

Campus Minister, Campus Protestant Ministries at Union College

Reports to: CPM Board of Directors

Start Date: August 1, 2019

Application Deadline: Applications submitted by May 1, 2019, will receive priority consideration. However, position remains open until filled.

Hours: 20 hours/week, 10 months/year

Compensation: In keeping with denominational guidelines

Mission Statement:

We seek to

- Bring a progressive Christian perspective and practice to the Union College community while hosting an interfaith presence.
- Strengthen campus/community relation by connecting students and local congregations and providing opportunities for service and advocacy in collaboration with the Schenectady faith community.
- Provide opportunities for students and others to reflect on meaningful experiences and engage in meaningful conversations.
- Offer care and support for students and student communities.

Background: Campus Protestant Ministries has served the Union College community since 1981. CPM is an independent charitable religious organization that is spiritually and financially supported by local churches, denominational bodies, and individuals. It is governed by a board of directors that includes local church representatives as well as Union faculty and alumni.

Responsibilities: The Campus Minister, under guidance from the Board, directs the life and programs of the ministry. He/she provides pastoral counseling, leads programs and events, coaches student leaders, and sustains community life to support students at Union. Specific responsibilities include:

Work with students (60%):

- 1) Accompany students exploring questions of justice, service, equity and spirituality. Student engagement may look like personal pastoral counseling and support, in crisis as well as in vocational exploration, spiritual growth, and community service efforts. Or it may look like “showing up” to support students finding their way to challenge questions of justice, equity, racism, and peace, on campus, in community and in national life.
- 2) Initiate and lead or guide students in leading events and gatherings to support faith formation and exploration including study groups, retreats, speaker events, service projects and interfaith groups and discussions. Through these programs, aspire to stimulate spiritual exploration and commitment to ministry and service.
- 3) Reach out to and serve students of all religious and non-religious backgrounds without trying to “convert” them to a particular theology. Make a special effort to contact students who are from church denominations represented by CPM and those who are drawn to a progressive Christian witness.

Work with the CPM Board and our supporters (30%):

- 4) Attend CPM Board meetings and work closely with its officers and committees. Actively give the Board direction, provide activity plans and reports to the Board, and help it recruit and keep Board members.
- 5) Make regular appearances and presentations in local churches and judicatories that support CPM, targeting once monthly.

6) Maintain good personal communication with donors and CPM supporters and churches through newsletters, mailings, etc. Write grants and funding applications as appropriate. Participate in regional and national campus ministry-related professional groups as appropriate.

7) Serve as the executive director of the CPM organization. Work with the Board treasurer to prepare budgets and keep financial records and with the Board as a whole to maintain files and records of the organization. Maintain mailing lists for the organization and build personal relationships with donors. Facilitate the distribution of direct mail appeals to current and prospective donors.

Work with Union College (10%):

8) Bring imagination and perseverance to successfully navigate the challenges of campus bureaucratic protocols. Attend Office of Religious and Spiritual Life gatherings and work closely with other campus ministries in doing cooperative programming.

Qualifications:

- 1) Orientation toward a progressive Christian theology.
- 2) Graduate theological training recommended. Prefer candidate who is ordained or ordainable.
- 3) Strong interpersonal skills and sensitivity to needs and issues of university students.
- 4) Independent and self-motivated work style. The campus minister, as the only employee, is the one who makes the CPM program a success.
- 5) Experience working on a diverse college or university campus or in a similar educational context.
- 6) Demonstrated experience in teaching and preaching to young adult populations.
- 7) Training and experience in pastoral counseling, spiritual discernment and/or vocational exploration.
- 8) Strong and organized administrator (critical skills include: communications, board relations and recruitment, church relations, newsletter publication, and grant writing).
- 9) Willingness and ability to work with other campus religious and social change organizations.

To Apply:

To be considered for this position, please submit a cover letter expressing your specific interest in campus ministry, including a brief summary of your theological orientation, a resume, and three professional references by May 1, 2019. All materials can be sent electronically as e-mail attachments (MSWord, PDF, or plain text) to:

Cara Molyneaux, Board President
Campus Protestant Ministries at Union College
1541 Randolph Road
Schenectady, NY 12308

Questions: Email Cara Molyneaux at molyneac@union.edu