**Community Matters in Maine Summer Fellowship**

**Fellowship Celebration**

Wednesday, July 29, 2015
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Main Lounge, Moulton Union
Bowdoin College

We are grateful for our community partners who have welcomed student fellows into their organizations and worked with them to create a strong learning experience while introducing them to important issues facing communities today.

**Emily Stewart '16**
**Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow**
Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust

“This summer I learned how inspiring it is to work in a nonprofit organization that is committed to fostering collaboration and resilience in communities. It was constantly inspiring to work with people who were dedicated to their communities on both a personal and a professional level. I also learned how to translate vast amounts of data into a format that would be useful for people on the ground, which is a skill that goes all of my research purpose and applicability.”

**Kaitlyn Theberge '16**
**Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow**
Maine Coast Fishermen's Association

“Working at the MCFA has given me the opportunity to see one of Maine’s biggest industries and tourist draws in action. Fisheries are so much more complicated than they appear, and are saturated in culture, science, and policy. I really enjoyed seeing what it takes to make it all happen. And seafood—the part of the process the everyday person sees—has its own surprising set of complexities and issues.”

**Alex Thomas '16**
**Denning Fellow**
Maine Migrant Health Program

“My experience this summer has left an indelible impression on me of Maine’s migrant farmworkers. Getting to meet these amazing individuals and see where they live and work has opened my eyes to the realities of farm work in America, and made me appreciate the blueberries and other produce at the grocery store so much more. Working alongside this extraordinary staff to provide health services to this often invisible population has been an opportunity that I will not soon forget.”

**Bridger Tomlin '17**
**Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow**
Town of Brunswick

“Through this fellowship I experienced the real world of local government and all the joy, and hard work that accompanies it. From naming trails on a nature preserve, presenting to the Town Council, and conducting conservation easement inspections, this experience had a bit of everything. I really enjoyed getting a behind the scenes perspective on the town of Brunswick and municipal planning.”

**Hunter White '17**
**Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellow**
Stantec

“I’ve experienced every part of the environmental consulting industry, from remote field work to drafting reports and proposals. This internship was certainly a useful experience and allowed me to see how I can apply my Environmental Studies knowledge in a practical way. After having this experience, I can definitely see myself pursuing a career in environmental consulting after graduating from Bowdoin.”

The Community Matters in Maine Summer Fellowships provide students the opportunity to work and serve in the local community through a placement in a specific organization to address community issues while strengthening campus-community partnerships. Meant to capitalize on students’ interests, the fellowships allow students to explore work in the public sector while applying their academic studies to real-life problems at the local level.

Cooke Environmental, Logan Environmental, Forest Foundation/Strong–Gault, and Psi Upsilon Environmental Fellows work with organizations addressing issues related to the environment at the local level, and McKeen Community and Denning Fellows work with organizations addressing issues of social/civic concern. Broadening their placement experience, fellows participate in an orientation to the program and converse regularly with other fellows and staff to identify ways to connect their summer work with their academic program and to explore common themes among participating agencies that might be addressed in the future.

Environmental Studies

**Bowdoin College Community Service Work Study Program**, **the Cooke Environmental Research Fellowship**, **the Forest Foundation**, **the Kappa Psi Upsilon Environmental Studies Fund**, **the Logan Environmental Studies Fund**, and **the Strong–Gault Social Advancement Internship**.
Mariene Abson '17
The Mitchell Institute

"My experience at the Mitchell Institute allowed me to explore my interest in the state of access to higher education in Maine and increase my area of focus to place. I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to work with such a dedicated staff, interact with motivated Maine students, analyze state-wide data, and learn a lot of Maine geography along the way."

Julian Andrews '17
ArVan

"My experience at ArVan has been a wild, creative, incredible experience. I've loved working with the kids at programs, and learning more about the inner workings of nonprofit organizations. My day-to-day work varied and each program presented unique challenges, but the thread of creativity, collaboration, and positive energy wove it all together."

Julie Berkman-Hill '17
Town of Topsham

"This opportunity has given me much respect for the intricacies of local government and how planners must connect the current interests of landowners, developers and the developer of long-term vision. Walking the streets of Topsham, meeting with committees, and using GIS, I have gained useful professional skills, gotten to know local community members, and have come to appreciate how the small details of zoning and planning really contribute to a sense of place."

Dana Bloch '17
Maine Coastal Program

"The experience at MCP was fascinating because it gave me the chance to work as an intermediary between immigration authorities and immigrants themselves. This role lends a unique perspective to learning how immigration law works in the U.S., and perhaps more importantly, understanding how it affects new Mainers."

Madeline Cole '16
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project

"My experience at ILAP was fascinating because it gave me the chance to work with MCMI, a program geared towards gaining an understanding of the great resource that is the Gulf of Maine, has been an incredible experience. I have learned basic GIS. I find the privilege of spending most days on a boat, observing animals, and having realized that the complexity of the ocean is far beyond our understanding and it is thus exceptionally beautiful."

Ella Driscoll '17
Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust

"I have been ever-so-humbled to have received funding to spend my time working with the exceptional staff at the WLT. While collecting data on our regional food system, attending food council meetings, and making personal connections with local farmers and restaurant owners, I have been humbled by the number of individuals who are thrilled to collaborate with me on my project. The local food movement is vibrant and lively. I could not be more excited to see where my work this summer will take me."

Brooke Goddard '17
Bicycle Coalition of Maine

"My fellowship with the BCM was a hopeful and energizing experience because I saw that biking is a catalyst for individual lifestyle change and community rejuvenation, while also being sustainable and accessible to all. My experience was also valuable in that it required me to step outside of my comfort zone. I've learned a lot from the experience, and gained a new hobby too!"

Allison Haggard '17
Maine Center for Economic Policy

"It was valuable to see how the abstract economic concepts I've learned in class actually manifest themselves in the real world, and the ways in which they can be utilized to improve the lives of Mainers. I really enjoyed learning how state government functions from the perspective of a nonprofit advocacy group."

Calvin Henry '16
Bath Housing Authority

"My fellowship at BHA allowed me to learn about the people who live in public housing and the challenges they face. Conversations with residents showed me ways in which external circumstances interact with personal variables to shape the quality of life for individuals. I enjoyed listening to many kind and interesting people, and I am grateful for increased awareness of the impact of complex personal stories on housing choices and access."

Ryan Herrman '17
Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program

"The level of my direct involvement with clients this summer gave me a personal insight into the lives of low-income families living right outside our campus, an experience I found both enlightening and rare. This fellowship was inspiring, highlighting the prevalence of food insecurity and poverty among people from all walks of life. The collective determination of the leaders of MCCHPP and other food assistance providers assures me that the plight of food insecurity is being addressed more and more everyday."

Eliza Huber-Weiss '17
Cookie Environmental Fellow

"Cooking the food system within Aroostook County allowed me to hone my skills in GIS and research, and also pushed me to immerse myself in the culture of The County, an experience that provoked new questions. I met incredible people that helped me see the issues from multiple angles, which helped me realize and appreciate the complexity of food systems and the work it takes to create a sustainable one."

James Jelin '16
Maine Center for Economic Policy

"My short ten weeks at MECEP have taught me more about policy than I thought possible. From studying and advocating for the recently updated overtime regulations to writing about the nuances of the Affordable Care Act, the support of their intelligent and delightful team has given me the skills to understand the intricacies of government and the confidence to trust my own research in the coming years."

Bridget Kranz '16
Peabody Street

"This summer at Peabody Street working with the Maine Hunger Initiative has been both challenging and fulfilling. I worked directly with clients through the soup kitchen and indirectly through advocacy work and researching best practices to be implemented at the community and state level. I am incredibly grateful for my time at MSB and for all the inspiring, dedicated people that have strengthened my passion for and understanding of solutions to food insecurity."

Max Miao '17
The Nature Conservancy

"Working at TNC this summer has allowed me to see what it would be like working in a global conservation organization full-time. I really enjoyed the variety of projects and field work I participated in and the impact of my work. I'm excited to return to school with TNC's dedicated and passionate staff and I felt that even during my short time at TNC I was already making a difference."

Marysal Newton '17
Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program

"I have had the unique opportunity to gain first hand experience of the daily operations at a Federally Qualified Health Center while becoming better informed of America’s domestic health care needs. The staff at Maine Migrant has inspired me with their level of consistency for their patients and their passion for providing excellent culturally competent care to migrant workers in Maine."

Ali Ragan '16
Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine

"This fellowship with the Least Term Project opened my eyes to the legal, economic, and environmental aspects that go into protecting an endangered species. I was inspired by my coworkers’ dedication to the cause and had so much fun and gained so much experience working alongside them. Not only did I learn an incredible amount about birds, but also how to effectively engage the public sector and communicate with many different types of people."