Job Announcement:
FSDL Graduate Research Assistant
Fall 2022-Spring 2023
The **Food System Development Lab**, which is part of the WVU Center for Resilient Communities, (FSDL), actively pursues and advocates for the creation of a **food system** that builds equity between consumers and producers across Central Appalachia. The lab partners with and participates in projects that share a vision of **food sovereignty** through collective solutions without the marginalization of people, the environment, and communities.

Growing out of several existing projects the Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) will support the FSDL to **provide land grant institution resources to stakeholders** across the region, building tools, data, research, and the **next generation** of food system **practitioners** and advocates. Working directly with the Associate Director of the CRC (**Fritz Boettner**) the GRA will **engage** with **students and partners** to move forward a myriad of research, projects, and actions, while maintaining a direct connection to undergraduate students to perform a variety of tasks. Additionally, the GRA will sit on the CRC project development committee and have an **active voice** in the decision making of new projects, lines of inquiry, and project **partnerships**.

**CRC staff understands that it is critical to involve students at every level of the CRC and maintains high regard for student input and creativity** towards creating a more **impactful** Center at WVU.
KEY TASKS

- Collaboration with CRC staff, directors, partners, undergraduate and graduate students to research, analyze, write, and visualize relevant information for regional food system development in WV and Central Appalachia.

- Support and maintain relationships with internal and external Lab Partners on a variety of projects supported by the FSDL and other CRC labs.

- Lead two project Evaluation Assessments and reports for CRC partners.

- Perform action research that will lead to learning, publications, and/or develop original scholarly work that relates to the following research topics; and/or is related to the advancement of a Regional Food System in Central Appalachia:
  - Climate change mitigation through Agroecology
  - Food Security (regionally and nationally) and access
  - Cooperative production development and support for farmers
  - Development of a coordinated logistics and distribution network
  - Alternative market development and economic analysis; value chain analysis
  - Policy development and analysis
  - Production planning coordination and tool development

- Lead and manage undergraduate students through the Sustainable Development Internship, Spring 2023.

- Align external and internal projects with interns.

- Work directly with CRC Associate Director to develop projects and support a variety of grant proposal(s) to meet education and research goals.

- Attend weekly meetings, serve on the CRC office management rotation with other students.

- Participate in staff meetings to help guide CRC initiatives and lines in inquiry.
JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate student at West Virginia University with an interest in Food Systems
- Minimum one year of professional experience
- Demonstrated research and writing experience, sample writing or project report preferred
- Ability to multitasks and provide management to undergraduate students
- GIS, excel, and database development experience preferred
- Survey development and implementation
- Qualitative and Quantitative synthesis

COMPENSATION

Term – 2022/2023 Academic Year with the possibility of an extension and/or summer work. $18,750 per academic year. Tuition remission for Geography Majors. 20 hours per week

APPLICATION

Please submit a cover letter and C.V. to jboettne@mix.wvu.edu by Monday September 5th, 2022.