The Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont – in partnership with VEIC – seeks an outstanding researcher for a new Postdoctoral Fellowship in Energy and Carbon Impacts. The postdoc will explore new methods of reducing carbon emissions from the energy sector and accelerating the transition to sustainable energy systems.

This new position will be based at the Gund Institute, a campus-wide interdisciplinary research center, where 180 scholars and leaders collaborate to understand the interactions among ecological, social and economic systems. Gund Postdocs pursue rigorous, original research that spans traditional disciplines, advances our research themes, and targets real-world issues in environment and sustainability.

This exciting opportunity begins a new partnership with VEIC, a sustainable energy non-profit organization headquartered in Vermont, that reduces greenhouse gas emissions through the development of clean and efficient energy solutions. VEIC has over 32 years of experience transforming energy systems, specializing in energy efficiency, electrification, clean transportation and renewable energy. In addition to its full-service consulting business, VEIC operates three energy efficiency utilities: Efficiency Vermont, Efficiency Smart, and the DC Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU) – and has launched three mission-aligned subsidiaries that promote community-level solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Candidates should propose specific research within a wide spectrum of potential topic areas that represent UVM’s strengths in energy and carbon impacts. Approaches of interest range widely, but this role will ideally focus on studying and developing metrics and measurements related to carbon impacts that may currently be undefined or in need of further research. Examples of topics for exploration include:

- Energy and carbon systems modeling, including the influence of indirect activities from organizational operations and projects: scope 3 emissions, policy advising and advocacy, or workforce development efforts;
- Development of policies and practices that aim for deep decarbonization, and understanding their impacts in the context of increased global temperatures;
- Opportunities and challenges unique to rural energy transitions: analyzing the drivers of energy innovation and the impact of rate design;
- Methods to evaluate and analyze opportunities related to state- or national-level policies like the Green New Deal;
- Quantifying impacts of new policies and technologies on energy use and related behaviors.

This two-year position’s annual salary is $50,000 plus benefits, with a $5,000 per year discretionary fund for research and travel. Like all Gund postdocs, this position must identify at least one Gund Fellow as advisor (co-advisors from different UVM departments are encouraged). The best proposals are typically co-developed with potential advisors. Professional development opportunities are available, including communications and policy training.

Interested candidates can learn more and apply online. The application deadline is March 20, 2020. Please identify your interest in the Postdoctoral Fellowship in Energy and Carbon Impacts in your cover letter.

The Gund Institute strives to build an inclusive environment where diverse voices and perspectives are active and welcome. We encourage applicants who bring diverse perspectives to our community.