

MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff and Students, University of Toronto Scarborough
From: Professor Karin Ruhlandt, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean *Karin Ruhlandt*
Date: 30 September 2024
Re: Call for Nominations – Special Advisor on Teaching & Pedagogy at the Campus Farm, University of Toronto Scarborough
Note: For distribution broadly

I am writing to seek nominations for a new role, Special Advisor on Teaching & Pedagogy at the [University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Farm](#) with an anticipated start date of 1 January 2025. This new position will focus on fostering innovative teaching methodologies integrating sustainable practices into the academic framework and will play a pivotal role in enhancing educational experiences through land-based learning.

The Special Advisor will collaborate with faculty, students, and the campus community to promote a holistic understanding of agriculture and its pedagogical implications. This is envisioned to enhance both pedagogical effectiveness and the academic community's understanding of sustainable practices and their application in diverse fields of study.

The Special Advisor will act on delegated authority and general direction from the VP Dean and work closely with the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs & Curriculum and the Campus Farm Governance Team to align farm-based initiatives with broader curricular goals and educational standards as articulated in the campus [Strategic Plan: Inspiring Inclusive Excellence](#) and [Curriculum Review](#).

This inaugural role will address the following key areas of responsibility, with an inclusive excellence lens:

- oversight of proposal and adjudication processes for teaching and learning initiatives aiming at utilizing the Campus Farm;
- leadership of the Campus Farm Advisory Committee, providing strategic direction and support for farm-related educational initiatives and enhance the farm's role in the curriculum;
- management of faculty and community inquiries about land-based teaching and learning opportunities on the Campus Farm;
- facilitation of professional development for faculty on effective pedagogical strategies tailored to land-based education and fostering a community of practice among educators;
- assessment of teaching outcomes and student engagement in farm-based initiatives for the continuous refinement and improvement of educational practices on the Campus Farm.

For the success of the selection process, the input of faculty, staff, and students is crucial. You are invited to submit, in writing, nominations of faculty members who have the interests and skills necessary to serve in this capacity. Please briefly indicate the reasons for your nominations. Self-nominations are welcome.

Your submissions will be held in confidence. These should be sent to the attention of Fefe Wong, Manager Academic HR & Faculty Affairs, at academichr.utsc@utoronto.ca no later than **Tuesday, 8 October**.