Heinz Summer Water Interns

May - Aug 2018

Work with partner organizations and help bring water science expertise to answer Pittsburgh's water challenges

Open to all Pitt Undergraduates
Applications due 1 Mar 2018

$4000 stipend + research budget
Opportunity to develop independent research questions
Application details here:
https://tinyurl.com/HeinzWaterFellow
The Pittsburgh Collaboratory for Water Research, Education, and Outreach in the Department of Geology and Environmental Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh is seeking two talented and motivated undergraduates for four-month paid summer internships (May-August 2018). The interns will work with a partner organizations that interact with water systems (e.g., NGOs, municipality, agency, community, or other water practitioners). Interns will receive a $4,000 stipend and a $500 research budget. Applications are encouraged from across the University of Pittsburgh campus, regardless of major, school or departmental affiliation.

Applicants should submit an application package that includes: (a) A research proposal (as described below); (b) A one-page cover letter that describes why they are interested in this position; (c) college transcript(s), (d) a recommendation letter, and (e) a letter of commitment from the partner organization. Applications should be emailed as a single pdf to niznik@pitt.edu by 03/01/18. Recommenders can email their letters directly to niznik@pitt.edu.

Research proposals should address locally and/or regionally relevant water issues including but not limited to water quality, quantity, and the impact of water on local ecosystems. Proposals that address the intersection between water and social or health issues are also encouraged. The proposal should describe the importance of the research question and the method through which it will be addressed. The proposal should also identify a partner organization(s).

Applicants can contact the partner organization directly or work with the Water Collaboratory faculty (Drs. Emily Elliott, Daniel Bain, Eitan Shelef, and Brian Thomas) to identify matching partner organizations.

Applicants will be selected based on the quality of their proposal and application materials, and will be informed by 04/01/18 regarding acceptance of their application. During Spring 2018, the selected applicants will meet with representatives of the Water Collaboratory and partner organization/s to map their internship scope, goals, schedule, and deliverables. The interns will be mentored by representatives of the Water Collaboratory and the partner organization. The expected deliverables include a written report and a presentation.

This internship is a great opportunity to “get your feet wet” with your own research on water issues, and to influence the critical intersection between water and urban environments. If you have any questions please contact the Water Collaboratory listed above (contact information for Collaboratory faculty can be found here: http://www.geology.pitt.edu/people/faculty).