THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

FACULTY FELLOWS for COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

The Community-Engaged Learning Office (CELO) invites applications to our 2023 Faculty Fellows, a cohort-based faculty development program and learning community. Fellows explore community-engaged pedagogy and course design, pedagogical approaches highlighting critical reflection and civic engagement, and how to prepare students to address community priorities effectively.

The program is a mix of facilitated discussions, panel presentations, readings from the field of community engagement, and review of sample syllabi and SL assignments. The schedule consists of one day-long retreat in January, one lunch session each in February, March & April, and a concluding day in May. Throughout, faculty will have opportunities to plan and workshop their own community-engaged course ideas with peers and mentors.

Established in 1999 as UVM’s first, this Faculty Fellows program has supported faculty from every School & College in creating meaningful opportunities for students to make positive community contributions, using skills and knowledge from within their academic disciplines.

Community-Engaged Learning at UVM

Courses at UVM can be designated as Service-Learning (“SL”) or Civic Learning (“CL”); 90-100 courses typically receive one of these community-engaged designations each year.

- **SL courses** at UVM include a significant community-engaged component that responds to community goals and priorities as defined by the community partner — and help students understand their field of study in relationship to the common good, social inequality and/or environmental sustainability.

- **CL courses** invite students into community-engaged learning pedagogy through foundational or preparatory coursework, such as introducing students to specific communities, studying local cases and conditions, developing civic awareness, and spending time in communities outside of UVM.

Visit [uvm.edu/celo](http://uvm.edu/celo) to see course profiles and other examples of community-engaged learning at UVM.

Application Process

Additional information, and the application, are available on the CELO homepage, and [here](http://www.uvm.edu/). Applications are due by Monday, Nov. 21st.

The Fellows program is open to faculty of all ranks, as well as staff with community engagement responsibilities. All disciplines and areas of study are welcome. A letter of support from the department chair or program director is requested. Priority given to people with a specific course they intend for development as either Civic Learning (CL) or Service-Learning (SL).
Common Questions & Misconceptions:

Volunteering doesn’t work in the context of my class…
Community-engaged learning does not just mean “direct service.” While some students do work directly with an organization’s client population, many other students do projects or research on behalf of an agency or non-profit. The learning can be just as significant in these project-based courses.

Does it have to be the entire semester?
Not necessarily; engaged projects can be replace one assignment of given course, and to last for portion of the semester. All require preparation, but scale projects addressing priorities can provide learning that students find valuable.

My discipline doesn’t really connect to the community…. We believe strongly that UVM discipline contributes to understanding the world! It take some ingenuity, but community-engaged courses have been taught in discipline and in all of UVM’s schools and colleges, to meet many different specific learning

A recent survey of all faculty indicated:
- **over 50%** of respondents had engaged with the community in their research in the past two years
- **nearly 25%** stated that their research was collaborative in nature

Community-engaged learning by the numbers:

- **103**

Clockwise from top left: offered Prof. Alice Fothergill and her SOC 285: Internship Seminar students at their end-of-semester poster presentations; Site visit to Jericho Research Forest in ENSC 201: Recovery and Restoration of Altered Ecosystems; Organized as part of a group project in ENSC 295: Climate & Energy Issues in Vermont; UVM students join the Youth Lobby Rally for the Planet; Site visit in Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom as part of GEOG 061: Geography of Vermont; CELO Outstanding Service-Learning Award-winning faculty, students, and community partners. Students in ENSC 202: Applied Environmental Assessment and Analysis created a map of Burlington’s impervious surfaces to help illustrate stormwater runoff risks; A team from NR 206: Environmental Problem-Solving and Impact Assessment helped organize the Spring gathering of the Greater Burlington Sustainability Education Network; Conducting a waste audit as part of ENSC 187: Campus Sustainability; Prof. Jason Garbarino met Barbara Murphy ’47 at the nursing alumni open house, where he presented the reminiscence therapy component of his PRNU 121: Gerontology course.