

University of Vermont
Sustainability Studies and Global Environmental Equity
Faculty positions

The [Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources](#) and [Environmental Program](#) of the University of Vermont invites applications from outstanding candidates to fill **three** tenure-track positions that fit within a broad theme of sustainability studies and global environmental equity. Of these positions, one will be hired at the assistant professor level, one at the assistant or associate professor level, and one at the associate or full professor level to serve as Program Director.

The three positions are expected to complement existing faculty strengths in three areas of expertise:

- 1) sustainability policy and/or behavior with emphases in one of these or interrelated areas: energy, climate, transportation, food.** This position will support concentrations in [Sustainability Studies](#) and [Environmental Policy and Development](#). Candidate expertise may draw on fields of study including: environmental sociology, environmental law, global sustainability policy, behavioral economics, psychology of behavior change, and climate ethics.
- 2) sustainability values, community/social aspects of resilience, health, and well-being.** This position will support concentrations in [Sustainability Studies; Environment and Health; Nature, Culture, Justice; and Food, Land, and Community](#). Candidate expertise may draw on fields of study including: sustainability science, environmental public health, international development, environmental sociology, and sustainability ethics.
- 3) sustainability education and communication.** This position will support concentrations in [Sustainability Studies; Food, Land, and Community; Nature, Culture, Justice;](#) and [Ecology and Conservation](#). Candidate expertise may draw on fields of study including: sustainability science, environmental communication, conservation psychology, environmental literature and art.

Applicants for all three positions may come from a variety of social science, natural science or humanities backgrounds, but must have demonstrable expertise in a field of study with relevance to sustainability studies and global environmental equity.

We especially seek candidates who work across disciplinary boundaries using theoretical, applied, and/or community-based approaches to address environmental challenges where sustainability is the goal. Scholarly endeavors with commitment to social and environmental justice and their relation to equity, power, and privilege, are high priority for these hires. Successful candidates will demonstrate interdisciplinary research of the highest quality and the capacity to seek extramural funds to support their scholarship. We seek colleagues with innovative teaching methods that promote engaged learning in the classrooms of the 21st century and a commitment to teaching in the interdisciplinary undergraduate Environmental Studies program as well as the RSEN graduate program. Candidates will demonstrate the capacity to develop a highly productive graduate research program for both M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Natural Resources.

This cluster hire reflects a commitment to sustainability studies, based on a three-pillar foundation of ecological, social, and economic principles focused on pragmatic steps to shift human impacts on planetary support systems toward more just and sustainable alternatives. Concerns about equity, justice, power, and privilege underpin and inform almost all environmental problems and extend beyond state and national boundaries. In today's interconnected world, global perspectives and analysis that reflect thoughtful inquiry are essential for collaborative as well as localized approaches across borders, markets, ecosystems, and cultures.

The Environmental Program at the University of Vermont, founded in 1972 by UVM presidential mandate, is a campus-wide unit, offering the Environmental Studies (ENVS) undergraduate major and minor in three colleges and schools. Students choose one of six concentrations and prepare an individually designed course of study with a senior capstone. The Program encourages and actively supports high impact educational practices including: independent research, community engagement through internships and service learning, student advocacy, and artistic exploration of environmental values. The ENVS major is the second most enrolled major at UVM, with over 500 majors and minors pursuing a wide range of environmental interests. The ENVS faculty includes eight tenure-track faculty with appointments of 25-100% in the Program, three full-time lecturers, and many community professionals who teach as adjunct faculty. Faculty offices for these positions will be in the Bittersweet building, Program headquarters since 1972, which also houses three support staff.

The Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources is one of nine academic colleges/schools at the University of Vermont. Its mission is to cultivate appreciation and understanding of ecological and social processes aimed at maintaining the integrity of natural systems and achieving a sustainable human community. The School's tenure-track, research, and teaching faculty includes natural scientists, social scientists, humanists, planners, and designers working together on a wide range of natural resource, sustainability, and environmental problem-solving challenges. New faculty will have the opportunity to work with the [UVM Natural Areas](#), the [Gund Institute for Ecological Economics](#), the [Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory on Lake Champlain](#), the [U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Research Station](#), as well as the [Office of Sustainability](#) and the new Institute on Environment currently under development. With ~600 undergraduate students and ~100 Master's and Ph.D. students, the Rubenstein School offers six undergraduate majors and both M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. There are 45 full-time faculty members and 35 research and administrative staff. The University of Vermont is located in Burlington, the largest city in Vermont, with an increasingly ethnic and culturally diverse population. Opportunities for research, service learning projects, and internships abound in this highly collegial setting.

The successful candidate will conduct research and teaching that addresses social, political, and environmental issues and includes theoretical and/or applied approaches to environmental problems with a focus on sustainability and equity/justice. Appropriate research areas may combine or include sustainability science, environmental sociology, environmental policy, environmental communication, environmental anthropology, environmental justice and other related fields. The successful candidates will develop an original high quality research program that will make a substantial contribution to the field. The candidates will, through their scholarship, contribute new knowledge and communicate it to their disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields. The successful candidates will be expected to establish teaching excellence through their use of teaching innovations, work with diverse student populations, and integration of engaged practices such as community-based service, internships, and field learning.

Candidates must have earned a doctorate by the time of appointment; teaching experience is preferred. We seek teacher-researchers who are committed to quality interaction with students and colleagues at all levels. Preference will be given to candidates with: 1) a strong record of scholarly achievement, external funding, and publications; 2) experience with university-level teaching, high impact experiential learning pedagogies, academic advising, research and internship mentoring, and curriculum innovation; 3) experience working across different disciplines and perspectives; and 4) strong communication skills.

The expected teaching load is 4 courses per year to include courses on sustainability and equity, introductory large lecture core courses, other Environmental Studies core courses, and upper-level and graduate courses in the candidate's area of expertise. Applicants may come from a variety of social science, natural science or humanities backgrounds, but must have demonstrable expertise in a field of study with relevance to sustainability studies and global environmental equity. Because Environmental Studies is a flagship program

at UVM, we expect strong commitment to undergraduate education and interest in innovative pedagogical methods such as service learning, internships, and field-based learning. The Environmental Program especially seeks teacher-scholars with a commitment to equity and social justice concerns in both teaching and scholarship.

A successful candidate will be expected to:

- 1) Develop and sustain a nationally recognized research program that contributes to the environmental mission of the Environmental Program and the Rubenstein School;
- 2) Establish excellence in teaching through instruction, undergraduate and graduate student mentorship, involvement in the Honors College;
- 3) Collaborate with interdisciplinary faculty within RSEN and across the university; and
- 4) Serve the Environmental Program, RSEN and UVM through governance and environmental curriculum needs.

How to apply

The search committee will give Initial consideration to applications received by January 5, 2015, but applications will be considered until there is a sufficiently diverse pool. Candidates applying specifically for the Program Director position should highlight their qualifications in a supplementary letter of intent. These are university-year appointments expected to begin on August 24, 2015, with the Program Director position beginning on July 1 if possible. The following application materials should be uploaded to <http://www.uvmjobs.com> under posting #F099PO (titled Assistant Professor) and include the following materials:

- letter of interest
- curriculum vitae
- statement (2 pages maximum) on scholarship and teaching experience, including impact of work and how these efforts can be successfully integrated (for those applying for Program Director, please also include administrative experience in this statement)

Note: References will be contacted immediately by UVM for letters upon submission of application.

For further information, see the Rubenstein School and Environmental Program websites or contact co-chairs, Stephanie.Kaza@uvm.edu and Ernesto.Mendez@uvm.edu.