Internship Title: Pine Island Community Farm Intern Program

Internship Site: Pine Island Farm, Colchester VT

Description: Pine Island Community Farm was founded in 2013 to provide a place where New Americans (refugees) can raise and access food specifically oriented toward their cultural needs. The farm takes a very deliberate approach, working on food production, ecological restoration, and cultural nurturing in a fully integrated fashion. The farm currently supports two goat raising families, operates a significant chicken raising operation, and has seven acres of garden plots farmed by more than 50 New American families. The intern(s) assigned to the farm will help with “overhead/logistical” issues needed to keep the farm running such as managing volunteers, hosting guests and organizing events, helping with various farm tasks such as garden maintenance, nurturing the compost pile, goat/chicken care, and ecological restoration of the floodplain. In addition to the general tasks, each intern may also have an individual project that relates to his or her specific interests and talents. This might involve, for example, launching our beekeeping operation or helping to gather statistics about garden production.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework: We are looking for people who have or are interested in developing their cross-cultural skills, have or are interested in developing their farm/farm-to-plate knowledge and skills, are not afraid to work hard and get dirty, are willing to help with all aspects of a farm operation, are reliable, goal oriented, and self-starters. We are ideally interested in someone who is committed to working with the farm (as a volunteer or linked to their coursework) both before and after the intensive summer experience. This allows us to have a more robust and mutually beneficial relationship with our student partners.

We have very high standards and only people who are deeply committed and willing to go all out to make our project successful are asked to apply.

The intern will have to have his/her own transport to the farm, which is about 4.6 miles from the UVM campus (car or bicycle and strong legs).

Interested parties should also know that we operate a custom exempt slaughter room at the farm and much of our operation is oriented to providing fresh local meat to New American consumers. Anyone working with the farm should feel comfortable with this part of the operation, even though no one is obliged to participate directly in slaughter operations.

*Rubenstein students currently in their first year, sophomore and junior year are eligible to apply.*

Supervision: Karen Freudenberger, who has 30 years’ experience in international community development and project management and has taught as an adjunct in ENVS is the project manager. She will supervise the intern(s) and provide mentoring throughout the internship.
**Start and End Dates:** Mid-May – Mid-August, 2015 (exact start/end dates are negotiable but preference is given to people who are available mid-May; it is not a problem to take vacation time later in the summer.)

**Total Hours:** 20 hours/week, 12 weeks as a “working” intern. The intern may choose to spend additional (unpaid) time at the farm to get to know the families/farm children better, plant and care for the intern garden from which they may harvest crops throughout the summer/fall for personal use, etc.

**Compensation:** $12.50/hour. Earning internship credit through the Rubenstein School Internship Program is required.

**How to apply:** Step by step application instructions are available on the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program [website](#). Applications are due by 4pm, Friday, January 29th, 2016 through Blackboard.