

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Fall 2020

The UBC Sustainability Initiative (USI) is pleased to offer current UBC graduate students the opportunity to work on funded sustainability internship projects. Successful candidates work under the mentorship of a partner organization, and are immersed in real world learning where they can apply their research skills and contribute to advancing sustainability across the region.

Note: Projects must be completed remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Visit the [Sustainability Scholars Program website](#) to learn [how the program works](#) and to [apply](#).
- Be sure to review the [application guide](#) to confirm your eligibility before applying.

Applications close at midnight on Sunday September 20, 2020.

Research project title: Develop a UBC podcast series to amplify BIPOC voices and foster social connections

Sustainability Goal or Operations Plan objective

Good Health and Wellbeing: This project would support the reaching Social Connection and Inclusion targets in the Wellbeing Strategic Framework, where community members feel their beliefs, identity and experiences are valued at UBC. The podcast series would build capacity for allyship, increasing psychological and cultural safety for all UBC community members. This project would also support UBC's Focus on People 2025 Catalyst 1 *I am part of a diverse, safe, inclusive, and vibrant workplace.*

Project description

Overview:

The Equity & Inclusion Office in partnership with UBC Wellbeing have identified a need to support equity-seeking communities through elevating voices and social connection. This project would seek to have a sustainability scholar coordinate the development of a time-limited podcast series and a series of social connection opportunities, working in collaboration with a UBC Wellbeing and Equity Inclusion Office collective. This project supports the Inclusion Action Plan by providing inclusive spaces and initiatives for mentorship, peer support, and affinity/resource groups as well as the social connection targets of the UBC Wellbeing Strategic Framework.

Purpose of the Project:

- Foster dialogue and engagement within the UBC community to deepen understanding and capacity for action toward a more equitable and inclusive community
- Amplify voices of equity champions, highlighting research, community development, and exploring ways of knowing and doing that furthers UBC's strategic commitments to inclusive excellence

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- Strengthen collective impact by bringing community members, units, departments, faculties (etc.) engaged in justice, equity, diversity and inclusion efforts together to collaborate on the development of a podcast series as well as make recommendations on social connection opportunities for the IBPOC community
- Develop resources and contribute to a research narrative that prioritizes health and wellbeing of those that have been historically, persistently, or systemically marginalized

Scope of Work:

- Lead the development of a podcast series that amplifies voices of IBPOC faculty, staff and students speaking to their health and wellbeing priorities
- Develop briefing papers and resources that support capacity building and knowledge transfer for health and wellbeing priorities of IBPOC faculty, staff and students
- Conduct a literature review, environmental scan and review of promising practices to prioritize topic areas to be explored as they pertain to Indigeneity, anti-racism, allyship, power and privilege dynamics, etc.
- Conduct qualitative research and analysis with UBC researchers and stakeholders to identify health and wellbeing priorities for the UBC IBPOC community
- Lead the development of a collaborative partnership between UBC Wellbeing, EIO's IBPOC Connections initiative and others that may include meeting coordination, agenda planning, and facilitation
- Develop and execute a project plan identifying key milestones for research, identification of priorities, podcast production, and suggestions for opportunities to foster connection for UBC IBPOC staff and faculty
- Identify and prioritize ways that reflect the voices and needs of the IBPOC community

Deliverables

Note that a final deliverable (either a full report or, if the report contains confidential information, an executive summary) is required by the end of the program (March 12, 2021). The deliverable will be archived in the online [public-facing Scholars Project Library](#).

- Develop a podcast series focusing on health and wellbeing topics for IBPOC faculty, staff and students at UBC
- Develop a briefing papers and resources that build capacity around health and wellbeing priorities identified by IBPOC faculty, staff and students at UBC
- Develop a final report that includes the literature scan, qualitative analysis, briefing papers, and rationale for podcast topics

Time Commitment

The program runs for 22 weeks from October 19, 2020 to March 12, 2021, during which students work an average of 12 hours per week for a total of 250 hours.

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between October 19, 2020 and March 12, 2021

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- The Scholar is to complete hours between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday, approximately 12 hours per week.

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- ✓ Excellent research and writing skills
- ✓ Demonstrated interest in sustainability and wellbeing
- ✓ Demonstrated knowledge of and experience working in the area of equity, diversity and inclusion
- ✓ Experience conducting stakeholder engagement events, including facilitation skills, is an asset
- ✓ Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- ✓ Excellent public speaking and presentation skills
- ✓ Community engagement experience
- ✓ Familiarity conducting focus group research
- ✓ Strong analytical skills
- ✓ Ability to work independently
- ✓ Project management and organizational skills
- ✓ Program planning experience
- ✓ Strong technical and drafting skills
- ✓ Demonstrated experience in communications
- ✓ Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person interviews
- ✓ Design and layout skills
- ✓ Familiarity with podcast design an asset

Applications close **midnight Sunday September 20, 2020.**

Apply here: <http://sustain.ubc.ca/scholarsapply>

Contact Karen Taylor at sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca if you have questions

Useful Resources

Below are some links to useful resources to help you with your resume and cover letter (there are many more online). Some of these resources also provide information on preparing for your interview.

Resume workshop for prospective Sustainability Scholars: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/resume-workshop-for-prospective-sustainability-scholars-tickets-117422877989>

<https://students.ubc.ca/career/career-resources/resumes-cover-letters-curricula-vitae>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/graduate-pathways-success>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/cover-letter-cv-resume-templates-ubc-career-services>