

Bonnie Reiss Sustainable Food Fellow 2026-2027

Position Overview

The Engagement Fellow will work under the mentorship of Dining Services to aid in the implementation of the Reusable Container Program at the Highlander Union Building Restaurants in order to reduce waste from single use disposable food containers. The aim of the UCR Reusable Container Program is to gain at least 30% participation at launch, and to gradually increase participation to create a healthier environment for current and future generations. In addition to participating in ongoing engagement activities to promote the reusable container program, the fellow will study what messages encourage adoption, evaluate the impact of the disposable container fee as an incentive to change behavior, gather metrics about the program's success, and research success of the Reusable Container Program across other universities to suggest improvements that will increase participation at UCR. \$5000 stipend.

Key Responsibilities

- Serve as a member of the Reusable Container Program Work Group (comprised of staff and students from the Office of Sustainability, ASUCR, GCAP, R'Healthy Campus, Facilities Services, Dining Services, UCR Living Lab Program, College Corps Climate Action Fellows and California Climate Action Fellows). The fellow will attend the recurring work group meetings.
- Participate in at least one tabling event per week with the climate action fellows to help promote the reusable container program.
- Gather feedback from customers to share with the workgroup with the aim of keeping a pulse on the guest experience.
- Study the adoption of the Reusable Container Program at UCR and research the program success at other universities to understand what institutional, structural and cultural factors have an impact on program success and present findings to the work group.
- Identify and propose program adjustments in order to sustain and increase reusable container program participation rates.

Preferred Qualifications

- Current UCR undergraduate or graduate student enrolled through Spring 2027
- Passion for sustainability, recycling and zero waste.
- Strong communication, time management, and teamwork skills
- Experience in peer education, volunteer management, or event planning