

SUMMER 2012

“THE SCIENCE LEADERS OF TOMORROW”

The SPS summer internship program offers 9.5-week-long positions with various organizations in science outreach, policy, communication and scientific research. All internships include paid housing, a commuting allowance, a \$4,200 stipend, and transportation to/from Washington, DC.

SPS Summer Intern Program

SPS internships are broad-based learning opportunities for undergraduate physics majors. All internships are 9 ½ weeks long (June 4 – August 8, 2012). Students are placed in organizations and agencies that utilize the energy and diversity of aspiring students and contribute to their professional development through meaningful assignments, both relevant to the institution’s programs and in the advancement of physics or allied sciences. Participating organizations also assign one or more mentors from their senior staff to guide the interns’ work and overall experience.

Selection Criteria (equally weighted)

1. Scholastic record and potential for future success.
2. Evidence of participation in SPS events and activities.
3. Evidence of experience in science outreach events, science communication, science policy, or science research (for the corresponding internships).

Reporting Expectations

SPS interns submit a weekly journal entry highlighting their work and/or a particular experience associated with the internship, to the SPS project administrator and are posted online. Sometime during the internship, each student gives a 15-minute professional presentation on his/her work, accomplishments, and overall internship experience to the staff scientists of the American Institute of Physics (AIP) and invited guests. Students will also be funded to present their work at an SPS zone meeting, regional science meeting, or at an American Institute of Physics member society meeting during the following academic year. All appropriate documents created by the student are published on the national SPS web site, used to evaluate the current program, and used to benchmark/develop future SPS internships. To see journal entries from previous interns visit: www.spsnational.org/programs/internships.

Administration

SPS will screen all applicants to find a good match for an organization’s specific needs and the student’s interests. SPS fully administers the program, provides paid housing (most likely at the George Washington University campus), program orientation, and intermittent ½ day field trips to broaden the interns’ summer experience. Interns will receive a stipend of \$4,200, paid in multiple installments throughout the internship. SPS will also pay for transportation (airfare or mileage reimbursement) to/from Washington, DC, and daily transportation to/from the internship.

Society of Physics Students (SPS) Summer Intern Program

SUMMER 2012

(continued)

Benefits

To the Student

- A unique learning experience, and a close-up look at the Washington, DC, physics and allied sciences community; access to networking opportunities and professional connections.
- Academic knowledge with field applications, improved competitiveness and improved marketability upon graduation.
- Enhanced technical and interpersonal skills through meaningful and challenging professional assignments.

To the Institution/Agency

- Impact the development of tomorrow's leaders in physics.
- Enrich and diversify programs and scientific endeavors through the efforts of eager, bright SPS undergraduate students.
- Provide future employee recruitment opportunities.
- Secure direct contact with SPS students to facilitate/improve the understanding of this population.

To SPS

- Augment the professional element to SPS membership.
- Forge effective partnerships between SPS and other institutions and agencies.
- Develop highly skilled SPS graduates who may choose careers in any variety of fields.

Note: Some organizations require interns to be U.S. Citizens.



Meet past SPS interns by visiting: www.spsnational.org/programs/internships