Two Postdoctoral Fellowships in Regenerative Agriculture

The University of Vermont (UVM) seeks two exceptional postdoctoral researchers in Regenerative Agriculture. The postdocs will join a growing interdisciplinary research community focused on innovative farm practices, payments for ecosystem services, and farm viability in the U.S. Northeast. They will help to broaden collaborations among UVM's new Agricultural Research Station (ARS), Philo Ridge Farm - a diversified 400-acre farm nearby, and a number of new research and policy initiatives in Vermont and the Northeast.

These new positions will be based at the Gund Institute for Environment, a campus-wide interdisciplinary research center at UVM, where more than 200 scholars and leaders collaborate to understand the interactions among ecological, social, and economic systems. Gund Institute postdocs pursue rigorous, original research that spans traditional disciplines, advances our research themes, and targets real-world issues in environment and sustainability.

Philo Ridge Farm and UVM form a unique partnership to advance the science and practice of regenerative agriculture. Philo Ridge is a working farm with a research mission to support the quantitative assessment of regenerative agricultural practices and to create a model of economically viable agricultural production that enhances ecosystem services and can be emulated at diverse scales. UVM and USDA have just launched a unique agricultural research station (ARS) designed specifically to study diversified food systems and the factors that affect their economic and environmental sustainability.

Two interrelated topics are of particular interest. We aim to recruit postdocs to lead a specific project within each one, while collaborating effectively to advance both. As part of their applications, candidates should propose specific research questions and plans within these broad topics.

1. **Regenerative Agriculture:** evaluate impacts of innovative practices on soil health, biodiversity, water quality, or other public goods; quantify impacts on yield and quality of plant and animal products; integrate in situ data with remotely sensed imagery or modeling to predict system-level impacts and opportunities.

2. **Payments for Ecosystem Services**: quantify biophysical, economic, and/or social impacts of new PES programs in Vermont using models, field data, or surveys; evaluate carbon and other market opportunities and barriers for farmers in the Northeast; work with program and state leaders to improve PES program design, equity, and impact.

These two-year positions each have an annual salary of $52,000 plus benefits, and include a $5,000 per year discretionary fund for research costs and travel. Professional development opportunities, including communications and policy training, are available to all Gund Postdoctoral Fellows.

Expected start date is September 2021. Applicants must complete a PhD in ecology, economics, agricultural sciences, or related fields before then. **To apply, submit a cover letter, CV, and 4-page research proposal [online here](#) by April 30, 2021.** A group of Gund Fellows will serve as both selection committee and potential advisors: [Taylor Ricketts](#), [Eric Bishop-von Wettberg](#), [Gillian Galford](#), [Travis Reynolds](#), [Heather Darby](#), and [Eric Roy](#). In the cover letter, applicants must identify two of these Fellows they propose to work with most closely.

The Gund Institute strives to build an inclusive environment where diverse voices and perspectives are active and welcome. Diversity and inclusion are essential to our mission and central to our vision for a sustainable world. We encourage applicants who bring diverse perspectives to our community.