

## CALL FOR FACULTY DIRECTOR OF URBAN@UW

**Urban@UW** is seeking a Faculty Director to actively support and steward the mission of Urban@UW as a catalyst for transdisciplinary urban research, teaching, and engagement at the University of Washington (UW).

**Urban@UW** is a UW-wide initiative that seeks to improve the sustainability and resilience, health and wellbeing, and social justice and equity of cities. In partnership with the College of Built Environments (CBE) and the UW Office of Research, Urban@UW builds on the UW's strengths in data-driven and applied urban research, deeply collaborative practices, and diverse partnerships in the public and private realms to foster faculty-driven, inclusive research that transcends the traditional siloes involved in addressing urban challenges. Our goals are to:

- Accelerate transdisciplinary urban research at UW, focused on research for greater metro Seattle as a case study of cities globally;
- Catalyze equitable and impactful engagement between UW and urban communities;
- Cultivate cross-disciplinary and cross-sector learning and teaching opportunities in urban challenges and opportunities; and
- Increase the on-campus, local, national, and international accessibility of current urban scholarship by the UW community; all leading to
- Increased capacity to make substantive impacts in practice, policy and planning for urban sustainability, resilience, health and wellbeing, equity, and justice.

Urban@UW's priorities are driven by scholar and community perspectives, and we strive to address equity and justice in all of our efforts. Currently we maintain a focus on issues of homelessness and affordable housing; urban environmental justice; smart cities and data equity; as well as emergent mission-aligned topics. The initiative includes active Fellows and Affiliates communities, and a Spark Grants program to support urban scholarship.

Besides the Faculty Director, Urban@UW employs the Director and an hourly student assistant. Urban@UW is also supported by a UW-wide steering committee and is currently building an external advisory board. The program is funded through a mix of sources, including the College of Built Environments, and funds the personnel as well as ongoing and potential scholarly efforts. Urban@UW is fully funded through June 2023, and CBE has committed a proportion of funding thereafter pending procurement of matching support. The Faculty Director will work with the Director to allocate current funding and seek additional funding.

**The University of Washington** is committed to attracting and retaining a diverse workforce. The University of Washington will honor your experiences, perspectives and unique identity. Together, our community strives to create and maintain working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming.

### Position Responsibilities

The Faculty Director position works in a direct and collaborative partnership with the Urban@UW Director to identify and develop strategies for engaging grand urban challenges and opportunities that support community-driven and applied transdisciplinary research practices, and actively and equitably draw on the collective strengths of UW faculty, staff, and students. Responsibilities include:

- Envision and strategize, in partnership with the Director, to determine Urban@UW's research priorities and resource allocation, co-creating the current and future strategies of the program.
- Chair the Urban@UW Steering Committee, which comprises researchers from across UW and provides guidance on strategy and implementation.
- Facilitate and engage appropriate and interested UW faculty, staff, and students in exploring potential areas of collaboration and impact.
- Cultivate collaborations with civic, professional, and community leaders in Seattle and the metropolitan region, as well as across the state and more broadly, in urban research, practice, and teaching projects/ initiatives.
- Serve as a contributing member of the External Advisory Board for Urban@UW.
- Foster strong connections between UW faculty, staff, and students with academic and external communities, as a network serving both the UW and the region.
- Connect and facilitate engagement of Urban@UW-affiliated faculty, staff, and students with related UW initiatives (eg, CSDE, Earthlab, Population Health, eScience, etc.) to support collaborative urban scholarship and application.
- Seek funding and support for sustainably fostering projects and initiatives, in partnership with CBE and central Advancement and Research teams.
- Serve as PI for select, mission-central, research projects, utilizing their expertise and network to direct and facilitate research opportunities on behalf of Urban@UW.
- Bring their leadership to bear to connect, support, foster mentorship of, and lift up collaborative/community-engaged scholarship and scholars.

The Faculty Director position requires an average of 2-4 hours per week of effort, in addition to any efforts that may fall within the Faculty Director's Urban@UW-aligned research portfolio.

## **Position Qualifications**

Successful candidates are required to hold a full-time faculty position at UW of any rank. We envision that a successful applicant will:

- Be actively engaged in urban scholarship, teaching, and/or community-engaged practice;
- Be adept at working across disciplines, including sciences, humanities, arts, and/or professional domains;
- Be committed to equitable, cross-boundary scholarship as a mechanism for developing new knowledge and addressing complex challenges;
- Have sufficient capacity to lend their vision and research network to grow and guide the program as a model of impactful, transdisciplinary, community-engaged scholarship;
- Be ready to explore and envision the next chapter for Urban@UW; and
- Be excited to take a partnered approach to leadership of the initiative with the Director.

## **Position Compensation**

This position is supported at the equivalent of 1 month salary, with a flexible mechanism of support (salary, stipend, course buy-out) depending on circumstances. The position is a 2-year, renewable agreement subject to approval by Urban@UW leadership.

## **To Apply**

Please send a resume and cover letter, which should include a description of your commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, to [urbanuw@uw.edu](mailto:urbanuw@uw.edu). Applications received by March 26 will be prioritized.