Regional Network Collaborative for Water Leadership

Funded by: Spring Point Partners

Project Lead/PI: Brenton McCloskey, Director of Strategic Development and Communications

Job title

Water Leadership Graduate Research Fellow

Contract type

Start date: September 1st, 2023
Contract type: Stipend
Length of contract: 4 months, with potential to extend through Spring Semester
Hourly rate: Up to 8 hrs/wk at $19/hr

Project description

The Water Center is building a Regional Network Collaborative for Water Leadership that will convene a diverse set of people, based in the Philadelphia region, working in sectors that intersect with water issues (water utility personnel, watershed/environmental non-profit and stormwater professionals, etc) who have demonstrated potential to become leaders in their respective fields. The Collaborative will provide a peer-to-peer issue/solutions exchange environment, workshop style learning with academic, non-profit, and private industry leaders; enhance cross-sector collaboration; and create a supportive space for the building of long-lasting professional relationships between collaborative members.

Project outcomes

- The Collaborative will focus on developing water leadership skills by supporting and lifting up current water utility management professionals and providing guidance and mentorship to next generation leaders. Support and mentorship will come in the form of sharing ideas, working through real world issues, and finding solutions to help solve drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater management sector challenges.
- Our goal is to bring forward sometimes uncomfortable conversations and deal with real issues - beyond what may or may not work from a policy standpoint.

The ideal candidate will...

- Be a current University of Pennsylvania student
- Hold a B.S. in environmental studies, geography, engineering, non-profit management or related major
- Experience in STEM education or community outreach and engagement preferred
- Experience with administrative support (emails, coordinating meetings, etc.)
- Strong communication skills
- Understanding of water utilities, water/wastewater infrastructure, and/or non-profit sector is highly desired
List of responsibilities

- Working and communicating with cohort members on a regular basis to identify resource needs.
- Assist in the development of curriculum with education leaders for STEM Youth Engagement Leadership Workshop.
- Supporting workshop coordination with key stakeholders.
- Facilitation of meetings in the Zoom platform and in person.
- Helping schedule meetings, draft reports, present findings.

To apply

Submit a cover letter and resume via email to Emma Denison at emmade@sas.upenn.edu with a subject line of “Water Leadership Graduate Research Fellow”. Review of applications will occur on a rolling basis; applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Questions can also be sent to the email address above.