge of food systems research, from organic agriculture to food production methods, food-focused community engagement, and business management.

The UBC Farm's multi-vendor Saturday Market aims to support the local food economy and increase food sustainability literacy within the UBC campus and broader Vancouver community. The market sees up to 600 shoppers each Saturday and hosts up to 16 vendors and food trucks selling, in addition to UBC Farm produce, mushrooms, prepared food, baked goods, beverages, and crafts. The role of the Local Food Economy Intern will be to assist the market team in developing and delivering seasonal and weekly activities, e.g., assessing shopping experiences and needs, consulting with vendors, merchandise sales, shopper incentive programs, marketing and promotion, and supporting the market set-up, take-down, and general operations. The Local Food Economy Intern will have the opportunity to gain skills in local food marketing and sales, farmer's market operations, sustainable food literacy, program design and delivery, marketing and promotions, data collection and analysis, marketing, and community engagement.

Interns are expected to enroll in the Career Development Internship course (LFS 496 - 3 credits) twice: once in the Summer semester and once in Winter 1 semester. At the end of the 26-week program, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.

Duties

The Local Food Economy Intern will work alongside the market team on the following tasks:

- Plan activities for the market season
- Support Saturday Market set-up, take-down, and general operations
- Help with Saturday Market promotions and marketing

Grounded in science. Global in scope.

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www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm

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- Consult with shoppers and vendors at the Saturday Market about their experiences
- Develop surveys, collect data, and collate results from shoppers and vendors throughout the market season
- Fundraise for the Saturday Market (eg. through merchandise sales, shopper incentive programs)
- Analyze information gathered from the current and past seasons and provide recommendations for improvement/ development
- Develop and maintain academic work plan. Deliver final report at completion of internship.

Preferred Qualifications

- UBC student eligible for LFS 496
- Basic understanding of qualitative research methods
- Comfortable speaking with members of the public
- Passionate and interested in local and sustainable food systems
- Capable of using excel to collect and organize data
- Comfortable using social media for project updates
- Willingness to learn and desire to gain research experience
- Ability to work both in a team and individually setting

Position Details

- May to December 2017
- 6-9 hours/week
- Saturdays June 3 to October 28
- Flexible schedule for hours during May, November, and December
- This is an unpaid, for credits, internship

How to apply

Along with your resume please write a brief letter (max. 500 words) outlining the following:

- Which internship position you are applying for
- Why you would like to do an internship at the UBC Farm
- 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
- Specific interests or areas that you would like to learn more about

Email:

Hannah Lewis

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- Acceptable formats include text (within the body of the email), Microsoft Word 2007 or earlier, or Adobe PDF
- All applications should clearly refer to "UBC Farm Internship"
- Applications must be received no later than **April 17th 2017**
- Please no phone calls
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm can be found at www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm