
Call for Applications:
Faculty Director for BioHouse
Residential Learning Community

Deadline: April 30, 2021 • Tenured faculty preferred

Seeking faculty leadership for the BioHouse Residential Learning Community, which primarily serves first-year undergraduates interested in the biological sciences. The BioHouse Faculty Director, with the assistance of a half-time Program Coordinator and residence life and WISCIENCE staff, direct this vibrant community, which serves 66 students living in Cole residence hall. The Faculty Director position will begin July 2021 with planning for the 2021-22 academic year. Preference will be given to candidates who can provide a three-year minimum commitment. Salary support information is below.

About BioHouse

The diversity of biology is vast and incoming students may not be aware of the breath of opportunities that await them at UW-Madison, including more than 30 undergraduate biology-related majors spread across six different schools and colleges. The BioHouse residential learning community provides a gateway to student exploration of these opportunities and resources.

BioHouse is a total-immersion learning community, where living and learning are connected through educational, social and cultural activities and opportunities. The BioHouse seminar, "New Biology for the 21st century," is a one-credit, graded class offered each fall and spring that introduces students to the myriad of majors in biological sciences on the UW-Madison campus, core concepts of modern biology, and the global challenges around human and biosphere health, food security, and natural resource availability. Students also learn about beyond-the-classroom opportunities and begin to understand how to become part of the thriving scientific community at UW-Madison by interacting with undergraduate and graduate student mentors, postdocs and faculty.

Funding/Salary

Revenue for the BioHouse comes primarily from tuition dollars, University Housing auxiliary funds, the co-sponsoring schools/colleges (L&S & CALS), and from the housing student fee.

Ongoing support of up to \$20,000 of the MIU funds will start in July of 2021. The application of these funds will be negotiated with the faculty director's home department to provide a temporary base adjustment (TBA), summer salary, and/or temporary release of other duties to facilitate the faculty member's work at BioHouse. BioHouse also provides salary for a part-time academic staff program

coordinator, who will assist the faculty director and attend to the day-to-day administration of BioHouse.

Faculty Director Responsibilities

The major responsibilities of the Faculty Director are to:

- Actively serve as a core member of the “Leadership Team” which leads and is responsible for the development and implementation of the program. This team typically meets every 1-2 weeks and includes the BioHouse Program Coordinator, residence life staff, and sometimes other stakeholders. The annual implementation cycle includes many critically important tasks and begins with new student recruitment and ends with program evaluation.
- Develop and lead the BioHouse seminar course(s) each semester through the Integrated Science subject listing. These seminars serve as the foundation for the learning community experience and typically meet later in the afternoon/early evening to maximize enrollment. The fall seminar has included graduate students as mentors and small group facilitators.
- Co-supervise the Program Coordinator with the residence life staff Area Coordinator and the WISCIENCE Administrative Director. This includes contributing to an annual performance review.
- Facilitate the involvement of faculty, graduate students, and staff to enhance faculty/staff-student engagement in the community.
- Facilitate engagement/investment by key campus stakeholders (especially co-sponsoring units for funding, seminars and Program Coordinator appointments) in the present and future of the BioHouse. Often, this takes the form of a “Steering Committee” consisting of faculty, staff and students that meets at least semiannually.
- Attend co-curricular signature events on a regular basis, typically in the early evening/weekends.

To Apply

Faculty who wish to be considered for this important role on campus should send the materials listed below to Keegan Buscaino, WISCIENCE Office Manager, at buscaino@wisc.edu by **April 30, 2021**:

1. A brief (three to five page) CV.
2. A statement of interest including a description of your experience working with undergraduate students, your interest in leading BioHouse, and an explanation of how you would be effective in meeting the responsibilities outlined above. Please limit your statement to 1000 words.

Questions?

Please contact:

Bill Karasov (wkarasov@wisc.edu), out-going faculty director
Janet Branchaw (branchaw@wisc.edu), Director of WISCIENCE