

Teaching Staff: Director of Energy

College of the Atlantic (COA) seeks a full-time permanent teaching staff position to direct energy education and management at the college. In collaboration with faculty and staff, this position provides interdisciplinary educational opportunities for students in energy, sustainability, and related areas through classes, the [Community Energy Center](#), and independent, hands-on projects.

The director provides leadership and expertise in all matters related to energy, moving the college toward greater use of renewable energy, decreasing overall energy use, and expanding educational opportunities for students in energy and related areas as we move towards our goal of being a fossil-fuel free campus by 2030. The director collects, analyzes, and tracks data and maintains records concerning COA's energy consumption, purchase, and generation and performs cost-benefit analyses of current and proposed energy initiatives. This work occurs on campus, including our farms and our island field stations, as well as collaborative work with the broader community. The director's time is divided roughly equally between teaching and administration.

We seek someone with strong technical skills and experience in energy who can help our students make connections to other areas, including sustainable food systems, climate change, community planning, and green business. The successful candidate will also help students think across temporal and spatial scales, connecting local energy projects with broader political and policy issues.

College of the Atlantic is committed to increasing diversity, fostering inclusion, and achieving equity in all aspects of our work. We especially encourage applications from candidates who can demonstrate how their teaching, service, and research would contribute to making the college more inclusive, equitable, and diverse. The search committee welcomes applications from members of groups that have been historically marginalized or underrepresented in higher education.

COA is an interdisciplinary college of approximately 350 students and 35 faculty. Faculty are not organized via departments, and all students design their own major in human ecology. The average class size is 12. Our educational approach integrates knowledge from all academic disciplines and seeks to understand and improve the relationships between humans and their built, natural, and social-cultural environments. COA is a leader in sustainability in higher education. We have been named the greenest college in the US years in a row by the Princeton Review and have topped the Sierra Club's list of cool schools twice. In 2013, COA became the first college in the nation to fully divest from fossil fuels. In 2019 COA signed onto the Break Free From Plastic Campus Pledge—the first college in the US to do so—committing us to eliminate all single-use disposable plastics from campus by 2025. COA students are active in local and state environmental politics and have participated in all UNFCCC Conferences of the Parties (negotiating sessions) since 2005.

Essential Job Functions:

- Teach at least two courses yearly on renewable energy, energy conservation, and energy systems. At least one course will be a practicum involving students in projects that work on energy, building systems, and sustainability. In addition, the director will organize and direct independent studies and senior projects related to energy.
- Oversee the Community Energy Center (CEC). Direct students in projects at the CEC during the academic year and during the summer at the college, including our farms and islands, and in local communities.
- Provide campus-wide leadership to meet the college's commitments in our Energy Framework, including our goal to be fossil fuel-free by 2030.
- Collect, analyze, and track data and maintain records concerning COA's energy consumption, purchase, and generation and perform cost-benefit analyses of current and proposed energy initiatives.
- Direct work on any CEC grants, such as the Rural Energy Development Agency (REDA) grant.
In collaboration with faculty and administrators, pursue grants for energy and sustainability projects on and off campus.
- Participate in collaborative work on energy and sustainability with the Island Institute through the Fund for Maine Islands.
- Oversee completion of sustainability and energy-related components of STARS and other internal and external reports and surveys.
- Attend weekly meetings and act as a staff liaison to the student-led Campus Committee on Sustainability (CCS).
- Work collaboratively with Campus Planning and Building Committee and the Director of Campus Planning and Buildings to analyze proposed campus projects from a sustainability perspective.

Qualifications:

A Master's degree in engineering, physics, environmental science, or another field related to renewable energy or energy conservation is preferred, although we also welcome candidates with a Bachelor's degree and significant experience. Teaching experience at the college level is strongly preferred. We are open to candidates with experience in any area of energy, including building science, community-based solar energy, and microgrids.

Applications will be considered until the position is filled, but for full consideration, please submit materials no later than January 8, 2021. To apply, please submit a current CV and a cover letter discussing your interest in and qualifications for the position to energy-search@coa.edu.