CLEAN AIR COOL PLANET

Clean Air-Cool Planet (CA-CP) is inviting applications for our competitive Climate Fellowship program. CA-CP is an action-oriented environmental nonprofit that works with corporations, campuses, communities and science centers to find and promote solutions to climate change. We provide practical solutions that demonstrate the economic opportunities and environmental benefits of climate leadership. CA-CP's Climate Fellowships pair outstanding students with challenging, important projects that will propel the US toward a low-carbon future. CA-CP Climate Fellows undertake challenging projects, receive supervision, mentorship, unique networking opportunities, and a stipend.

The Project:

Impact of climate/environmental change on population dynamics of emergent pathogens.

Global climate change is already affecting marine and coastal ecosystems worldwide and is predicted to have much greater impacts in the future. A particular concern is the changing geographic distribution of pathogens and the potential emergence of new strains that could pose a threat to human health. For example, the number of fatal infections and gastroenteritis outbreaks caused by *Vibrio* bacteria (the genus which also contains the cholera pathogen) is on the rise globally and is increasingly impacting the US; for example, Hurricane Katrina resulted in numerous infections and fatal infections from V. vulnificus (3) and V. parahaemolyticus (2). Researchers also are investigating whether climate-induced environmental changes such as warming waters, altered ecosystems and changed salinity are affecting the rate of evolution of new genetic strains of vibrios. The University of New Hampshire (UNH) is at the cutting edge of research into the complex interactions of environmental changes (such as climate, land and water management) with the population ecology of vibrios and the shellfish whose consumption often provides the mechanism for human infection.

Project Goal and Desired Outcomes:

The goal is to produce a set of materials that will enable researchers, Clean Air-Cool Planet and other organizations to communicate this complex scientific issue and its implications to public audiences, including policy-makers, public health experts and journalists. The Fellow will work with the UNH project team to gain a rapid and thorough understanding of the theoretical, laboratory and field elements of their research and also to undertake an overview of other relevant research and literature on the topic. The primary project output will be a "white paper" authored by the Fellow that provides a primer on what is known about how climate and environmental changes are driving the dynamics of vibrio populations. In addition, the fellow may also:

- Help produce maps and graphics to illustrate the white paper
- Create a two-page fact sheet and a dedicated web page for CA-CP's web site
- Create slides and notes for public presentations
- Help organize a webinar for journalists and/or a policy-maker briefing

At the conclusion of the project, this fellow will have gained:

- A working knowledge of an important emerging area of ecological research
- A portfolio including maps, graphs and other data analysis work, web content, outreach materials and templates, and a white paper

- Project management and presentation experience
- Relationships with a variety of institutional partners and inside knowledge about how non-profits such as Clean Air Cool Planet operate at all levels.
- Experience working independently
- Engagement with CA-CP's climate fellow alumni network

Location: University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, and CA-CP offices, Portsmouth, NH

Time commitment: Full time, 10 weeks (between May and August)

Compensation: $5000 stipend

Desired Qualifications:

1. Upperclass status in a B.S./B.A. Degree Program, or enrollment in M.S./M.A. Program
2. Academic background in population ecology, microbiology, epidemiology or marine biology required; knowledge of current knowledge of climate change science strongly preferred.
3. Exceptional desk research, writing and editing skills required; web design or GIS experience a plus
4. Ability and previous success working independently
5. Excellent organizational ability, phone and e-mail skills, dedication to following through with individual tasks required.
6. Experience working with a non-profit organization preferred

CA-CP Climate Fellowship program eligibility:
Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates are eligible. We will encourage, but not require, an academic sponsor or reference for each fellow, and where possible we will ask that course credits are awarded. In order to attract the highest-quality applicants and to enable students to take advantage of these opportunities regardless of their financial situation, CA-CP will award all selected fellows a competitive stipend.

Supervision, Training and Mentoring
This fellow will receive day-to-day supervision and mentoring from Clean Air-Cool Planet's Director of Program Planning and from faculty at the University of New Hampshire, as well as regular contact with CA-CP's President.

Fellows in each session will be expected to participate in a two-day orientation session, regular webinars with the other Summer Climate Fellows, and three events in Portsmouth, NH:

- ♦ Midterm project presentations to CA-CP staff and relevant project partners
- ♦ A summative evaluation and feedback session at the end of their placement
- ♦ A reception with CA-CP donors and supporters

These workshops and other post-fellowship communication mechanisms ensure that CA-CP Climate Fellows will belong to a network of passionate students and professionals, and will be able to collaborate and continue learning even after the project has ended.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest, resume, and writing sample addressed to Lynn Sullivan at lsullivan@cleanair-coolplanet.org. Applications accepted through 2/24/2012.