

USU Permaculture Initiative Assistant  
Utah Conservation Corps AmeriCorps 900 Hour Internship

# Description, Goal & Objectives

UCC (Intern) & Roslynn Brain-McCann (Advisor)

2018



*AmeriCorps is a National Service program that supports direct service to meet important community needs. AmeriCorps is an equal opportunity program and we seek to provide reasonable accommodations for application and service.*

## Schedule

Position is Monday through Friday with some weekend and evening work required. Begins January 2018.

## Job Summary

Applications are now being accepted for a 12-month term (900 hours, approximately 20 hours/week) AmeriCorps position with the Utah State University (USU) Permaculture Initiative, coordinated by USU Extension Sustainability. The AmeriCorps Permaculture Initiative Assistant will work with a variety of audiences primarily via education and outreach.

## Position Goal

To increase involvement with the USU permaculture garden - and understanding of permaculture design - by university faculty, students, facilities staff, and Cache Valley residents.

## Position Objectives

- Oversee garden maintenance and harvesting
- Complete planting via the pre-designed garden plant palette. Complete pergola, bench, and signage installation
- Oversee dietetic students completing garden rotations to fulfill required supervised practice rotations and volunteer experiences (in collaboration with Tamara Steinitz and Sheryl Aguilar)
- Serve as liaison between facilities and USU academic programming to further student service learning opportunities
- Design and manage a strategic plan for community and USU class involvement in permaculture, including service, educational and fundraising events. Plan should include expansion and longevity of USU permaculture initiative.
- Create a site operation manual using the USU Moab permaculture garden manual as an example.

## Qualifications

The successful candidate will have a background in education, horticulture, ecology, or landscape architecture and environmental planning. Must enjoy being outdoors and working with all age groups. Teaching experience preferred. The following skills are benefits to this position (and any should be addressed in the letter of interest):

- Experience in permaculture/gardening practices and how to implement
- Collaborating with a variety of team members, ranging from professors to knowledgeable community members
- Recruiting and training volunteers
- Knowledge of how to use gardening equipment
- Capability of overseeing the design and construction of additional gardens
- Working with stakeholders/collaborators to develop the budget for the different projects
- Equipment/garden maintenance
- Ability to develop clear priorities for the permaculture initiative, and share these regularly with planning team
- Procuring seeds and other planting materials
- Overseeing harvesting, storage, and use of produce
- Creating or overseeing student/volunteers work schedules
- Providing evaluations for students completing above experiences
- Completing letters of recommendation for students applying to programs and internships
- Harvesting and preserving local produce for use in Food Literacy course
- Planning and implementing education/outreach events
- Planning and implementing fundraising events and submitting relevant funding proposals

## Permaculture

Permaculture is a design process mimicking the diversity, functionality and resilience of natural ecosystems. The principles and practices are drawn from traditional ecological knowledge of indigenous cultures combined with modern scientific understanding and technological innovations. Permaculture design provides a framework helping individuals and communities develop innovative, creative and effective strategies for meeting basic needs while preparing for and mitigating the projected impacts of climate change.

## Salary

Compensation includes a bi-monthly stipend of approximately \$278 (for a total of \$6,686 for the 12-month period), and an education stipend of \$2,907.50 upon successful completion of the 900 hour commitment. Student Loan Forbearance & Payment of Interest Accrued during the position term. Permaculture training included. Travel to attend Joel Glanzberg's early spring Community Rebuilds permaculture course in Moab is included.

## To Apply

Please email your resume and a maximum 1-page letter of interest to:

Roslynn Brain-McCann, [roslynn.brain@usu.edu](mailto:roslynn.brain@usu.edu)