The National Great Rivers Research & Education Center

Now Accepting Student Applications for NGRREC's 2017 Summer Internship

Every year, NGRREC[SM] hosts a highly successful summer internship program for college sophomores, juniors and seniors. This prestigious program is a paid internship opportunity, providing a gross pay of $4,000 over the course of the program, and gives students a chance to gain real experience in variety of environmental careers such as ecological research, fisheries science, education, policy, archaeology, and social science. At the conclusion of this nine week internship, students present their project results to their fellow interns, faculty advisors, and invited guests at a professional, two-day Intern Symposium.

We recently received a diverse array of project proposals by faculty and agency advisors from organizations throughout the Mississippi River Watershed, each wishing to mentor a NGRREC college intern through their research experience. We are now accepting student applications to match qualified and motivated students with each of the projects selected.

To apply, students must complete an online application form, which is available through the intern page at our website, www.ngrrec.org/internship. Here, you will also find the projects for which we will be selecting students.

This is a highly sought-after, paid position, so please forward this information on to any student you feel may benefit from such a great opportunity! ALL students encouraged to apply, including community and junior college students and international students.

Meet Former Intern Jennifer Walling

Jennifer Walling

Jennifer Walling, 32, of Chicago, participated in NGRREC's internship twice. She is now the Executive Director of the Illinois Environmental Council. "My NGRREC internships provided me with skills, connections and experience," Walling said. "During my first internship, I worked on an entirely science based project. Although it is very different from the work I do today, this science background helps me to credibly explain environmental issues to legislators and the public in my current role."

Walling's second internship with NGRREC was with then Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, former Illinois Governor, and then Illinois Department of Natural Resources director, Marc Miller, was her supervisor. "These connections have been invaluable in my current work," Walling said.

Walling recently worked with State Senator Heather Steans to pass the first law that made commercial food scrap composting economically feasible in Illinois. This law has diverted millions of tons of organic material from landfills, creating a valuable soil amendment and conserving resources. She also helped to ban microbeads from personal care products. These small plastics are being found as litter in the Great Lakes and oceans sediment. Illinois is the first state in the country to ban these.

Recently, Walling was honored with the 2014 ACES Outstanding Young Alumni Award from the ACES Alumni Association of the University of Illinois.

Important Information

Required Materials

All application materials must be submitted electronically within the online application form by the Jan 18th deadline at www.ngrrec.org/internship.

- Biographical sketch - Submit a brief statement (100 words or less) about yourself, your interests, and where you see yourself career-wise in 5 years.
- College transcript - Unofficial copy will suffice as long as your name is clearly visible on the transcript.
- Resume - Include all relevant coursework, previous internships and volunteer positions. Organization name, location, and dates should be included.

Minimum Requirements

- GPA 3.25 or higher
- Required attendance at the Internship Short Course (May 23-26) and Intern Symposium (July 31-Aug. 1) if accepted as an intern.

Important Dates

- Jan. 18: Application Deadline
- May 23-26: Short Course week
- May 30-July 28: Summer Internship
- July 31- Aug. 1: Intern Symposium

Questions?

Contact Intern Program Coordinator, Natalie Marioni at ngrrecintern@lc.edu.

To apply, visit www.ngrrec.org/internship.