

## **Position Announcement National Director, Food Systems Leadership Institute**

### **Background**

The Food Systems Leadership Institute (FSLI) grew out of a perceived need for more leaders in higher education and industry with the breadth of understanding and advanced leadership skills that were needed to address the complex challenges facing the global food systems. Through the leadership of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) and the generous support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Institute was established, and the Food Systems Leadership Institute initiated its first cohort in the fall of 2005. An eleven-member APLU-appointed Commission of leaders from higher education, industry and other sectors representing the food system governs FSLI. For the position of National Director, the FSLI Commission seeks a person who can provide a vision for the Institute's future and be an effective leader for a complex organization with multiple strategic objectives and a diverse group of stakeholders.

FSLI is a national executive leadership development program of APLU and is conducted in partnership with NC State University (which serves as the administrative home and financial agent), The Ohio State University and Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo. FSLI is an intensive two-year program and includes residential sessions at each partnering institution, personal leadership executive coaching, mentoring, leadership projects, distance learning and other enrichment activities. Each cohort is targeted to have between 23 and 26 participants.

FSLI's primary objectives are to:

- Enhance individual leadership performance, to improve the effectiveness of the individual in any leadership role.
- Develop skills and knowledge required to lead organizational change, in one's own organization as well as larger systems.
- Broaden food systems perspectives, to provide a vision for change toward broader, more interdisciplinary and collaborative food systems.

Upon completion of the program, FSLI Fellows should be able to:

- Articulate a broad, integrated food systems perspective focused on health, humans, environments, communities, and economies.
- Bring together multiple constituencies to focus on major food system challenges, issues, and opportunities.
- Influence organizational values, goals, and strategic directions.
- Advocate for change within an organization consistent with the food system vision.
- Serve broader and more diverse constituencies.
- Create positive changes to impact the health of citizens, the environment, the economy, and local communities.

### **Preferred Education and Experience Background**

The ideal candidate should possess a doctoral degree in an area related to food systems, agriculture, human health, human development, veterinary medicine, food insecurity, international food/agricultural systems, education, or organizational development and recognize nationally as a leader in his/her field. Preference will be for the applicant to be an FSLI Fellow and have had the experience of being an Assistant or Associate Dean or higher in administration at a university, or at a comparable level in industry or government (i.e., division director, deputy director, vice president).

### **Preferred Experiences**

The ideal candidate will have successful career experiences related to:

- Active and ongoing engagement in leadership development at the national and/or corporate level.
- Recruiting, developing and retaining leaders.
- Providing vision and direction for training and leadership development programs.
- Administration of state, national and/or international programs.
- Working successfully with national boards and or committees
- Financial stewardship; budget development, oversight and management.
- Strategic planning and visioning.
- Partnerships and collaborations.
- Leading change.

### **Preferred Skills**

The ideal candidate will have skills and experience in the following areas:

- Leadership;
- Stakeholder interaction;
- Program development, execution and evaluation;
- Budget development and management;
- Working with and facilitating teams;
- Oral and written communications;
- Marketing and outreach; and
- Partnering and collaboration.

### **Primary Responsibilities**

1. Commission Facilitation/Management
  - a) Plan and lead Annual Commission Meeting (conducted annually during one of the Residential Sessions);
  - b) Plan and lead Fall and Spring Conference Calls (minimum of two calls per year);
  - c) Work with Commission Subcommittees (including, but not limited to Finance, Awards, etc.);
  - d) In conjunction with the Commission Chair, recruit new Commission members as vacancies occur;
  - e) Develop agendas and follow-up on Commission action items;
  - f) Communicate regularly with the Commission Chair and members as needed; and
  - g) Report to the FSLI APLU Commissioners.
2. Strategic Program Visioning/Planning
  - a) Annual Review of FSLI Strategy Document with the Commission and update/revise as appropriate;
  - b) Develop and present metrics for accomplishing the strategies; and
  - c) Update the Strategy Document as appropriate.
3. Programmatic Evaluation/Adjustments
  - a) Consult and interact regularly with site directors at NC State University, The Ohio State University and Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo;
  - b) Evaluate and implement appropriate adjustments to the residential sessions;
  - c) Identify and interact with program speakers and facilitators; and
  - d) Determine conference call topic and participate in calls.

4. Financial Oversight and Stewardship
  - a) Coordinate budget, reports and programmatic activities with the Program Specialist at NC State University;
  - b) Oversee budget implementation and approve expenditures;
  - c) Develop reports to the Commission; and
  - d) Oversee FSLI Endowment and fundraising.
5. Cohort Responsiveness
  - a) Conduct pre-session orientation webinar before the first Residential Session
  - b) Respond to individual cohort requests for assistance/information; and
  - c) Follow-up on FSLI Fellow projects and mentor selection.
6. Residential Session Facilitation and Guidance
  - a) Serve as primary point of contact;
  - b) Attend all sessions; and
  - c) Review and re-emphasize key themes and ideas with participants.
7. APLU Conference
  - a) Plan and conduct recognition session for the graduating cohort at Annual APLU Meeting;
  - b) Network and connect with appropriate APLU groups to recruit for FSLI; and
  - c) Attend and support the FSLI Encore Program.
8. Other Opportunities
  - a) Participation in events and programs to enhance the visibility, profile and content of the FSLI (examples include: WK Kellogg Foundation Food Gathering, NARU Conference, Association of Leadership Educators, Association for Talent Development, etc.); and
  - b) Connect with industry to enhance visibility of FSLI and Fellows.

#### **Details of the Appointment**

- The FSLI Director reports to the APLU/FSLI Commission through the Chair and is responsible for compliance with NC State University, processes and policies relevant to the program.
- This is estimated to be a 25% Full Time Equivalent (FTE) position. The compensation for this position is commensurate with qualifications, experience and approved by the FSLI Commission.
- The initial appointment is for a 4-year term, subject to renewal.

#### **Start Date and Location**

Start Date is July 1, 2020, or as negotiated.

The current host of FSLI is NC State University but the location and appointment of the Director can be determined with a successful candidate.

## **Application Process**

Individuals interested in this position should send:

1. Letter of Intent;
2. Statement of Your Vision for the FSLI Program; and
3. Abbreviated CV or list of Major Accomplishments.

Review of applications will begin on February 1, 2020, and will continue until a successful candidate is selected. After review of the application, it will be determined whether further information from applicant is needed.

Please submit all application materials in one pdf file to:

Carol Reilly  
Program Specialist  
Food Systems Leadership Institute  
NC State University  
[creilly@ncsu.edu](mailto:creilly@ncsu.edu)  
(919) 515-4197

The FSLI is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.