

USGS 2024 Cooperative Summer Fellowship Program



The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Summer Fellowship Program is the longest continuously running internship program in the Earth sciences. Over the past 59 years, over 2,600 students have participated in this program, with many participants continuing on to distinguished careers with USGS, academia, and industry.

The cooperative program was launched at the Geological Society of America meeting in Kansas City, MO in early fall of 1965 when William “Bill” Pecora, then the newly appointed Director of the USGS, held a meeting with a small group of distinguished professors and officers of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT). Pecora suggested that the USGS would provide support through internships for outstanding newly graduated geoscience majors, while NAGT would solicit outstanding student nominations from the directors of the nation’s geoscience field camps. In this way, students with excellent training in skills needed at USGS could take their next professional step with an internship putting those skills into practice.

In recent years the USGS has expanded our partnerships in this program to include the Ecological Society of America (ESA) and the GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) to support our scientists in geography and biological sciences.

Although some modifications have been made over time, the USGS Cooperative Summer Fellowship Program operates today much as it did in the beginning. With active participation and support from the highest levels of all organizations (including the Director of the USGS), a joint committee oversees the program. The program year begins in September when NAGT, ESA, and GISCI are provided nomination information. NAGT and ESA solicit nominations of exceptionally qualified students for their affiliated training programs. GISCI submits a list of students with appropriate GIS certifications for consideration. Nominated students apply by sending a resume, letter of interest, and transcripts to the USGS. At the same time, USGS scientists interested in working with an intern submit a proposal about their research projects. A science panel then reviews and matches candidates by their course work, skills, and interests with up to five projects. Interviews and selections proceed from there. The program endeavors to place as many of the nominated students as possible. In the last several years, between 68 and 95 percent of the nominated students who applied and stayed connected through the interviews have been placed in internships.

Interdisciplinary science training is a cornerstone of the USGS mission, and as such, all science disciplines are encouraged to take advantage of the intern program. Former student interns continually receive outstanding reviews from both scientists and supervisors.

The Program continues Pecora’s vision of greater educational involvement, providing a first-rate professional experience to students early in their careers. The program today is a multidisciplinary collaboration that influences the career paths of future scientists in positive and exciting ways.

Geology and ecology field course directors can participate through our partnerships with the [NAGT](#) or [ESA](#). Please visit the appropriate websites for additional information on how to nominate students. Nominations are due in early fall.

NAGT/USGS 2024 Cooperative Summer Fellowship Program Placements

Intern: Alex Acree
Field Camp: East Tennessee State University
Mentor: Rich Briggs
Location: Golden, Colorado
Project: Earthquake geology studies in the western United States

Intern: Josephine Barnett
Field Camp: Whitman College
Mentor: Kendra Lynn
Location: Hilo, Hawaii
Project: Using petrology and geochemistry to understand recent eruptions of Kilauea Volcano, Hawai'i

Intern: Jillian Blutworth
Field Camp: Central Washington University
Mentor: Dana Peterson
Location: Denver, Colorado
Project: Geophysical modeling of the Duluth Complex and Animikie Basin structure

Intern: Rebecca Braun
Field Camp: South Dakota School of Mines
Mentor: Justin Brandt
Location: Sacramento, California
Project: Analysis and visualization of novel hydrogeologic data from borehole extensometers, San Joaquin Valley, California

Intern: Hunter Broeder
Field Camp: Colorado State University
Mentor: Karen Lund and Carma San Juan
Location: Lakewood, Colorado
Project: Northern Rocky Mountains transect

Intern: Eduardo Cruz Vega
Field Camp: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez
Mentor: Marci Robinson
Location: Reston, Virginia
Project: Marine microfossil indicators of past warm periods

Intern: Jesse DeMark
Field Camp: California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt
Mentor: Douglas Shinneman
Location: Boise, Idaho
Project: Next steps in delivering applied fuel break science in Great Basin sagebrush ecosystems

Intern: Sadie Durning
Field Camp: California State University, Fullerton
Mentor: Jackson Mitchell
Location: Tacoma, Washington
Project: Hydrogeologic framework for the Duwamish River Valley, Washington

Intern: Max Eshbaugh
Field Camp: Georgia Southern University
Mentor: Lindsay Powers
Location: Denver, Colorado
Project: National Science Foundation Ice Core Facility: hands on climate science support

Intern: Emily Griner
Field Camp: Colorado School of Mines
Mentor: Melissa Lombard
Location: Northborough, Massachusetts
Project: Hydrology and water quality of Cape Cod's Groundwater/Surface-Water system

Intern: April Harrison
Field Camp: University of Michigan
Mentor: Jessie Vermeer
Location: Moffett Field, California
Project: Northern California earthquake geology

Intern: Ryan Helgerson
Field Camp: Illinois State University
Mentor: Walter Mooney
Location: Moffett Field, California
Project: Natural hazards mitigation for vulnerable communities: earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, and landslides

Intern: Ethan Hogg
Field Camp: Georgia State University
Mentor: Laura Clor
Location: Vancouver, Washington
Project: Preserving legacy geochemical data for volcano hazard monitoring in the Cascades

Intern: Kajsja Holland-Goon
Field Camp: Colorado State University
Mentor: William Stephenson
Location: Golden, Colorado
Project: High-resolution geophysical investigations of hazardous faults and seismic ground motions—data for earthquake hazard assessments

Intern: Parker LeClair
Field Camp: SUNY Plattsburgh
Mentor: Gary Fuis and Cal Ruleman
Location: Ennis, Montana
Project: The North Meadow Creek fault, Tobacco Root Mountains, southwest Montana

Intern: William McCraine
College: University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Brandon Lutz
Location: Denver, Colorado
Project: Ozark Dome-Arkoma Basin-Ouachita belt transect (odabout)

Intern: Mary Ann Moody
Field Camp: University of Texas, Arlington
Mentor: Walter Mooney
Location: Moffett Field, California
Project: Natural hazards mitigation for vulnerable communities: earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, and landslides

Intern: Tina Neufeld
Field Camp: Sul Ross State University
Mentor: Carole Johnson
Location: Storrs, Connecticut
Project: Hydrogeophysics

Intern: Hannah Neuman
Field Camp: University of Oregon
Mentor: Emily Montgomery-Brown
Location: Vancouver, Washington
Project: Geodetic monitoring of volcanoes in the western United States

Intern: Cameron Olsen
Field Camp: University of Utah
Mentor: Karen Lund and Carma San Juan
Location: Lakewood, Colorado
Project: Northern Rocky Mountains transect

Intern: Jackson Swartz
Field Camp: Auburn University
Mentor: Alexander Lusk
Location: Denver, Colorado
Project: Structural and microstructural analysis of Proterozoic shear zones in the southern Rocky Mountains

Intern: Valerie Trinidad
Field Camp: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Mentor: Justin Brandt
Location: Sacramento, California
Project: Analysis and visualization of novel hydrogeologic data from borehole extensometers, San Joaquin Valley, California

Intern: Caleigh Warren
Field Camp: Middle Tennessee State University
Mentor: Erin Marsh
Location: Denver, Colorado
Project: Advanced mineral separation methods for microanalytical analysis (stable and radiogenic isotope analysis; trace element geochemistry).

Intern: Laura Warrington
Field Camp: James Madison University
Mentor: Michael Toomey
Location: Reston, Virginia
Project: Northeastern Storm Hazards: Past and Present

ESA/USGS 2024 Cooperative Summer Fellowship Program Placements

Intern: Anna Bartholet
College: Northeastern University
Mentor: Kyle McLean
Location: Jamestown, North Dakota
Project: Climate and land use effects on prairie-pothole wetland ecosystem functioning

Intern: Elizabeth Bruch
College: University of Alaska Southeast
Mentor: James Shanley
Location: Montpelier, Vermont
Project: Research support on climate change and the global carbon cycle in the context of a long-term research watershed

Intern: Grace Bucci
College: Connecticut College
Mentor: Nicholas Sutfin
Location: Tacoma, Washington
Project: GIS and field mapping of geomorphology and hydrology of headwater streams in the Pacific Northwest to inform flow permanence and stream habitat models

Intern: Catherine Chavez
College: University of California, Davis
Mentor: Douglas Shinneman
Location: Boise, Idaho
Project: Next steps in delivering applied fuel break science in Great Basin sagebrush ecosystems

Intern: Ava Crowe
College: University of North Texas
Mentor: Sheel Bansal
Location: Boise, Idaho
Project: Next steps in delivering applied fuel break science in Great Basin sagebrush ecosystems

Intern: Maeve Finley
College: University of Michigan
Mentor: Michael McHale
Location: Troy, New York
Project: Quantifying climate change effects on trends in watershed biogeochemistry

Intern: Madeleine Gagliano
College: George Mason University
Mentor: Kurt Kowalski
Location: Ann Arbor, Michigan
Project: Developing new, sustainable control strategies for an invasive wetland grass (*Phragmites australis*)

Intern: Erica Ham
College: Duke University
Mentor: Gregory Noe
Location: Reston, Virginia
Project: Wetland influences on stream and watershed ecosystem health

Intern: Olivia Hinds
College: Gonzaga University
Mentor: Susan Kemp
Location: Boise, Idaho
Project: Science and Data Delivery – Web tool development, data management, and science communications

Intern: Hayden Holcomb
College: Tulane University
Mentor: Kurtis Nelson
Location: Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Project: Monitoring post-fire burn severity and vegetation recovery

Intern: Kylie Hollis
College: University of Florida
Mentor: Stephen Formel
Location: Gainesville, Florida
Project: Data Archaeology: Mobilizing a Treasure Trove of Deep-Sea Biodiversity data for Global Access and Use

Intern: Kayla Kleinbauer
College: University of Rhode Island
Mentor: Kristen Hart
Location: Davie, Florida
Project: Sea turtle and Diamondback terrapin nesting, movements and habitat-use

Intern: Matthew Korade
College: West Virginia University
Mentor: Michael Duniway
Location: Moab, Utah
Project: Assessing impacts of climate change and land-use on drylands of the Colorado Plateau

Intern: Avery Leigh
College: Knox College
Mentor: Michael McHale
Location: Troy, New York
Project: Quantifying climate change effects on trends in watershed biogeochemistry

Intern: Rachel Lester
College: Gustavus Adolphus College
Mentor: Wesley Bickford
Location: Ann Arbor, Michigan
Project: Assessing plant and microbial responses to common invasive species management strategies

Intern: Jessica Lipschultz
College: Duke University
Mentor: Becky Kreiling
Location: La Crosse, Wisconsin
Project: Nearshore sediment legacy P and cyanobacteria in Great Lakes nearshore zones

Intern: Nicholas Medina
College: University of North Texas
Mentor: Clint Otto
Location: Jamestown, North Dakota
Project: Improving pollinator habitat on working lands in the Great Plains

Intern: Chloe Pak
College: University of California, Irvine
Mentor: David Paez
Location: Nordland, Washington
Project: Evaluation of rearing methods to increase the quality of infection data in herring

Intern: Grace Parrott
College: Luther College
Mentor: Kurtis Nelson
Location: Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Project: Monitoring post-fire burn severity and vegetation recovery

Intern: Isabella Peterson
College: Brown University
Mentor: Alena Giesche
Location: Anchorage, Alaska
Project: Permafrost legacy

Intern: Janen Ritchea
College: West Virginia University
Mentor: Tabitha Graves
Location: West Glacier, Montana
Project: Surveying pollinators and flowering plants on Montana rangelands

Intern: Jasmine Ryan
College: University of California, Los Angeles
Mentor: Michael Duniway
Location: Moab, Utah
Project: Assessing impacts of climate change and land-use on drylands of the Colorado Plateau

Intern: Morgan Sharbaugh
College: University of Alabama
Mentor: Beth Middleton
Location: Lafayette, Louisiana
Project: Ecohydrology of baldcypress swamps in the southeastern United States

Intern: Ari Siegel
College: University of Florida
Mentor: Jess Rodysill
Location: Reston, Virginia
Project: Natural flood and drought variability in lacustine archives

Intern: Emma Squires
College: Macalaster College
Mentor: Sarah Elliott
Location: Mounds View, Minnesota
Project: Assessing removal of trace organic contaminants from urban stormwater by filtration best management practices

Intern: Heather Thomas
College: Oregon State University
Mentor: Sarah Elliott
Location: Mounds View, Minnesota
Project: Assessing removal of trace organic contaminants from urban stormwater by filtration best management practices

Intern: Hadley VandeVusse
College: University of Michigan
Mentor: Nicholas Johnson
Location: Millersburg, Michigan
Project: Sea Lamprey aquaculture and procurement initiative

Intern: Alejandro Vazquez
College: University of California, Irvine
Mentor: Clint Otto
Location: Jamestown, North Dakota
Project: Improving pollinator habitat on working lands in the Great Plains

Intern: Hallie Wirth
College: University of Iowa
Mentor: Paul Bedrosian
Location: Lakewood, Colorado
Project: Geophysical mapping of the midcontinent rift system

Intern: Drew Workman
College: University of Akron
Mentor: David Pilliod
Location: Boise, Idaho
Project: Finding Franklins: Using gridded EDNA sampling to detect a critically endangered bee (*bombus franklini*) in the Pacific northwest

GISCI/USGS 2024 Cooperative Summer Fellowship Program Placements

Intern: Courtney Baker
College: University of Maine
Mentor: Krissy Hopkins
Location: Raleigh, North Carolina
Project: Visualizing and mapping streambank stability in Raleigh, NC

Intern: Rachel Condie
College: Weber State University
Mentor: Matthew Conlon
Location: New Cumberland, Pennsylvania
Project: Assessment of pesticides and characterization of groundwaters in Pennsylvania's glaciated low plateau siliciclastic and northwestern glaciated surficial hydrogeologic settings

Intern: Jason Kawalec
College: Rutgers University
Mentor: Emily Woodward
Location: Remote
Project: Creating interactive web-based information products to highlight 20+ years of USGS Pennsylvania Water Science Center water quality research.

Intern: Jessica Middleton
College: University of Michigan
Mentor: Noel Pavlovic
Location: Chesterton, Indiana
Project: Landscape dynamics of Pitcher's thistle and visitor impacts on vegetation of Great Lakes sand dunes

Intern: Zoie Rhodes
College: University of Michigan
Mentor: Walter Mooney
Location: Moffett Field, California
Project: Natural hazards mitigation for vulnerable communities: earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, and landslides

Intern: Jennifer Sirirat
College: Concordia University, Irvine
Mentor: Andrea Foster
Location: Menlo Park, California
Project: Determining a suitability index for mining of domestic ni-co laterites by traditional and innovative methods

Intern: Naurene Sultana
College: Hunter College
Mentor: Ralph Grundel
Location: Chesterton, Indiana
Project: Creating an interactive interface explaining landscape connectivity in the Great Lakes basin