



PHASE

A Newsletter of Skaggs Research Center Internships

Issue #1

September 2008

Delivering a message to Garcia

It was in February 1899, that Elbert Hubbard sat down after supper and wrote, "A Message To Garcia." It is a short and famous article where in about three and a half pages he laments the lack of individuals with dedication to a cause, who will not ask too many questions about how to complete a mission, rather, they get to work and accomplish the task at hand.

The article is written when war breaks out between Spain and the United States and General Garcia finds himself in the back-country of Cuba. President McKinley must be assured that Garcia will back his cause and enlists the services of a man named Rowan to deliver a letter. Rowan does not ask why, where or how, but simply goes off to Cuba and delivers the letter. This type of individual is loyal and acts promptly and is one who focuses on the task at hand. It is he who is considered a hero and someone we should all emulate.

The recent Student Seminar Series held on July 23rd reminded me of Hubbard's article and the various student heroes who delivered their message on their summer research project. Twelve of the twenty-nine student interns presented at the seminar. It is an incredible message these students delivered:

The future work force will be secure if intern programs such as this one are repeated and continue to grow.

The seminar included the following:

- Ava Dinges, Hollings Scholar, on Communicating Climate Information;
- Sara Mohon, Hollings Scholar, on Auroral Boundaries;
- Ethan Peck, Hollings Scholar, on Auroral Probabilities;
- Neil Berg, Hollings Scholar, on A Statistical Analysis on Solar Flare Forecasting;
- Jessica Rajkowski, Hollings, Scholar, on Forecasting Assistance in Predicting Solar Proton Events Based on Active Region Classifications;
- Elizabeth Ellis, Hollings Scholar, on Data Analysis and Quality Control for NOAA's Hydrometeorological Testbed Program;
- Scott Powel, Hollings Scholar, on Physics of Sea Spray: Impact on Tropical Cyclone Intensity;
- Michelle Przybylek, Hollings Scholar, Study on a Gas Chromatograph with a Pulsed Discharge Detector for Measurement of Atmospheric Trace Gasses.

- Christopher Amante, Hollings Scholar, on ETOPO1: Building a 1 Arc-Minute Global Relief Model of Earth;
- William Kolodzey, Hollings Scholar, on Regional Emissions Study;
- Vanessa Malone, EPP Program, on The Separation of Gas Components Using Gas Chromatography, Mass Spectrometry and Electron Capture Detection; and
- Michael Barnes, Hollings Scholar, Developing User-oriented Metrics for Assessing Monsoon Onset.

Some of the students joined internship supporters for a working lunch which included a presentation by CIRES, Karen Dempsey, and Nancy Lathrop, on their intern program and opportunities at the University of Colorado. Members of the NOAA NWS, EEO Office, Charly Wells and Sabrina Cook talked to the students about opportunities with the NWS. Tony Tafoya had strategy discussions with SWPC representatives, Michael Crumbly, Dianne Suess, and Carol Schulz on how to organize the intern programs in the Skaggs Research Center and with other organizations in the community. A follow up meeting was held on Monday, July 23 with Ann Thorne, Michael Crumbly and Tony Tafoya on strategies for organizing the intern programs and joining forces to seek funding for internships for organizations in the Skaggs Center. George Sharman from NGDC has also joined in the discussions which have been continuing.



*Ann Thorne, ESRL Student Coordinator—
e-mail Ann.Thorne@noaa.gov*

In July 2008, Ann Thorne was named as the ESRL Student Coordinator. In announcing her appointment, Dr. Alexander MacDonald, ESRL Director, attested to the strong commitment to education and student programs. He stated that “ESRL Divisions are very active in seeking out highly motivated students with a strong interest in atmospheric sciences to work with us and eventually develop into outstanding scientists.”

Ann has been very active in recruiting students for the Global Monitoring Division and is well versed in all of the opportunities available to students and interested P.I.s both internal and external to NOAA.

So, as Ann begins to seek out students and internships, we are confident that the message to Garcia will be delivered that the future workforce will be secure.

Education, Science, and Careers

Items of interest from the Skaggs Center



Student presenters outside the David Skaggs Research Center after the July 23, 2008, Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) Summer Student Seminar Series presented in the Outreach Classroom.

The students were welcomed to the Seminar by ESRL Executive Director, Don Mock. He stressed to them that the present work force was aging. He said this was a great opportunity for students in the future work force. Don reminded them that they represented the best and brightest. He said that NOAA had a fantastic mission and urged students to consider NOAA as a career.

STUDENTS LEFT TO RIGHT:

- Elizabeth Ellis, Pennsylvania State Univ.
- Michelle Przybylek, Univ. of Connecticut
- Ava Dinges, Univ. of Kansas
- Ethan Peck, Cornell Univ.
- Scott Powell, Univ. of North Carolina
- Jessica Rajkowski, Univ. of Maryland
- Michael Barnes, Univ. of Arizona
- Neil Berg, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison
- Vanessa Malone, Univ. of Virgin Islands
- William Kolodzey, Univ. of Michigan
- Christopher Amante, Holy Cross Univ.
- Sara Mohon, William and Mary
- Joseph Timkovsky, Moscow State Univ., Russia.

Education, Science, Careers

Publisher's Notes from Boulder and Around the Country

- ◆ The St. Vrain Valley School District will present a MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) Advisor Project Fair on Thursday September, 11, 2008 at Xilinx in Longmont, CO from noon to 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ The ESRL Student Intern Program Committee (SIPC) meets every other Wednesday to discuss student Internship opportunities under the PHASE model at 1:30 p.m. in the Skaggs Center, Room GB-514. All are welcome to attend.
- ◆ The Hollings and EPP Science Research Opportunities projections are due at the NOAA Office of Education by September 24, 2008. Call Ann Thorne for details.

The IARO (Individual Advanced Research Opportunities) Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Title VIII Program.

The IARO Program provides fellowships to U.S. scholars and professionals for long-term overseas research on contemporary political, economic, historical, or cultural developments relevant to U.S. foreign policy.

Completed applications are due no later than November 17, 2008.

Please visit
www.irex.org/programs/iaro/index.asp

MARK THE DATE

September 17, 2008

9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

VideoTeleConferencing (VTC)

TOPIC: Are you interested in hosting a Summer Intern or hiring a Graduate Student?

Sponsored by the NOAA Office of Education, Silver Spring, MD.

Contact Ann Thorne for further information at 303.497.4600.
e-mail Ann.Thorne@noaa.gov

The Objectives of the ESRL Intern Program

- A. To seek a broad development and expansion of internship opportunities for high school, college and graduate students and high school teachers.
- B. To assist and encourage NOAA organizations in establishing goals and identifying the best possible sources for the recruitment, employment, training, and advancement of student interns.
- C. To encourage and actively support the promotion and exposure of Interns already employed.
- D. To counter employment issues based on unlawful discrimination, direct or indirect.
- E. To analyze and determine the educational and professional needs of students seeking entry and advancement in employment; and, whenever possible, provide appropriate training and counseling services to meet these needs.
- F. To establish and continually upgrade a broad range of contact with supervisors and interns across the nation via personal visits, telephone calls, e-mails, and periodic newsletters.
- G. To respond to the reasonable requests from non NOAA groups for student referrals when their goals, and objectives are supportable and similar to the ESRL PHASE program.
- H. To enhance the promotion of student excellence, pride, and camaraderie through organized and regular social gatherings which will serve to bind members together.
- I. To provide a platform on major research issues of local and national significance so that students may be better informed and may express their views through seminar presentations before their peers and supervisors.
- J. To expand the objectives and yearly goals of PHASE to provide maximum impact on the benefits derived from the pursuit of these and future goals and objectives.

Key Committee Functions

The key functions performed by the PHASE Advisory Board include: **Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues**; **Membership and Outreach**; and **Consultation with Students and Supervisors**. The following is a brief description of each function:

Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues

The advocacy function is performed when members take a pro-active role in seeing that a client's issue is addressed by the appropriate community, education or government organization. This function typically involves the following: Assisting students and parents with local school issues, e.g. summer jobs, internships, grades and course requirements; Educating the community on student internship opportunities; Researching employment information and various employment topics.

Membership and Outreach

All Advisory Board members are charged with an ongoing function of recruiting and retaining members. This involves coordinating a yearly membership drive for new members. The outreach function is performed by going out into the community to explain NOAA internship programs and communicating the assistance that can be provided. Typically, this function involves attending meetings and briefings, networking with NOAA agency representatives, providing orientation briefings to newcomers, attending training sessions and education workshops - both as participants and presenters.

Consultation

Consultation services are typically provided to clients who are in need of explanations related to documents that need an interpretation and require follow up actions. This function typically involves mediating an issue at the lowest level before it escalates and negotiating issues on behalf of clients and assisting the ESRL Student Coordinator with employee issues. Consultations are private.



PHASE is a publication
of

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PHASE seeks to inform
employees and students on
employment programs and
internships.

Editors: Tony Tafoya and
Ann Thorne

MISSION

The mission of the Practical Hands on Application to Science Education (PHASE) program is to have students benefit from a science intern program at a Federal facility.

The objectives of the program are (1) for laboratories to identify student projects that provide a learning environment and focus on practical hands-on activities; (2) to provide laboratories with profiles of students who have an interest in considering NOAA and science in general as a positive career choice; and (3) to inform students of career opportunities in NOAA.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE 2008 STUDENT MENTORS

Susan McLean, NGDC
Tracy Hansen, ESRL
Andrea Ray, ESRL
Doug Biesecker, SWPC
Scott Nahmen, ESRL
Jim Roberts, ESRL
Leslie Hartten, ESRL
Allen White, ESRL
Eric Kihn, NGDC
James Burkholder, ESRL
Mihail Codrescu, SWPC
Stephen Montzka, ESRL
Jim Elkins, ESRL
Ben Miller, ESRL
Rob Redmon, NGDC
Russ Schnell, ESRL
Annie Reiser, ESRL
James Wilczak, ESRL
Dan Wilkinson, NGDC
Jian-Wen Bao, ESRL
Brad Hall, ESRL
David Kingsmill, ESRL

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

FEDERAL AGENCIES:

NOAA/OAR/ESRL
NOAA/NWS/SWPC
NOAA/NESDIS/NGDC
NIST
NTIA

HIGHER EDUCATION:

University of Colorado/CIRES

COMMUNITY:

SACNAS
MESA
AISES
National Image, Inc.
Blacks-In-Government

SCHOOLS DISTRICTS:

Boulder Valley
St. Vrain Valley

PHASE

A Newsletter of Skaggs Research Center Internships

Please add me to newsletter mailing list (Please print or type.)

Name	
Home Address or School Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone and E-mail	

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