Position Summary

The OpenTEAM collaborative, or Open Technology Ecosystem for Agricultural Management, is a community-driven platform to provide farmers and ranchers around the world with the best possible knowledge to improve soil health. OpenTEAM is a collaborative community of farmers, scientists and researchers, engineers, farm service providers, and food companies that are committed to improving soil health and advancing agriculture’s ability to become a solution to climate change. The OpenTEAM secretariat will be coordinating a global community of technology development teams and agricultural networks to improve interoperability, create new shared software services and tools to increase farmer feedback and increase the value of environmental feedback to farmers and ranchers, researchers and ecosystem service markets.

The OpenTEAM secretariat is hosted by Wolfe’s Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment. Situated on over 600 acres of preserved coastal landscape in Freeport, Maine, Wolfe’s Neck Center uses its setting to connect people of all ages to the food they eat and where it comes from. Encompassing a demonstration farm, oceanfront campground, wooded trails, and historic buildings, our vibrant campus serves as a unique hub for education and exploration. As a nonprofit, Wolfe’s Neck Center draws upon a rich history of innovation and experimentation to continue the legacy of this place today. Through regenerative farming, innovative soil health research, and visitor interactions, the land is now used as an educational resource to create a healthier planet for all. We hope to inspire active participation in a healthier food system and build a community of people who care deeply about the future of food.

The ideal candidate has excellent facilitation and organizational skills, and understands systems dynamics and how communities function to support open source development, human-centered design adaptive management. The candidate will be facilitating the creation of communities of practice while interacting with technologists, academics, conservation professionals, farmers, ranchers, extension agents, land use planners, and citizen scientists to improve access to ideas, information and inspiration.

This position reports to the Wolfe’s Neck Center Research Director and OpenTEAM project lead and involves collaboration with other OpenTEAM secretariat staff and supervision of student interns.

Primary Responsibilities

Project leadership, facilitation and Support (60%)

- Guide future direction of OpenTEAM with project lead and prioritize potential improvements to OpenTEAM based on stakeholder input (surveys, interviews, focus groups, etc.). Translate these into specific tasks and milestones for software, app, and web developers and on-farm trials.

- Develop and maintain relationships with US and international project partners, including university faculty and other scientists, community representatives, government agencies, development organizations and other software and app developers. Facilitate and maintain an active group of app users and provide technical support; organize international and US-based workshops as needed.

- Respond to inquiries from current and potential users.

- Maintain information necessary for reports, and contribute to and/or lead report writing, review and submittal in cooperation with project lead. Coordinate the efforts of the domestic and international teams on
technology design and development, including writing specific instructions for software developers, and working with them to meet the requirements of extremely diverse users.

Human Centered Design Outreach, Education Coordination (20%)

- Lead outreach and promotion of OpenTEAM on diverse communication channels (oral, written and online); and lead the writing and editing of OpenTEAM user guides, training materials, curriculum development, and train-the-trainer documents.

Agricultural Community Facilitation (20%)

- Coordinate with and support international hub farm and training network to facilitate implementation of OpenTEAM objectives. This will include directly collaborating with OpenTEAM staff and diverse hub, network, training and accelerator farms and ranches around the world.

Skills and Qualifications

- MSc or PhD in a social science or STEM field with an emphasis or interest in natural resources, agriculture, research and technology.
- At least three years post-undergraduate work experience (including volunteer work such as Peace Corps).
- General understanding of the factors that (a) determine the land’s potential productivity, and (b) contribute to land use and management decisions.
- Willingness to travel domestically and internationally
- Experience working or volunteering internationally.
- Desire to work in a technology product-driven environment and with others involved in projects that foster environmentally sustainable practices and tools that address societal grand challenges.
- US employment eligible and able to relocate initially to Freeport Maine.
- Ability to work collaboratively as a member of a high functioning team and develop effective working relationships with people from a variety of backgrounds
- Strong interpersonal skills and public communication abilities, including excellent customer service and management ability with a diverse workforce, as well as writing and public speaking skills.
- Strong organizational abilities, time management skills and ability to effectively plan ahead across the program season, and to prioritize and manage multiple projects.
- Energetic, dynamic and engaging personality
- Data, information, and knowledge management experience, including databases.
- Willingness to work in a technical environment.
- Experience coordinating a (small or large) diverse and extended project team.
- A commitment to advancing environmentally sustainable practices at local to global scales.
- Sensitivity to and appreciation of cultural, political and geographical differences, with ability to work well with others, both locally and globally, and foreign language competency.

Competencies

Excellent project management with the ability to manage, initiate, and focus on multi tasks in an effective manner. Highly detail oriented with strong ability to understand constituent needs and lead teams toward a common goal. Creative problem solver with strong critical thinking skills.
Excellent written and oral communication skills, including the ability to synthesize information in a clear and concise manner, both verbally and in writing.

Compensation
The OpenTEAM Global Coordinator/Community Facilitator is a full-time, year-round position. Starting salary is commensurate with experience. As a full-time employee, this position is eligible for benefits offered by Wolfe’s Neck Center, including health insurance, dental insurance, paid vacation and holidays and our retirement savings plan.

To Apply
Please email a cover letter and resume to jobs@wolfesneck.org with Global Coordinator as the subject line. In the interest of reducing waste, please do not mail a hard copy of your materials. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply ASAP. This position will be posted until it is filled but application materials received by Feb 1 will be given preference. No Phone calls please. Position posted 12/19.

Wolfe’s Neck Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in the workplace.