

VCIH Core Faculty Position ~ Call for Applicants

Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism (VCIH) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing healthcare resources and education grounded in Nature. Founded in 2007, we provide one of the nation's most extensive clinical training opportunities in herbal medicine, rooted in deep connection with the plants and place. In addition to professional training, we offer community programs and operate a sliding-scale community clinic and apothecary, run by professional and student herbalists.

We seek to bring about a system of healthcare wherein primary care is Nature-based and practiced in the home; the tools of technological medicine serve as secondary resources; and the herbalist acts as a bridge between the two. This model ensures the individual's central role, utilizes the simplest and least invasive treatments, and emphasizes the co-evolutionary and interdependent relationship between humans and our environment.

Along with the chance to be part of our clinic, we hear from students that what brings them to VCIH is our reputation for rigor and critical thinking, our structured style, and a healthy dose of science education. We're certainly proud of these aspects of our programs, but what we hope students leave with is more than strong herbal knowledge. Our wish for each student is to deepen a sense of identity and self-trust; to build reciprocally supportive relationships; to nurture self-care and inspiration in the face of injustice and loss; to be seen in vulnerability and be found beautiful, uniquely gifted, and enough. In short, we do our best to hold a safe and vibrant space for transformation—for our students, our clients, and ourselves—and we are honored and humbled by the courage and wisdom that each person carries as we walk together on this green path.

Job description:

We are seeking an experienced herbal educator and clinician to join our team as our school grows. We currently have two core faculty who, along with a number of adjuncts, deliver a little over 1500 hours of curriculum each year. We are looking for one or more educators to take on a significant portion of the course load, contributing their unique knowledge and experience within the context and format of our existing curriculum.

We are particularly in need of educators with advanced knowledge who are equally comfortable speaking the languages of science and energetics. The ideal candidates would also be equally comfortable in the classroom, clinic and gardens.

Our students are incredibly intelligent and committed, and while diverse in their backgrounds and goals, all hold high expectations of their experience at VCIH. We, in turn, expect faculty to continue learning through self-study and professional development, as well as to learn alongside of and from our students. This is a fantastic environment in which to grow and thrive as a teacher and clinician, while serving an engaged and appreciative student body of 75 and counting.

Our current core faculty are founding directors, who remain deeply invested in the quality, sustainability, and maturation of our programs. We seek educators who are excited to become similarly invested and ready to dedicate significant energy towards VCIH students and towards our organizational mission as a whole.

*Note: Faculty are also encouraged to practice in our highly regarded professional sliding-scale clinic, affording additional income potential, as desired.

Responsibilities include, but may not be limited to:

- Prepare and deliver classes for 10-20 hours each week, on a range of topics; subjects to be selected based on applicants' expertise and VCIH needs
 - sampling of desired expertise: pathophysiology and therapeutics for a wide variety of conditions; materia medica; herb cultivation; energetic systems (e.g. Chinese, Western or Ayurvedic); botany; physiology; pharmacology; business development
- Supervise clinical interns
- Collaborate with core faculty team and Clinical and Community Program Directors to evaluate and enhance courses and programs as needed, especially through faculty retreats and inservice weeks, held yearly
- Communicate with students and teaching assistants regarding questions, class materials, homework and exams; grade student work and track student progress
- Participate in clinical intern retreats three times each year
- Attend school-related events, as appropriate
- Engage in community relationships to promote positive engagement as a representative of VCIH
- Adhere to the AHG professional code of ethics and model heart-centered professionalism, critical thinking and self-reflective action
- Other administrative tasks may arise as the position develops, subject to VCIH need and interests of applicant

Qualifications:

Required:

- Current practice as a Western herbalist with primary focus on Euro-American herbs and the "Western" herbal tradition. Applicants well-versed in additional therapeutic systems (i.e. Chinese Medicine, Ayurveda, Curanderismo, etc.) will be favorably considered.
- Experience teaching and/or supervising in the context of an ongoing herbal program (vs. isolated workshops)
- Flexible mindset and curiosity towards diverse approaches in herbal medicine (e.g. non-dogmatic); open-minded towards non-herbal modalities, including other "alternative" therapies, as well as conventional medical practice
 - Ethically and philosophically aligned with VCIH's mission and values
 - Flexible availability on weekdays (M-F), 42 of 52 weeks each year, with occasional weekend retreats and meetings (currently six or fewer each year)
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, with fluency in English

- Relocation to the Central Vermont area, if applicant does not live within commuting distance
- Clinical and teaching experience must include:
 - 400 lifetime hours of clinical exposure (may include hours gained during training) with 100 in last year (as a professional)
 - 400 lifetime hours of teaching experience

Preferred:

- Experience or strong interest in progressive educational models and theories, e.g. transformative, embodied and/or student-centered learning
- Experience or strong interest in exploring the relationship of social and ecological justice to herbal medicine
- Familiarity with MS Office and Google Apps; general comfort with computer technology for communication and teaching

Application Deadline:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, however we would prefer to fill the position by the end of September, 2016.

Start Date:

Possibly immediately, with the latest being 2017 (with orientation to occur beforehand)

Compensation:

Compensation will be determined during the interview process.

Documentation for applicants must include:

- Letter of interest indicating why applicant believes they would be a good fit for VCIH and what they would bring to the position
- Resume/CV (including above required clinical and teaching hours)
- 3 Letters of recommendation/testimonials from students, clients, or colleagues (two must be from this last group)

Policy of Inclusion (Non-discrimination Policy):

In the spirit of Nature's diversity, we do not discriminate in accepting students to our school, or clients to our clinic, nor in our hiring practices. Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism welcomes employees, students, and clients of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to employees, students and clients at VCIH. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, gender identification, religious or spiritual belief, national or ethnic origin, or relationship to any member of VCIH in administration of our educational policies, admission policies, scholarship or loan programs, clinical services, or hiring practices.

We practice and teach from an anti-oppression framework and seek to address social and health justice issues through our work. If you feel your voice or perspective is generally unheard or silenced in the field of herbal medicine, we especially encourage you to apply.

To Apply:

Please send the above documentation materials to Larken Bunce at Larken@vtherbcenter.org, and include "Core Faculty" in subject line.

If you have interest in the position, but are unsure whether you fit all of the criteria, or have any questions, please get in touch.