



Yaupon Place Project Director – Part-time Union Presbyterian Seminary

Yaupon Place

Yaupon Place is an innovative site of integration for Union Presbyterian Seminary's core values of social and ecological justice-seeking and community engagement. Yaupon Place is on the seminary's Westwood tract, which contains a walking track, playground, labyrinth, and diverse and numerous trees. Yaupon Place hosts perhaps the most vibrant and active intergenerational and interracial recreational activity in Richmond. Building on UPSem's history of serving our diverse neighbors in Richmond through recreational ministry, Yaupon Place is a public ministry innovation that engages the seminary community, our neighbors, and community partners. One of the primary partners is Shalom Farms, which runs a thriving farm on the seminary's Westwood tract, adjacent to Yaupon Place (the park area).

Yaupon Place Project Director

The Project Director focuses on two areas:

- Working with the Academic Dean and Faculty to imagine, design, implement, and assess new projects to support faculty development in public theology in relation to Yaupon Place, and through Yaupon Place with Shalom Farms. This project intends to explore and develop strategies through which Yaupon Place will become a resource for the seminary's degree programs and certificate programs.
- Working with the Director of the Leadership Institute to develop projects that engage the seminary's other partners, including non-profit organizations and congregations in Richmond. These projects will include public lectures, seminars, and workshops that engage the local community in ways that help to integrate social and ecological justice within an interfaith framework. Building on successful summer programs in the past, there may be new opportunities for summer projects with children, youth, and adults.

The project director would have considerable influence in helping the seminary and its partners, primarily Shalom Farms, develop and realize a vision for community engagement.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience in educational institutions
- Experience in community and interfaith engagement

- Experience in project management
- Passion for the intersection of ecology and theology
- Background in and/or familiarity with theological education

Interested persons should submit a letter of interest and a resumé to Shawn Oliver, Vice President for Strategy and Institutional Effectiveness.

This is a part-time position (averages 10 hours/week) whose work is overseen by the Vice President for Strategy and Institutional Effectiveness. The schedule for the programming director would be somewhat flexible, but also depend on upcoming events and programming needs at any given time. Interested persons are encouraged to apply, including working pastors with an interest in community and environmental work in the context of theological education.