

Student Internship



Faculty of Land and Food Systems
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

Position Title: Field Data Collection and Analysis Intern

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 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 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 Field Data Collection & Analysis Intern will assist a team of CSFS researchers and UBC Farm staff in monitoring and collecting data that will support the development of a software which aim is to help farmers better ascertain efficiency and total costs of food production. The intern will engage with staff and volunteers to document harvest yields, track the number of hours spent on production, harvest and post-harvest activities, and import the information into a database. The Field Data Collection & Analysis Intern will have the opportunity to acquire skills in local food production and sales, social entrepreneurship, farm operations, sustainable food literacy, program design, data collection and analysis, 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 Field Data Collection & Analysis Intern will work alongside the CSFS/UBC Farm team to:

- Plan activities for the growing season
- Develop a template for collecting data in the field
- Document harvest yields in specific areas of the farm
- Track hours staff and volunteers spend working in specific areas of food production at the farm
- Reflect on information gathered from the season and provide recommendations

Grounded in science. Global in scope.

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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
- Days of work: Tuesday and Friday from June to October.
- Flexible schedule in May, November, and December
- This is an unpaid, for-credit, internship

How to apply

- Submit one Adobe PDF document that includes your résumé and a brief cover letter (max. 500 words) outlining the following:
 - Which internship position you are applying for
 - 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:** Tim Carter, tim.carter@ubc.ca
- All applications should clearly refer to "UBC Farm Internship"
- **Applications received by Jan 30th will receive priority consideration, but the position will remain open until filled.**
- 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