Summary:
The University of New Hampshire (UNH) is a recognized leader in sustainability—yet, like many campuses, it struggles with the challenge of minimizing the amount of waste it sends to the landfill every year, along with reducing energy and water needs. Based on feedback from students and employees, UNH hopes to build and promote a culture of “zero-waste.”

During the summer of 2018, the Sustainability Fellow will work with the Energy Task Force, UNH Residential Life, the Sustainability Institute, and other key stakeholders from across campus to develop and help support initial implementation of a communications campaign to reduce waste and energy and water usage in the residence halls. Specific tasks will involve the following:

- Document the current status of efforts as they pertain to three key subject areas: energy use, water use, waste.
- Gather best practices from other campuses, and/or develop new and innovative ideas for making progress, in each of those three areas. Determine, through dialogue with relevant stakeholders, which of those practices would be most relevant, useful, and feasible at UNH.
- Create a set of recommendations for improvement in each of the three areas, including a proposed timetable for implementation and relevant goals/benchmarks for measuring progress.

This project is an opportunity for someone who is a good listener, facilitator, and problem-solver to gain deep content expertise in a central aspect of institutional sustainability, as well as experience in developing highly actionable, stakeholder-driven sustainability plans and goals. The Fellow will work with a wide array of campus stakeholders, and will have an opportunity to network with subject matter experts both on and off campus. The Fellow will also have opportunities to build relationships with campus and community leaders, and connect with members of the Sustainability Fellows alumni network, many of whom are emerging leaders in the sustainability field.

Deliverables:

- Summary report detailing recommendations for improving energy use, water use, and waste at UNH, in the context of current efforts, best practices, and
Impact:
The results of this work have the potential to catalyze substantial reductions in the overall impact of a large university with regard to energy use, water use, and waste. This, in itself, is a major contribution. In addition, UNH serves as a leader in sustainability in higher education, and the policies and recommendations established by this work will serve as a model for other universities and organizations seeking to similarly reduce their impacts.

Location: UNH Sustainability Institute, Durham, NH
Time commitment: 40 hours per week, June 4-August 17, 2018
Compensation: $6000 stipend

Desired Qualifications:
- Academic background in sustainability, communications, psychology, or a related field
- An interest in, and basic familiarity with, institutional waste minimization and the growing “zero waste” industry
- Previous experience and/or basic familiarity with campus or community infrastructure systems (e.g. energy, transportation, water, waste) beneficial
- Familiarity with systems thinking and, preferably experience applying it to “real-world” problem solving
- Exceptional communication (verbal and written) and relational skills
- Demonstrated ability to work well independently, with a team, and with varied types of stakeholders (from facilities and housekeeping professionals, to students, faculty, and university decision-makers)
- Examples of success in communicating complex topics to general audiences, and specifically in communication aimed at motivating audiences to take action
- Experience with Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel, Powerpoint.
- Experience in graphic design and multi-media preferred but not required.

UNHSI Sustainability program eligibility:
Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates are eligible. We will encourage, but not require, an academic sponsor or reference for each fellow, and where possible we will ask that course credits are awarded.

Supervision, Training, Mentoring and Evaluation
This fellow will receive supervision from the UNH Energy Task Force (Adam Kohler), UNH Residential Life (Kristin Carpenter), and UNHSI communication staff (Colleen Flaherty), as well as mentoring and extensive professional development offerings from UNHSI.

Fellows will be expected to participate in the following MANDATORY events:
- A three-day, two-night orientation in Durham, NH, May 29-31. Lodging and meals will be provided. A limited number of travel scholarships will be available
to assist with transportation to Durham.

- Weekly webinars during the course of the 10-week fellowship.
- Midterm project presentations to UNHSI staff, faculty and relevant project partners in Durham, NH, July 12. Travel support provided.
- Final project presentations to UNHSI staff, faculty and relevant project partners in Durham, NH, August 10. Travel support provided.

Apply by February 14 at www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows