The WFU Campus Garden

Summer Campus Garden Manager

The summer Campus Garden manager position is open to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Wake Forest University. The position begins in mid-May 2016 and continues until the end of August 2016. The Campus Garden manager works an average of 15 hrs/week, depending on the needs of the garden. A stipend, or equivalent hourly pay, totaling $3,000 is available for the period. Housing near campus for June and July may be available.

About the WFU Campus Garden:
The Campus Garden is the result of student, faculty and staff efforts to help Wake Forest students better understand and influence the social, environmental, biological and political consequences of food production and consumption. While food is grown in the Campus Garden, the space serves many other purposes. It serves as an outdoor classroom for Wake Forest students and local elementary and high school students; builds community relationships among Wake Forest faculty, staff and students through volunteer hours and celebrations; and, most directly, supports a partnership with Wake Forest Campus Kitchen by providing fresh produce for meals prepared and delivered to community agency partners.

Position Summary:
Under the direction of Office of Sustainability staff, and with support from professional horticultural staff, this position is responsible for the daily, weekly and season-long management of a one-acre diversified produce operation.

This position coordinates all aspects of garden production, manages volunteers, facilitates participation by multiple service-related groups, and serves as a public face of the garden to the campus community. The ideal candidate is highly motivated to teach and inspire others about sustainable agriculture.

The Campus Garden Manager works directly with the Office of Sustainability and Campus Garden stakeholders and is responsible for the following aspects of the WFU Campus Garden:

- Propagation - seedling production using organic practices and heirloom varieties, as articulated in the crop plan.
- Bed preparation and soil fertility management - prepare beds as needed throughout the season; test and track soil fertility; build and support healthy soil ecologies using compost, cover crops, well-timed tillage, etc.
- Integrated Pest Management - build and maintain a plant-positive environment through insectaries, crop rotation, etc.
- Harvest, post-harvest handling and delivery - maintain open lines of communication regarding produce availability, harvest, and packaging to Campus Kitchen.
- Equipment maintenance - maintain the level of functionality and organization needed to keep the garden running smoothly.
• Record keeping - track volunteers, garden inputs, and crop performance to help refine crop plan. Refine crop plan at season’s end as appropriate.
• Volunteer management – structure volunteer days/hours, coordinate participation by service groups, and manage volunteers.

Preferred Qualifications:
Applicants should have experience working in a small-scale agriculture environment and working with a variety of age groups. Applicants should enjoy work outdoors in all summer weather conditions. Qualified candidates will have a demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively and a passion for garden education. Experience in ecology, community-based agriculture, and/or food justice is a preferred.