Three Ph.D. graduate student Food System Technology Fellowships available to work on the role of food system technologies in supporting food security in the US

Introduction

The Environmental Studies Program (in collaboration with the Sustainability Innovation Lab at Colorado (SILC) and the Global Sustainability Scholars Program) at the University of Colorado Boulder has three positions available for new graduate student Fellows, beginning August 2020. The Food System Technology Fellowships will support three students while pursuing their Ph.D. conducting research to understand the social and economic dimensions of whether and how new food system technologies – such as those involved in cellular agriculture (‘clean’ meat), precision agriculture, and indoor agriculture – can contribute to food security in the US. During the 5-year program, the Fellows will take classes in food systems and the environment, actively participate in research groups and the SILC community, co-organize a symposium on food and agricultural technologies, and conduct independent research. Fellows will also participate in a summer fellowship with a US-based partner organization at the end of their first year, and an international study experience in Brazil or Tanzania at the end of their second year (to develop an understanding of the ways in which globalization of food systems can influence agriculture in the US). In addition to their academic work, Fellows will have access to professional training, including in leadership and pedagogy.

We encourage applicants from all backgrounds to apply

We encourage students who are underrepresented in environmental fields to apply. We recognize the lack of equal representation from many communities in the US, and the potential for this to influence the type of scientific questions asked, the interpretations, and recommendations generated. We hope to recruit a cohort of graduate student Fellows with diverse perspectives, experiences, and beliefs, and which represents the diversity of the US.

In order to be eligible to apply for these Fellowships, individuals must be citizens or nationals of the United States of America.

Financial support

The Fellows’ tuition and stipend will be supported in a number of ways:

1. One year Teaching Assistant position (Year 1)
2. Three years of Fellowship support (Years 2-4)
3. One year Research Assistant position (Year 5)

In addition, each Fellow will be funded to participate in an international study experience.

Note: the above support does not include guaranteed summer financial support. Fellows will discuss summer support options with their primary advisor(s).
Faculty advisors

Fellows will be advised throughout their studies by one or more of the following faculty: Dr. Peter Newton, Dr. Matt Burgess, Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley, and/or Dr. Jason Neff. The three Fellows will be admitted as a cohort and will spend their first year rotating through the research groups of all four faculty before choosing a primary advisor and co-advisors. Fellows will receive additional support and advice from Dr. Kirsten Rowell, Director of the Global Sustainability Scholars Program.

Qualifications

Applicants should have an undergraduate degree in a relevant natural or social science subject, such as (but not limited to) environmental studies, agricultural sciences, biology, business and management, economics, or geography. Applicants with a Masters degree are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application

Potential applicants are welcome to contact the Project Director Dr. Peter Newton (peter.newton@colorado.edu) to discuss these opportunities. They are also welcome to contact any of the following faculty: Dr. Matt Burgess (matthew.g.burgess@colorado.edu), Dr. Eve-Lyn Hinckley (eve.hinckley@colorado.edu), Dr. Jason Neff (jason.c.neff@colorado.edu), or Dr. Kirsten Rowell (kirsten.rowell@colorado.edu). All enquiries should include a CV and statement of interest.

The ENVS Ph.D. program application process is outlined here: https://www.colorado.edu/envs/graduate-studies/graduate-programs/phd-program. The deadline for applications is December 1, 2019. When submitting their application online, applicants should mark the relevant check box to indicate that they are interested in being considered for one of these Fellowships.