2013/2014 Political Internship Opportunities

This list comprises the sites that the department knows will take applications for internships. The deadline for the state legislature is 11/1/12. Some of these sites have formal applications that specify faculty recommendations and others require cover letters and resumes. It is possible, however, to set up internships at other sites. Doing so requires a different process of personal contact both on your part and the department’s. Please see Professor Krassas immediately if you have an interest in an internship other than those listed. Also, let her know your plans even in you contact the site yourself so we can do the required University paperwork. Contact information is below.

Connecticut General Assembly
Students working in the Connecticut general assembly are assigned as individual staff members to a state legislator. Responsibilities typically include constituent service, issue research, bill tracking, committee hearings and public hearings. There is a formal application, please see Professor Krassas before October 20. Here is the link for the application: http://www.cga.ct.gov/isc/future.asp.

Connecticut Legal Services
CLS is a non-profit corporation that provides free legal and other services to Connecticut residents. Students looking for a law internship might consider working with one of CLS’s attorneys. Contact Professor Krassas for information.

Center for Sustainable Energy, ECSU
Eastern’s Center for Sustainable Energy needs interns to assist them with both their policy/research agenda as well as their legislative agenda. Some internship possibilities are paid, but those would not be eligible for credit. Whether you are interested in paid or unpaid internships through the CSE, please contact CSE directly at 465-0253 or ISF@esternct.edu.

Congressional Offices
Every member of Congress (House and Senate) in Connecticut will take interns in their state/district office. Some have online applications, others are more informal. Please see Professor Krassas regarding members of Congress if you cannot find the application online.

Connecticut Commission on Children
Interns in this office would be working on policy development and research on model policy related to children in CT. Interested students should send a cover letter and resume to Patricia Estill/Director of Special Projects/18-20 Trinity Street/Hartford, CT 06106.

Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)
DECD has internships opportunities available in three different areas: Office of Military Affairs, Office of Responsible Development and Government Relations. Please see the website for job descriptions as they differ quite a bit from each other: http://www.ct.gov/ecd/cwp/view.asp?a=1568&q=305810. The website also provides you with application instructions.

Connecticut Secretary of State
The election division of the secretary of state’s office has a variety of internship opportunities available including assisting in the regulation of elections. For of specific opportunities, see Professor Krassas.

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Interns with the Connecticut department of environmental protection work in a variety of ways to help complete the mission of the agency—to enforce all state environmental protection law. Students are typically involved in a variety of regulatory projects, including policy development. For more information, go to their website or email: dep.aoffice@ct.gov.

Department of Public Health
The Department of Public Health, charged with regulating all aspects of health from aspects of the environment, to workplaces to disease outbreaks has internships available in their government relations office. Students generally work on assisting the office in developing and implementing their legislative agenda. The application can be found online at www.state.ct.us/dph, click on agency service directory, click on office of government relations, click on internships.

Governor’s Office/Office of Policy Management
Student’s working in Governor Rell’s office generally work at the Capitol in Hartford and do a mix of constituent service, bill tracking, press relations and legislative advocacy. To apply, please see Professor Krassas. The Office of Policy Management (OPM), also an arm of the executive branch, is interested in full-time interns for each legislative session. Students working there will be intimately involved with the legislative policy making process.
Judicial Branch
The Judicial Branch of the State of Connecticut has internships either in the court or probation system. Students particularly interested in the criminal justice system should consider this one. You can find the CT Judicial Branch internship form at their website: http://jud.ct.gov/external/news/jobs/intern.htm.

Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission
New this year, an internship is being designed to help the Latino and Puerto Rican further their legislative agenda. Applications are coming soon. See Professor Krassas if you are interested in details.

Lobbying Groups
Generally, a number of private lobbying firms will accept interns to help them lobby the state legislature on behalf of clients. See Professor Krassas for contact information.

New York State Legislature
The state of New York has legislative internships that include a $3500 per year stipend to help students pay for housing in Albany, New York. Responsibilities typically include constituent service, issue research, bill tracking, committee hearings and public hearings. Interested students should see Professor Krassas.

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
The Permanent Commission is a governmental agency charged with keeping records of and advocating policy related to the status of women in Connecticut. Student’s working with the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women generally do research and assist in implementing the organizations broader agenda. Application and other contact information are available at the website: http://www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw/Internship%20Program/intern_program.asp

Representative Joe Courtney
The Norwich office of Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-2) is seeking self-motivated and detail-oriented individuals with excellent writing and communication skills for its Spring Semester internship program. Interns will be responsible for drafting letters, conducting research, and assisting the Congressman’s staff with various tasks. Internships may be taken for credit and are unpaid. Hours are flexible and dependent on office need and applicant schedule. Contact Professor Krassas if you are interested in this opportunity.

State Elections Enforcement Commission
The SEEC oversees campaign fundraising and spending, as well as Connecticut’s Citizens’ Election Program which provides public funds to candidates for statewide and legislative offices. Interns work in their Hartford office doing various tasks, from helping analyze data on public funding candidates to auditing election reports. Contact Professor Krassas if you are interested in this opportunity.

Sullivan & LeShane
Sullivan and LeShane is a government and public relations firms that provides legislative, administrative, and municipal lobbying to various corporations in CT such as Coca Cola, CT State Medical Society and Verizon. Students will assist with bill tracking, legislative monitoring, public hearing sign ups, data collection and research. Students will serve as a link between the office and the lobbyists at the Legislative Office Building or the Capitol. Flexible Schedule with early mornings and evening available. Reliable transportation necessary. 3-5 days per week commitment required. Stipend for transportation available. E-mail cover letter and resume to Nathan Wilson at nwilson@ctlobby.com.

ConnPIRG (Public Interest Research Group)
ConnPIRG is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization looking for interns to work closely with full-time organizers and advocates to demonstrate support for our issues. Interns will work with local citizens, organizations, elected officials, and other entities on issues like transportation, healthcare, and waste and recycling. For more information, visit http://connpirg.org/internships. To apply send your resume and cover letter to sean@connPIRG.org.

Political Science Internship Contact Information
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