ASM-AIBS Graduate Student Public Policy Internship

The American Society of Mammalogists (ASM) and the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) are pleased to announce the availability of an internship in the Washington, DC. AIBS Public Policy Office. The internship is open to ASM members who are currently enrolled in a graduate program or who have completed a graduate degree no more than one semester prior to the starting date of the internship, and who are engaged in research that will contribute to our understanding and conservation of mammals. The internship is for 3 months during fall 2011, and carries a generous monthly stipend of $2000. Selection criteria include demonstrated interest in public policy process, strong communications skills, and excellent academic record.

The AIBS Public Policy Office focuses on science and science education public policy (e.g., federal R & D funding policy). Additional information about ASM and AIBS can be found on their respective websites (www.mammalsociety.org, www.aibs.org).

The ASM-AIBS Public Policy Internship is an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in public policy at the national level. By working with the AIBS Public Policy Office, the intern will learn how scientific societies, non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), executive branch agencies (e.g., NSF, USGS), and the legislative branch interact to craft science policy. Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Attending science coalition meetings, congressional and agency briefings, hearings, press briefings and other relevant events;
- Assisting with tracking and analysis of relevant issues;
- Assisting with planning Capitol Hill briefings or press events; and
- Preparing a written report on the internship experience.
- Serving as the ASM representative to AIBS Council.
Application requirements:

Letter of application describing applicant’s interest in science policy issues and detailing how this fellowship would enhance his/her professional goals. Applicant should include the names of two individuals other than their advisor from whom recommendations can be requested. These individuals should be able to address the candidate’s leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills.

A two-page resume that demonstrates the applicant’s leadership and communication experience. It should include the following items: education (including relevant law or policy courses), work experience, honors and awards, memberships, and publications.

A statement describing the importance of federal support for fundamental mammalian research (750 words maximum). The statement should draw on the applicant’s own experience and/or research area, and should illustrate how the applicant would try to convince his/her own congressional delegation to support federal research funding programs/agencies.

A letter of support/recommendation from academic advisor.

Copies of transcripts from each college or university from which applicant received a degree and/or is currently enrolled. If selected, official transcripts may be required.

Applicants are not required to be ASM members at the time of application but, if selected, must join the Society prior to starting the internship. The intern is expected to present a poster summarizing the internship experience at the June 2012 ASM Annual Meeting.

All application materials must be received by 1 May 2011 and should be sent to Dr. Alicia V. Linzey, Evaluation Committee Chair, 148 Double Brook Dr., Weaverville, NC 28787. Questions about the award can be addressed to Dr. Linzey at avlinzey@frontier.com.