SUMMER 2023 GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP
INFORMATION SESSION

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APPLICATION PROCESS: CONGRESS

- Our Website: gca.columbia.edu
  - I Want To --> Become a Congressional Intern
- Every Member of Congress and Committee offers internships for college students and information about the internships can be found on their websites
- There is no one standard application
- Application requirements vary between members, as do deadlines (usually in March)
  - Resume
  - Cover Letter
  - Writing Sample
  - References
- Many Congressional Internships are now paid, with stipends up to $2k/month
APPLICATION PROCESS: WHITE HOUSE

- Being Offered Again!! Information for Summer Session posted in December
- Resume, Cover Letter, Recommendation Letters
- $750/week for full-time and $375/week for part-time internships
- Housing Not Provided
- Will be able to rank which departments you want to work in on the application (eg. Public Engagement, Scheduling, etc.)
- More information here
APPLICATION PROCESS: STATE & LOCAL

- 9 city agencies offering summer internships - info found on the DCAS website
- 51 city council seats with many offices offering internships
- State internships are offered through the Department of Civil Service with options across the state including Albany, New York City, Buffalo, Syracuse, Watertown, and Utica
- State Assembly and Senate members also offer internships
DECIDING WHERE TO APPLY

- 535 members plus 37 standing committees with additional sub-, joint, and select committees
- Invest the time upfront to identify your policy interest and political priorities
- Challenging to align your interests with MoC that work on those topics
  - Start by looking at committee assignments or the committees themselves
- Good options to also look at are your hometown representation and NYC members
  - Nadler
  - Espaillat
  - Gillibrand
  - Schumer
DISTRICT OFFICE INTERNSHIPS

- If you choose to work locally, either in NYC or at home, you can also look into district offices.
- DC offices focus more on legislative process and responding on policy.
- District offices focus on constituent relations and local district challenges.
WHAT DO YOU DO DURING A CONGRESSIONAL INTERNSHIP?

- DC Office: Answer phones, give tours, write constituent correspondence, research for legislative staff, attend briefings, attend receptions, assist on press releases and social media
- District Office: Research for constituent casework, answer phones, plan community events
HOW CAN I AFFORD THIS?

• Ensure the internship is paid
• Local University Internship Housing Programs (GWU, Georgetown, American, Catholic U)
• WISH (Washington Intern Student Housing)
• Craigslist
• GCA Internship Stipend Program
  ○ Modest, and amount depends on applicant pool
  ○ PELL eligible priority
  ○ DC based internships over summer only
  ○ Deadline 3/17/2023