Summer Science and Technology Policy Fellowship

Fellowship Overview

Harvard Medical School’s Scientific Citizenship Initiative (SCI) is seeking legislative offices in the Massachusetts State House to host Science and Technology Policy Fellows for the summer of 2020. Fellows will be highly motivated students from a diverse set of scientific backgrounds. SCI will provide fellows specific training and mentorship from experienced policy practitioners prior to and throughout the fellowship.

On a day-to-day basis, fellows will provide scientific advice and analysis for state legislators. Previous fellows assisted with tasks such as:

- Researching science and technology-related policy areas relevant to legislators’ interests
- Drafting reports, memos, and testimony for legislative hearings
- Interacting with constituents, advocates, and community groups about relevant science and technology policy
- Attending formal legislative activities such as hearings or Senate and House Sessions

Selection and Placement

Fellows will be selected through a competitive application process administered by SCI. After an initial screening by SCI, finalists will be asked to interview with potential host offices to discuss specific summer projects they could support. Offices will then make an offer to the fellow they wish to host. To accept the offer, the fellow will draft a project proposal to outline the expectations of their fellowship. Placements will be finalized when both the fellow and the host office sign off on the project proposal.

Schedule and Compensation

The expected dates of the fellowship are June 1-August 4. Fellows will be available 50% time (18-20 hours per week), for 10 weeks during the summer. SCI will provide fellows with a $5,000 summer stipend. Fellows will also meet every other week with two SCI advisors: Daniel Pomeroy, the Executive Director of SCI and a policy practitioner. These meetings will provide additional training and focused mentorship that provides a deeper understanding of the public policy process and helps to support their summer projects. Weekly schedules will be determined based on the needs of the host office and the fellow.

Application Instructions

If your office would like to host a fellow please complete this form including a brief project description, a potential supervisor, and a few sentences describing the types of tasks you would like the fellow to undertake.

Please submit application materials by 11:59 pm on Friday, April 3.

About the Scientific Citizenship Initiative

The Scientific Citizenship Initiative (SCI), led by Associate Professor of Systems Biology Angela DePace, is a new effort at Harvard that aims to equip scientists with the full set of skills needed for effective public engagement within and outside of academia. SCI is developing a graduate curriculum consisting of a series of nanocourses, a semester-long course, and experiential learning off campus. An initial focus for SCI is to support students seeking policy careers.

For more information, please feel free to contact:
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