Environmental Studies & McKee Center

Summer Fellowship Celebration

Thursday, July 25, 2019
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Main Lounge, Moulton Union
Bowdoin College

The Environmental Studies and McKeen Center Fellowships provide students the opportunity to work and serve in the local community through a placement in a specific organization to address community issues while strengthening campus-community partnerships. Meant to capitalize on students’ interests, the fellowships allow students to explore work in the public sector while applying their academic studies to real-life problems at the local level.

Environmental Fellows and McKeen Center Fellows work with organizations addressing issues at the intersection of the environment and social/civic concerns at the local level. Broadening their placement experience, fellows participate in an orientation to the program and convene regularly with other fellows and staff to identify ways to connect their summer work with their academic program and to explore common themes among participating agencies that might be addressed in the future.

We are grateful for our community partners who have welcomed student fellows into their organizations and worked with them to create a strong learning experience while introducing them to important issues facing communities today.

These fellowships are made possible by the Cooke Environmental Research Fund, the Davidson Family, the Forest Foundation, the Kappa Psi Upsilon Environmental Studies Fund, Lee Lockwood’ P’01, the Logan Environmental Studies Fund, Shelley A. Hearne ‘83, and the Strong~Gault Social Advancement Internship.
Jessica Bae '22  
Maine Community Fellow

"I was most profoundly impacted by the small moments at ArtVan this summer. Seeing a kid’s face light up when their parent joined our art projects, or when they discovered the amazing things they could do with paint, I realized why I enjoyed the work I was doing. I was amazed everyday by the sheer imaginative capacity of our participants."

Jiade Chang '20  
Kappa Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow

Cultivating Community

“My fellowship with Cultivating Community has been a profoundly rewarding experience. In the vein of one of our core values, digging in, my internship has forced me to deal with unfamiliar situations, build strong relationships, and produce tangible good. I have gained fresh perspectives on environmental justice and the obstacles facing new Americans, which will help guide my career goals."

Sarah Corkum '21  
Kappa Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow

Natural Resources Council of Maine

“I have enjoyed experiencing the inner workings of an environmental advocacy organization. I have attended legislative hearings, compiled data on environmental bills, and participated in meetings ranging from climate policy to the proposed CMP corridor. I have been able to take what I have learned in my classes and applied it to the type of job I want to have in the future.”

Cooper Darr '21  
Funding provided by Lee Lockwood P ’01

Town of Brunswick

“I have been interested in land management and community-level conservation, and my fellowship with the Town of Brunswick provided me with a fresh perspective on the work of municipalities. Town Hall is a dynamic, bustling place, and allowed me to interact with a multitude of stakeholder groups, while working on projects that had a direct effect on the local community.”

Luca DeAngelis '20  
ACLU of Maine

Denning Fellow

“The ACLU of Maine’s work is always important but right now it feels especially critical. Being able to be a part of the organization during this time has been really special. I have been able to contribute to the work I find so meaningful while also learning about both non-profit management and the program work of the organization.”

Mollie Eisner '21  
Catholic Charities

Maine Community Fellow

“At CCS’s Refugee and Immigration Services, I have assisted clients with legal documents such as applications for citizenship and petitions for family members. This summer was a crash course in immigration law, and I witnessed first-hand how quickly policies change under the current administration—and how these changes impact communities in Maine.”

Riley Harris '20  
Environmental Health Strategy Center

Funding provided by Shelley A. Hearne ’83

"I have engaged in fundraising, lobbying, and grassroots organizing—mostly for the Strategy Center’s safe drinking water campaign. My fellow intern and I have traveled the state, speaking to communities impacted by arsenic in their drinking water. These conversations have given me a greater appreciation for what environmental justice means and how we can get there.”

Elise Hocking '22  
Maine Community Fellow

Tedford Housing

“Working with Tedford Housing I was introduced to the realities of food insecurity, mental health issues, substance abuse, and homelessness that are overshadowed by the appearance of affluence on Maine Street. I have gained a better understanding of the complexity of this issue and the network of nonprofit working to end homelessness in the Brunswick community.”

Bridge Hoke '20  
Denning Fellow

Rippleffect

“I wanted exposure to outdoor education but would not have been qualified to be a guide with Rippleffect. The flexibility of the Denning has given me the unique opportunity to enter a workplace closely to learn. It has given me the time and space to consider the challenges and benefits of a career in non-profit. It has made me feel connected to the entire education network in Portland.”

Mohamed Kilani '21  
Maine Community Fellow

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project

“As a refugee and previous client at ILAP, it is especially heartwarming to be part of a staff that has committed itself to serving those who have been through similar, difficult situations. Core values like social justice, integrity, and respect are the driving forces of such a productive and successful organization. I highly recommend this experience!”

Julianna Riley '20  
Denning Fellow

The Telling Room

“By providing the space for youth to share their voices through creative writing, The Telling Room empowers youth to realize that their voices matter. This has been the perfect non-profit placement for me as an English and Education major because I get to help students develop their writing, and also hone my own writing skills.”

Sarah Brigid Konofal '20  
Maine Community Fellow

Oasis Free Clinic

“Consulting with the patients at Oasis has shaped my perspective on the lack of healthcare accessibility in the Brunswick area—and beyond. I’ve learned how to be an advocate for public health—an important, yet neglected, area of medicine. I’m thankful for this invaluable experiences and will take it with me as I pursue a career in healthcare.”

Emma Kyzivat '21  
Funding provided by Lee Lockwood P ’01

City of Bath

“Completing an inventory of Bath’s greenhouse gas emissions and updating their climate action plan has given me a new understanding of the inner workings of municipal government, and provided valuable insight into the ways in which small communities can impact global climate change.”

Anne McKece '20  
Maine Community Fellow

Merrymeeting Food Council

“Maine’s food insecurity is a complex, widespread issue that demands diverse solutions. This fellowship has opened my eyes to a creative approach that increases food access, mitigates stigma, reduces food waste, and strengthens community, and helped me understand food security as both environmental and social, with ramifications on both community and global scales.”

Anna Messenger '21  
Kappa Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

“TNC’s work is about ecosystem health and social change under the current administration—how our change impacts community in Maine.”

Clare Murphy '20  
Maine Community Fellow

Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program

“I’ve enjoyed talking to clients in the dining room, helping in the pantry, and supervising lunch through the Summer Food Service Program. I’ve learned about the challenges food insecure populations face beyond hunger, and the difficulty of meeting those needs. I’m excited to gather client feedback through surveys and to expand outreach efforts through social media.”

Samara Nassor '22  
Logan Environmental Fellow

The Nature Conservancy

"As a Bowdoin student, I live in Maine for most of the year, however, I haven’t been able to integrate myself and truly call place home. It was not until I started working with the MCFA that I truly felt that I was a part of Maine community. Maine is known for its fishing industry and being a part of an organization that works with such an integral part of the culture here provides a way in.”

Mohamed Oday '20  
Maine Community Fellow

Kappa Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow

Maine Coast Fisherman’s Association

“As a Bowdoin student, I live in Maine for most of the year, however, I haven’t been able to integrate myself and truly call this place home. It was not until I started working with the MCFA that I truly felt that I was a part of Maine community. Maine is known for its fishing industry and being a part of an organization that works with such an integral part of the culture here provides a way in.”

Eleanor Paasche '20  
Cooke Environmental Research Fellow

“This summer has been a culmination of the past three years as an Environmental Studies and Government major. I have had the opportunity to apply what I’ve learned in the classroom and from previous internships into independent work, both in the office and out in the field, establishing research networks and building relationships and rapport with interviewees.”