



Internship Opportunity Coral Health Communications

Internship Announcement

Florida Sea Grant (FSG) is pleased to announce a paid, part-time, fully remote internship opportunity for current undergraduates, graduate students, or recent graduates focused on coral health communications. The duties of the internship include reviewing scientific literature and information pertaining to coral health and disease, translating complex scientific information into publicly accessible materials, developing content, and designing communications and outreach materials targeted at a variety of audiences.

Internship Dates

Desired internship dates are mid-August 2021 to mid-November 2021. However, the start and end dates can be flexible based on the needs and schedule of the selected candidate.

Compensation and Schedule

The intern will be established as an OPS employee at the University of Florida with a set salary of \$14.00 per hour. The intern will work approximately 15 hours per week for a total of 200 hours (about three months).

Job Description

Coral reefs are among the most ecologically rich and economically robust ecosystems on the planet. They are also among the most threatened. Recognizing the importance of coral health to community health, Florida Sea Grant is committed to pursuing activities that support the protection of coral reefs and bolster ecosystem sustainability and resilience over the long-term. Specifically, Florida Sea Grant is providing leadership to the US national effort to respond to an unprecedented coral disease outbreak that has devastated reefs throughout Florida and the wider Caribbean.

The intern will work with Florida Sea Grant's National Coral Disease Coordinator and contribute to coral disease response and prevention efforts by developing key communications materials. The intern will help conduct research, develop content, and design communications and outreach materials targeted at a variety of audiences. Specific responsibilities include:

- Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease Prospectus: Assist in the preparation of content for a prospectus designed to provide critical information on coral disease to members of the public, decisionmakers, and potential partners, helping to increase support for disease prevention and response and prevention efforts.
- Coral Disease Newsletter: Assist in the development of the first semiannual coral disease newsletter that will include key disease response updates for governmental and nongovernmental partners. The intern will be responsible for gathering content, writing articles, and designing the newsletter.

- Coral Reef Research Summary: Review scientific papers and reference materials to identify key facts about coral disease and related response efforts, translating technical information into clear, concise information for use in a range of communications materials.
- Coral Disease Update Template: Design a simple, visually appealing template for communicating regular coral disease response updates to partners.

In this position, the intern will help protect coral reefs and coastal communities, improving their communications and research skills and enhancing their understanding of the importance of strategic and effective communications to the conservation of natural resources. The intern will develop relationships in the marine community, interfacing with colleagues throughout U.S. coral reef jurisdictions (Florida, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), government agencies, academic institutions, and nongovernmental partners.

Desired Qualifications and Skills

- Advanced undergraduate student (Junior or Senior), graduate student, or college graduate
- Outstanding written communication skills
- Excellent research skills and the ability to translate complex, technical content into publicly accessible materials
- Basic graphic design experience preferred but not required
- Background or interest in environmental science and/or policy preferred but not required
- Positive attitude, enthusiasm, and interest in learning new things
- Self-directed and able to work remotely

How to Apply

Submit a cover letter, resume, and a writing sample to Caroline McLaughlin at cmclaughlin1@ufl.edu. The writing sample can be brief and should include language geared towards a public-facing, non-technical audience (examples can include a newsletter article, flyer, blog, website language, fact sheet, etc.). Please send materials in one email with the email subject line “Coral Health Communications Internship Application.” Applicants with incomplete applications or who send separate emails will not be considered. Review of applications will occur beginning July 23, 2021. Please email Ms. McLaughlin with any questions.

Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the United States. The University of Florida is a public institution and subject to all requirements under Florida Sunshine and Public Record laws. The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The University of Florida is committed to creating an environment that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity, and expression.