Professor of Practice in Dispute Resolution and Collaborative Governance

School for Environment and Sustainability
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

The School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS) at the University of Michigan seeks applicants for a Professor of Practice to contribute to our capacity to train graduate students in dispute resolution and collaborative governance and to develop best practices and other scholarship that informs and advances the field and its impact. A distinguished record of professional practice in designing, facilitating and managing successful collaborative governance processes is critical. Evidence of non-academic impact in the candidate's chosen area of work is a requirement for the position.

A relevant graduate or professional degree is required; a PhD is preferred but not required. We prefer to fill this position at the rank of Professor of Practice or Associate Professor of Practice; rank will be commensurate with experience. While some flexibility may be possible to accommodate a candidate's area of practice, it is preferred that this position be filled as a full time, 9-month, in-person, Ann Arbor-based appointment. The successful applicant will serve an initial term of 3 to 6 years with the possibility of continuation based on a performance review under SEAS promotion and review process for Professors of Practice.

For more than fifty years, SEAS has been a leading academic institution in work on environmental conflict management and dispute resolution, training practitioners and conducting research on the effectiveness of various process strategies. We seek a faculty colleague who will build on these foundations and expand our course and programmatic offerings to enable more students to develop dispute resolution, negotiation, facilitation and process design skills. We expect the successful candidate to join with faculty colleagues to envision opportunities for innovation and fund raising while mentoring and preparing students for impactful careers. SEAS Professors of Practice complement traditional scholarly (on campus) research with engaged real-world (off campus) work. It is expected that Professors of Practice and other SEAS faculty will collaborate to increase SEAS's impact by helping to resolve site-specific disputes and convene policy dialogues, and in doing so, advance the school's objective of impact on environmental and sustainability challenges.

The School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan

The School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan offers a Ph.D., a master's degree in landscape architecture (M.L.A.), and a professional M.S. degree in seven specializations: Environmental policy and planning; Behavior, education and communication; Environmental justice; Sustainability and global development; Ecosystem science and management, Geospatial data systems; and Sustainable systems. The successful candidate would most closely associate with the Environmental policy and planning, Behavior, education and communications, and Environmental justice fields, but would contribute expertise and perspectives to the entire student body. We currently enroll more than 550 M.S./M.L.A., and nearly 50 doctoral students. SEAS participates in multiple cross-campus degree programs, including an undergraduate Program in the Environment degree and dual degrees with the Schools of Architecture and Urban Planning, Business, Engineering, Law, and Public Health. SEAS also offers several graduate certificate programs, and we are expanding digital education offerings and midcareer training and certificate options.

Teaching and Advising: We look for a colleague who will build on existing coursework in negotiation and mediation skills to offer courses on conflict management, collaborative process design, collaborative governance and/or facilitation tools and strategies. Mentorship of interested graduate students for professional careers is critical, including helping the SEAS Student Center develop networks that enable

students to find internships and jobs in the field. Almost all students engage with stakeholders and facilitate meetings and decision-making processes through jobs in government, nongovernmental organizations and corporations, and some go on to careers as professionals in dispute resolution/mediation. Most of our professional master's degree students complete a year and a half capstone project working in a student team for a client on non-academic problems, and we expect the new hire to advise projects on an occasional basis. We would hope that the successful candidate would also contribute to our efforts to expand digital education and midcareer short course offerings.

Engaged Practice. Our hope is that the successful candidate will continue their professional practice as part of their appointment, involving graduate students in ongoing work and bringing in relevant networks of people, organizations and projects to SEAS. The Great Lakes region has numerous site-specific and policy-conflicts that would benefit from a collaborative approach; the school's national and international focus would value practice in other regions and contexts as well.

Service. The Professor of Practice will have the opportunity to build cooperative ties with relevant University-wide programs and departments and make service contributions to the School, University, and relevant professional and scholarly communities. Building networks with alumni and other professionals is critical. Other University of Michigan units that focus on conflict resolution, civic engagement and peacebuilding, including the Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning, provide options for on-campus partnership.

How to Apply:

To apply, submit application materials in Interfolio, via this link . Applications should include (1) a cover letter; (2) CV; (3) a concise personal statement describing your vision and plans for teaching, practice and scholarship; (4) a teaching statement describing courses that you are qualified to teach as well as information about classes you have taught or helped teach in the past. Provide a sample of professional work that illustrates your area of practice; comment on how you might link that work to course teaching; and (5) a list of at least three references with contact information. Academic and professional references are valuable. Please do not include letters of recommendation with your application; we will contact references as needed.

For assistance or further information, you may contact SEAS.faculty.search.staff@umich.edu.

Additional information about the School for Environment and Sustainability can be found at https://seas.umich.edu/.

SEAS is committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive and equitable environment that respects diverse experiences, promotes generous listening and communications, and discourages and restoratively respond to acts of discrimination, harassment, or injustice. Our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is deeply rooted in our values for a sustainable and just society.

The University of Michigan is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Individuals belonging to under-represented groups are encouraged to apply.