The International Sustainability Fellowship

The College of Forestry and Conservation (CFC) International Sustainability Fellows program will support 25 undergraduate students to study abroad in Zambia, Chile, India, or Vietnam. These study abroad programs are based on long-standing relationships with universities, government agencies, and NGOs in these five nations. Depending on the program, students will study wildlife management, community-based resource protection, forest restoration, and/or sustainable tourism. Students selected as International Sustainability Fellows will take a one-credit preparatory course, which will involve two pre-course meetings regarding the ecological and social context of each cooperating nation. After they return, Fellows will meet three times to synthesize their experiences and prepare a public presentation.

Application Details

Available to:
1. Students who apply to study in one of the five program areas: Chile, Vietnam, India, or Zambia.
2. Undergraduate students who will be enrolled at the University of Montana for at least one semester following their study abroad program.

Selection Criteria:
1. Students with demonstrated interest in sustainability and natural resource conservation.
2. Students with cultural sensitivity and a commitment to creating positive relationships with international partners.

Amount Available:
CFC International Sustainability Fellows will receive a one-time, $2,000 fellowship. Students who receive Global Leadership Initiative "Beyond the Classroom" funds for their study abroad program are not eligible for CFC Fellowship funding.

Application Process:
Students must first apply for one of the five study abroad programs. Admission for the study abroad programs is on a rolling basis. Fellowship applications for the Chile and Vietnam programs are due October 25, 2014 (with notification about the award by October 31). Fellowship applications for the India and Zambia programs are due March 15, 2015 (with notification about the award by March 23). Students must answer the following six questions. The first four are short essay that should fit within the equivalent of approximately two pages. Responses can either be entered through an online application process with the Office of International Programs, or submitted by email as an attached Word document that includes the applicant’s contact information, sent to Devi Zdziebko at jennifer.zdziebko@umontana.edu.
Fellowship Application Questions:

1. Why are you interested in becoming an International Sustainability Fellow?

2. Please tell us about your background with natural resource conservation, either through classes or personal experiences.

3. Describe what sort of follow up activity you might pursue that will help to create positive, ongoing relations with our international partners. This is an opportunity to brainstorm an idea; we will not hold you to it.

4. What special skill or capacity do you see yourself bringing to the International Sustainability Fellowship program?

5. What other funding are you seeking for your international study experience? Please make sure to let us know if you are a GLI student and therefore eligible for GLI funding. Students will receive either CFC or GLI funding, not both.

6. Please provide contact information for three teachers or professional contacts that are positioned to comment your ability to meet the three selection criteria listed above. Please provide their name, title, relation to you, phone number, and email.

Non-Discrimination Policy:
The International Sustainability Fellows (ISF) Program considers students seeking fellowships on the basis of individual merit. The ISF Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or veteran status, and does not discriminate against members of protected classes under the law.

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the Fellowship Application, please contact Devi Zdziebko, 406-243-6603; jennifer.zdziebko@umontana.edu.

For additional information, please visit the International Sustainability Fellowship web site: http://www.cfc.umt.edu/studyabroad/fellows.