# Future Generations University



## **Future Generations University Dean**

Future Generations University is conducting a search for an enterprising, knowledgeable individual to serve as Dean of its innovative graduate program in Applied Community Development. The successful candidate will believe in the University's mission and vision and will have significant experience in an applied academic setting with an environmental, social justice, or workforce development focus. They may be from a technical or community college background. An important element of the position is leading adaptive community development to address climate change. This position is an opportunity for an energetic, committed academic administrator to expand the work of a unique university and build gateways for communities to achieve just and lasting change.

## **Future Generations University**

Future Generations University grew from a UNICEF Task Force to study sustainable and scalable community-driven change in 1992. After a decade of successful demonstrations across various development fields and country contexts, Future Generations established a graduate school. Future Generations University was authorized by the West Virginia Higher Ed Policy Commission in 2003 and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities in 2010. Today, the University is the most applied accredited institution of higher learning in the world. It is dedicated to a more inclusive and sustainable future for all with graduates working in 55 countries across the globe.





The Master of Arts in Applied Community Development as well as various certification programs are interdisciplinary and span the fields of social change. All students must engage in community change initiatives to succeed in this applied pedagogy. They confront issues such as peace, climate resilience, and sustainable socioeconomic development to cultivate and nurture skills in leadership, management, and project design.

Future Generations approaches these complexities through its innovative pedagogy and curriculum. Blended learning integrates interactive online learning with field-based residential experiences and applied practice within each course's "community lab" component. Students are encouraged to remain in their home communities except for optional three-week residential courses. As a result of this innovative approach to learning, ninety percent of graduates remain actively involved in community work, equipped with enhanced determination and an expanded skill set.

Over the next three years, Future Generations University plans to inaugurate a PhD program in Applied Community Development. The Dean/Chief Academic Officer will play an integral role in the implementation of this degree program. The University currently offers a range of educational opportunities including:

#### **Academic Programs**

- Master of Arts in Applied Community Development
- Certificate in Applied Community Development
- Residential Field-Based Learning Courses
- Flexible and Alternative Admission Track

#### **Community Engagement Programs**

- Appalachia Network: Localized agroforestry; farm-to-school training; nature-based economies; rural development; syrup and sap research.
- Himalaya Network: conservation; village livelihoods; maternal health and women's empowerment.

## MISSION

Future Generations University promotes research, learning, and action towards inclusive and sustainable community change worldwide.

## VISION

Future Generations University seeks a global shift in practice so local adaptation responds to emerging challenges. This

vision extends research, learning, and action so present generations improve futures for generations yet to come.

Recognizing the now overarching global climate disruption and to advance this vision effectively, Future Generations University applies these tenets:

### **Enrich Through Applied Education:** Future

Generations University, across all its partner organizations, extends impact through education linked to practice.

#### **Promote Equity and Empowerment:**

Regardless of circumstances, communities must have agency over their direction to achieve equity and empowerment. The University prioritizes the vulnerable and marginalized by promoting their empowerment in their communities.

## Conserve Earth's Systems (Air, Land,

Water): The University protects Earth's biodiversity and life systems through training partner organizations at landscape and community levels in such a way that enhances community capacities to adapt to disrupting global systems.

**Expand Opportunities For Women:** The University lifts the voices of women and supports them in enhancing their skills and abilities to be core agents of change and improve their lives and the lives of their families.

#### Assure Life-Long, World-Circling Learning:

Future Generations global family consists of country partners, faculty, alumni, graduates, staff, boards of trustees, and partner practitioners. We are a global network of holistic learning for generations yet to come.

**Scale-Up Successes:** Quality of life rises from successes locally grown through action learning and continual experimentation. Thus, the Future Generations Global Network advances and supports alumni partnerships to scale up regional successes in community change.

## CREDO

Communities thrive when we share what we know. Sustainable, inclusive communities evolve when we act from our successes; unite as partners—top, bottom, and outside; decide, plan, and act using evidence, not opinion—then our behaviors will benefit generations yet to come.

## **Position Specifics and Requirements**

The Academic Dean is the chief academic officer reporting directly to the President and is responsible for administrative management of the graduate programs. The Academic Dean has responsibility for academic leadership, hiring, supervision, and guidance of the faculty, oversees student recruitment and matriculation, program development, implementation, and assessment. Additionally, the Academic





Dean assists with university advancement when requested.

Educational requirements for the position include a doctoral degree in a subject area related to higher education programming or sustainable development. Experience and a proven track record in academic and administrative leadership is required. Knowledge of and/or experience in community development is strongly preferred.

Due to Future Generations University's presence worldwide, significant travel is required.

## **Position Specifics**

#### Academic Administration

- Sustain processes and standards expected for an accredited institution of higher learning
- Student recruitment
- Recruit faculty and successfully manage faculty responsibilities
- Assess and guide the graduate school in meeting its responsibilities as a learning organization
- Support development of scholarships

### Academic Program Development

• Expand educational programming,

approach, and methodology

- Revise and expand curriculum and pedagogy for greater effectiveness
- Develop more effective assessment methods for student learning, faculty performance, and applied learning labs
- Develop specialized training courses that flow from the mission

#### **New Initiatives**

- Work with President, consultants, and University team to implement PhD program
- Systematize research programs
- Develop a strong publications program

Salary includes excellent benefits and housing. Compensation is determined based on the candidate's educational qualifications and professional experience.

To learn more about the University go to www.future.edu and www.future.org.

**To Apply** send cover letter, curriculum vitae and five professional references to:

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