



SPS SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM – (STUDENT APPLICATION)
JUNE 2 – AUGUST 6, 2008
WASHINGTON, DC AREA

Name: _____

Institution (SPS member at): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security No.: _____

Current Contact Information:

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Email: _____

Alternative Contact Information: (For those moving from their current address in the spring.)

After (specify date) _____, I can be reached through the information below.

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Indicate the class level you will have completed as of June 1, 2007:
Are you a U.S. Citizen?
(This may be a factor in some internships)

Which internship/s are you interested in? (Rank preference – 1st/2nd/3rd/4th/5th/6th)

- ___ Society of Physics Students—outreach/policy internship
___ National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST – scientific research internship
___ NASA/Goddard – scientific research internship
___ American Physical Society (APS) – outreach/policy internship
___ American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) – outreach/policy
___ Physics Digital Library (ComPADRE) – outreach/policy internship

Internship descriptions will appear on the SPS Website when they become available: www.spsnational.org

Other positions may become available. Please consider my application should the opportunity arise in:

- ___ outreach and/or policy ___ scientific research ___ either outreach/policy OR research

With this application, submit:

- 1. A one-page resume or curriculum vitae (highlight items stressed in selection criteria);
2. A cover letter (include what you would hope to gain from a professional summer internship in the Washington, DC area, and if you are applying for a research position, please give examples of your ability to work independently);
3. Two letters of recommendation (one ideally from your SPS advisor and one other); and
4. A copy of your transcript (unofficial transcripts are acceptable).

All applications and supporting material must be postmarked by February 1, 2008.

(Notification of placement will begin March 15, 2008.)

Send application to:

Society of Physics Students
2008 Summer Internship Program
One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740
Phone: 301-209-3007; Fax 301-209-0839

Direct inquiries to:
Lcaron@aip.org, or call 301-209-3007
For more information, visit us at:
www.spsnational.org/programs/interns.htm

SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS (SPS) SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM SUMMER 2008

"THE SCIENCE LEADERS OF TOMORROW"

Broaden your education...

Advance your career...

Diversify your interests...

Explore...

Experience!

The SPS summer internship program offers 9.5-week-long positions with various organizations in science policy and scientific research. All internships include paid housing, a \$3,700 stipend, and transportation to/from Washington, DC.

SPS Summer Intern Program

SPS internships are designed to create broad-based learning opportunities for undergraduate physics majors. All internships are 9 ½ weeks long (June 2 – August 6, 2008). Students are placed in organizations and agencies that will 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 its 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 either science outreach events (for the SPS internship) or in science research (for the research internship).

Reporting Expectations

SPS interns will submit a weekly journal entry highlighting their work and/or a particular experience associated with the internship, to the SPS project administrator. Sometime during the internship, each student will give a 20-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. Each student will also present their work at an SPS zone meeting or other regional science meeting during the following academic year. Students with exceptional presentations may be asked to speak about their internship at the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) Summer meeting, or other member society meeting. All appropriate documents created by the student will be published on the national SPS web site, used to evaluate the current program, and benchmark/develop future SPS internships.

Meet the 2007 SPS interns by visiting: www.spsnational.org/programs/internships/2007/index.htm

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 or American University campus), program orientation, and intermittent ½ day field trips to broaden the interns' exposure. Interns will receive a stipend of \$3,700, paid in three installments throughout the internship. SPS will also pay for transportation (airfare or mileage reimbursement) to/from Washington, DC. Each intern will pay for his/her own daily transportation to/from the internship.

Benefits

To the Student

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

To the Institution/Agency

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

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 science and/or managerial careers.

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

Meet the 2007 SPS interns by visiting: www.spsnational.org/programs/internships/2007/index.htm

Peruse their journal entries, read about their experiences, their research, and outreach activities.

Some of the past internships included:

- Measuring fluxes and energies of ions and electrons in solar wind. [NASA/Goddard]
- Characterizing conducting polymers, contact potential differences for organic molecules that self-assemble onto a gold substrate. [NIST]
- Enhancing "ComPADRE," the NSF-funded national science digital library project. [Amer Inst of Physics]
- Developing extension/outreach activities for *Physics Quest*. [American Physical Society]
- Leading physics outreach summer camps for middle-schoolers. [Materials Science Research Ctr, Univ of MD]
- Developing the Science Outreach Catalyst Kit (SOCK) for distribution to interested SPS chapters. [SPS]

The interns' contributions to SPS programs and to the reputation of SPS as a professional organization were substantial. Their youth worked in their favor (and ours), as they related well to the constituency and offered valuable feedback, representing the creative minds of their peers. SPS feels that the experience positively influenced each student intern's professional development.