THE EARTH INSTITUTE’S STUDENT RESOURCES

A key objective of the Earth Institute is to stimulate, develop, enhance and coordinate educational programs in environmental and sustainable development studies at Columbia University. In addition to the 30 academic programs that the University offers, the Earth Institute offers students co-curricular opportunities to enhance and supplement their academic experience.

Student groups and student-led conferences, internships, a student advisory council, a research assistant program, and distinctive seminars are just some of the valuable ongoing opportunities the Earth Institute coordinates and sponsors to help students explore the critical fields of environmental and sustainable development. In addition, the Earth Institute hosts special events, such as the annual All Ivy Environmental and Sustainable Development Career Fair in the spring semester.

Ongoing Opportunities

The Earth Institute works closely with a variety of student groups involved with issues pertaining to sustainable development and the environment. We offer these groups guidance and resources while they gain formal recognition, help them in building a strong membership base, and foster relationships between groups. In addition, we aid the leadership of these student groups by co-sponsoring and promoting their events and by helping them to find funding sources. These groups provide great opportunities for students to build ties with the greater Columbia community and gain practical grassroots experience.

The Student Advisory Council consists of 22 students from different departments and schools within the University. They advise the Earth Institute on departmental initiatives and the types of programs they desire to supplement their classroom experience. These meetings have led to mini-conferences on topics that include biodiversity, alternative energy sources, climate change, public health issues and sustainable development.

Each academic year, the Research Assistant Program grants 24 undergraduate students the opportunity to work on exciting research projects with distinguished faculty and researchers. Over the summer we fund the Earth Intern Program at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory campus in Palisades, N.Y. Because research assistants are generally graduate students, these programs provide an excellent opportunity for undergraduates to gain valuable experience and exposure to research.

In December of 2004, the Earth Institute launched a new intern program, offering both undergraduates and graduates a chance to intern with different divisions of the Earth Institute. Since its inception, over 220 interns have helped us pursue our mission as part of Earth Institute initiatives.

In the fall of 2009, the Earth Institute launched two new travel programs. The first offers course support to professors in related departments who use funding to organize class field trips. The second is the Student Travel Grant Program. Students are encouraged to apply for a grant of up to $750 to fund travel related to a project within their research or academic coursework. Travel grant applications must be approved by the faculty member who is overseeing the project.
Each school and program, in collaboration with the Center for Career Education (CCE), offers career services that advise students on how to gain employment in their fields. In addition to providing students with information on what jobs are available, CCE provide students with insight into how to enhance their academic careers through work experience and internships.

**Special Events**

In addition to these ongoing opportunities, the Earth Institute coordinates special events to correspond with interest expressed in the Student Advisory Council.

Teaming up for the tenth annual All Ivy Environmental and Sustainable Development Career Fair in the spring of 2013 are Brown, Cornell, Columbia, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania and Yale. This event hosts representatives from public agencies, consulting firms, nonprofit organizations, businesses and industries with the opportunity to connect with top graduate and undergraduate students.

Sponsoring the event are the Brown Career Development Center, Columbia University's M.P.A. in Environmental Science and Policy, the Office of Academic and Research Programs at the Earth Institute, Cornell Career Services, Dartmouth Career Services, Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth Career Services, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania Career Services, Princeton University Office of Career Services, Yale University Undergraduate Career Services, and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. For more information, e-mail the Earth Institute at ei-students@ei.columbia.edu.

By taking advantage of all the leadership, academic, research and networking opportunities coordinated through the Earth Institute, graduates from the affiliated Columbia programs will be in a unique position to take on the challenges of sustainable development in the future.

For more information on the Earth Institute, upcoming events, seminars and ongoing initiatives, please visit our Web site at [www.earth.columbia.edu](http://www.earth.columbia.edu).