Climate Change Communication Internships

The Greater Washington National Parks preserve, protect, and manage significant natural and cultural resources. Park managers are trying to understand the role national parks have against the backdrop of climate change and its impact to the natural communities, cultural landscapes, and historic features.

Description
The focus of this internship program is to assist national parks in the National Capital Region to describe and communicate climate change complexity. The internships offer opportunities to gain skills and experience in the synthesis, interpretation, and development of science communication products and messages, and disseminate ideas and knowledge about climate change and its effects on national parks. Interns will develop scientific, outreach, and education products in a variety of media while receiving mentoring, training, and hands-on experience in communicating about complex scientific and social issues. Internships are appropriate to students and volunteers interested in many fields including ecology, natural resource management, geography and GIS, policy, journalism, graphic design, radio and TV, English, and social sciences.

Duties and Responsibilities
Internships are flexible in nature and offer experiences related to climate change, science synthesis and communication, and public outreach. Participants will be able to apply their skills and explore their particular interests by completing individual projects while supporting park and regional staff.

Examples of individual projects include:
- translate downscaled park temperature and precipitation data from the global climate models into graphs and GIS maps,
- develop content for webpages,
- develop talking points and public outreach products,
- create region and park-specific brochures,
- evaluate effectiveness of messages,
- create podcasts and film, and
- conduct literature reviews.

Dates, Duration, and Stipend
Internships are typically 10 weeks, beginning in May-June 2010. Total duration of the internship and dates are flexible. Part-time appointments are available, depending on tasks or projects. Interns receive a stipend of $250 a week.

Duty Station
Interns will be based at the Center for Urban Ecology in Washington DC where they will be part of an interdisciplinary team that provides technical support to national parks in the National Capital Region.

How to Apply
To apply please submit:
- A cover letter with information about your background and why you are interested in this internship.
- A curriculum vitae or resumé that includes your work and volunteer experience, skills, and at least two references we can contact.
- Transcripts (unofficial copy is accepted).

Send application by e-mail, fax, or regular mail to:
Giselle Mora-Bourgeois
Science Education Coordinator:
e-mail: Giselle_Mora-Bourgeois@nps.gov
Fax: 202-282-1031
Mail: 4598 MacArthur Blvd, NW,
      Washington, DC 20007
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Applications are due on April 16, 2010.