Climate and Sustainability Education Project Assistant

Future Leaders Programme 2024

Application form: https://forms.office.com/e/zCDi1JHdJi

Application deadline: 11:59pm GMT on Monday 11 March 2024

Position with: Cambridge Zero, University of Cambridge

Manager: Catrin Darsley, Education Manager at Cambridge Zero

Location: Cambridge Zero office in Cambridge/Open to hybrid working*

*Please note that all project assistants on the Future Leaders Programme must be in person in Cambridge for the week commencing 15 July and the week commencing 2 September. If you are working remotely, you must be resident in the UK for the duration of your work.

Programme dates: 15 July to 13 September 2024

Project Overview

This project aims to develop strong working relationships with key stakeholders across STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) subjects at the undergraduate level across the University of Cambridge. It will support objectives around embedding climate and sustainability education within the curriculum and help to understand opportunities and barriers to expanding existing projects across the University.

The Climate and Sustainability Education project will, in particular, build on work by the 2022/23 Future Leaders Programme project assistant and by <u>Cambridge Climate Society</u> in the 2023/24 academic year to support education for climate and sustainability within the University of Cambridge departments of Education, English, Engineering, and Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology. It will consider how to encourage the development of core skills through a pilot project with the School of Biological Sciences Natural Sciences Tripos curriculum review.

The successful candidate will draw on previous project reports to identify areas that they are interested in developing further, and will present their proposed project plan and methodology to the Education Manager. They will collaborate with the Education Manager to arrange lecturer focus groups (or other engagement) within each target department to identify opportunities, requirements for support, and potential barriers to building climate and sustainability education. Where possible, they will also communicate with the student body to bring their voices into the development of products and services to help departments to showcase and develop climate and sustainability education.

The successful candidate will be able to gain and demonstrate skills in auditing, data collection and analysis, communication and presentation, collaboration with a wide range of audiences, and personal organisation and project management. The project will help shape future strategies by departments and for the University, and will have real-world impacts on widening awareness and participation in learning and teaching for a sustainable future.

The University actively supports equality, diversity and inclusion and encourages applications from all sections of society.

Person Specification

Essential criteria

- This position is not degree specific, but applicants must have a knowledge of climate and environmental issues as well as a passion for the subject.
- Very good interpersonal skills; confident in meeting, communicating with and working with people from a range of backgrounds and academic disciplines; confident in ability to engage respectfully with people with a range of perspectives on climate and sustainability.
- Well-developed organisational skills and the ability to establish and manage projects.
- Very good analytical skills: able to collate, understand and draw conclusions from numerical and qualitative information.
- Competent in standard software packages e.g. Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Moodle (or other virtual learning environments).
- All applicants must be current or recent undergraduate students (graduated from their undergraduate degree within the last 12 months). The positions are open to ALL undergraduate students, not just students from the University of Cambridge.
- The successful candidate must, by the start of their employment, have permission to work in the UK.

Desirable criteria

- It would be helpful for applicants to have a STEAM background, but this is not compulsory.
- Good visual presentation skills. Experience of working with developing visual resources is desirable (e.g. through Canva or other tools).
- The ability to prioritise your own workload as you will not be continuously supervised.
- Experience in carrying out desktop audits and qualitative, in-person data collection (e.g. interviews and focus groups) would be helpful, but any training needed will be provided.
- An existing interest in 'education for sustainable development' (or learning/teaching about climate and sustainability in formal taught courses) would be helpful but is not compulsory.
 There will be space to ask questions and learn on the job!