Smithsonian Internship/Fellowship Partnerships with Your University

Office of Fellowships and Internships
Smithsonian Institution
Partnerships with the Smithsonian

The mission of the Smithsonian Institution, the largest museum in the world, is to increase and diffuse knowledge. Towards this end, it is a priority of the Smithsonian to revitalize education by creating methods of innovative informal education that link to formal higher education. We are able to achieve this in part through partnerships with colleges/universities by educating and placing students in internships and fellowships throughout our vast institution.

Three Tiers of Partnership

In general, the Smithsonian offers three levels of partnership with the college/university in the area of internships and fellowships. The three tiers are:

- INFORMATION
- PLACEMENT
- SEMESTER IN DC
INFORMATION

SI is interested in sharing information and materials about our internship and fellowship programs with any college/university who would like to circulate information to their students. There are a variety of printed and digital materials, updated regularly, that we are glad to share. We also are interested in speaking to students when they visit the Smithsonian or, when possible, speaking to students on campus. Once they know about the diversity of opportunities available, Students may apply to SI intern/fellowship programs to which they are eligible, on their own.

PLACEMENT

If schools would like to establish something more formal with SI for student interns, the possibility exists to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). In order to support the management of these placements, we work with our partners to identify an appropriate administrative fee to SI based on factors such as the number of students, duration of internships and level of program engagement. Students and/or schools are responsible for supporting travel and living expenses for the duration of these internships.

SEMESTER IN DC

Especially for schools that do not currently have a semester-in-DC type program, the opportunity exists to partner with SI to create one. Under a more extensive MOU, SI and partner schools might establish a curriculum that would bring students to the Smithsonian for a full academic semester. During this term the students would engage 4 days/week in their internship and 1 day/week in an academic seminar led either by visiting faculty, SI experts, or a combination of those. The course and program would be designed to be substantial enough for a school to award academic credit, as they see fit.
CONTACT US

Smithsonian Office of Fellowships and Internships (OFI)
470 L’Enfant Plaza SW, Suite 7102 (MRC 902)
Washington, DC 20013-7012
Tel. 202-633-7070, Email siofi@si.edu, http://smithsonianofi.com