



PUBLIC SERVICE & OUTREACH STUDENT SCHOLARS PROGRAM

SUPPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND OUTREACH

2017-2018 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The **Public Service & Outreach Student Scholars** program provides the opportunity for a select cohort of undergraduate students to explore and engage with the University of Georgia’s public service and outreach (PSO) mission. The Student Scholars program is not a service organization per se, but rather an opportunity to learn how UGA applies expertise across the state to develop leaders, create jobs and address critical challenges in Georgia and beyond. Supported by the Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach, this year-long program is intended to provide deeper understanding of PSO’s purpose, breadth, and depth through supervised service experiences with PSO and communities, to help students link their public service experiences with their career and educational goals, and to create a community of student scholars who understand the role of public service and outreach in Georgia and more broadly.

The program was first established in Spring 2011. For the 2017-18 program year, a cohort of up to 20 PSO Student Scholars will be selected through a competitive application process.

Program Overview

Fall Semester 2017	Spring Semester 2018	Summer-Fall 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cohort “course” provides broad understanding of PSO history, goals, activities, and national context; meets Fridays 12:20-2:15. ○ Sessions include site visits to PSO units, thematic meetings, service-learning activity, and guest lectures by PSO faculty. ○ Students take part in critical reflection activities, blogging. ○ Fall retreat (Aug. 18-20) at Rock Eagle & trip to Marine Extension (Oct. 6-8). ○ Students begin some applied work with assigned PSO unit by end of semester (shadowing mentor, learning about unit). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 150-hour internship with a Public Service & Outreach unit, supervised by a designated PSO faculty mentor. ○ Usually includes “deliverable” for PSO unit (applied research project, intensive outreach project, program materials, etc.). ○ Cohort group meets occasionally throughout semester. ○ Program participants invited to take part in other events and activities scheduled collaboratively, as well as occasional “ambassadorial” opportunities representing PSO. ○ Participants recognized during Honors Week, evaluate program, and present project deliverables at a Showcase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On completion of program, Scholars invited to develop a proposal for a full- or part-time, intensive summer or fall internship with a PSO unit (e.g., an applied research project, or other extended work on a PSO project). ○ Summer work could be located outside of Athens (e.g., at Marine Extension, an Archway community, etc.). ○ Competitive selection. ○ Pay/stipend, plus travel, expenses and project budget as necessary.

Cohort Meetings and Activities

The Public Service & Outreach Student Scholars are expected to take part in all of the following:

- Cohort meetings during Fall Semester most **Fridays from 12:20-2:15 p.m.** focusing on understanding the breadth, scope, and activities of Public Service & Outreach.
- Scholars Retreats and Events: Fall Retreat at Rock Eagle (Aug. 18-20); a UGA Marine Extension/Skidaway Island/Archway retreat during Fall semester (Oct. 6-8); and other special events to be scheduled with participants. All travel, meals, and lodging costs for participants will be provided.



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- 150 hours (ca. 10 hours per week) of direct internship work with a PSO unit during Spring Semester, generally including a final internship project (e.g., article, report, contract, etc.) determined in coordination with the PSO faculty mentor.
- Participation in assessment and feedback on the program, including program publicity and social networking.

Spring PSO Internships

Each Scholar will be selected by one of the following PSO units for a 150-hour internship during Spring 2018. A wide range of majors and interests are desired, and many units can successfully use the skills and interests of students for both working with the public and internally; some possibilities include:

- *The Archway Partnership* connects higher education resources to community-identified priorities in eight locations around Georgia.* Past interns have worked on outreach and research projects with Archway communities relating to health, education, public relations, and more.
- *The Carl Vinson Institute of Government* provides assistance and training to state and local government officials. Past interns have done applied research and outreach with the International Center, fiscal notes, GIS databases with ITOS, public finance, and more.
- *The J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development* focuses on focus on leadership development to implement sustainable solutions to community challenges. Past interns have worked with Peer Court, youth leadership programs, program evaluation, and more.
- *Marine Extension Service* and *Georgia Sea Grant* carry out coastal-based applied research, education, outreach and training.* Past interns have helped with communications/public relations, coastal policy and outreach, film festivals, and applied research.
- *The Office of Service-Learning* fosters the integration of relevant service addressing critical community needs into academic courses campus-wide. Past interns have helped with program administration, materials development, and Campus Kitchen and Experience UGA initiatives.
- *The Small Business Development Center* supports business development, training, and applied research. Past interns have done job shadowing, feedback on business plans, and assisted with trainings.
- *The State Botanical Garden of Georgia* is a public garden that provides environmental education, applied research, and outreach. Past interns have helped with a range of conservation work, propagation, educational programs, and applied research activities.
- *The University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education & Hotel* provides continuing education for personal and professional development as well as hotel, dining and conference center services. Past interns have been involved with statewide youth competitions, management and operations, and customer service initiatives.

Some internships (marked * above) could include occasional travel outside Athens.

See more about these units and their activities at <http://outreach.uga.edu>.

See more about student activities at <http://psostudentscholars.wordpress.com>.



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Optional Summer/Fall Internships

Upon completion of the program, Scholars will be invited to propose a **summer outreach, research or internship project** in conjunction with a PSO unit (locally or at other locations where units are engaged). These are full- or part-time, for some or all of the summer, and funding for travel or other expenses can also be requested. Some options for Fall 2018 may also be available, depending on unit needs. Typically, 5-8 projects are funded each year.

Recognition

Students selected as Scholars will receive recognition at the Public Service and Outreach annual meeting during Honors Week in April. Scholars are also occasionally invited to represent UGA and PSO as “ambassadors” at special events, on and off campus.

Eligibility

The Public Service & Outreach Student Scholars program is open to any UGA undergraduate student in good standing with a 3.0 or higher GPA who has completed at least a year of university study prior to Fall Semester 2017.

Application Guidelines

Interested students should submit:

- the completed application form,
- a current résumé,
- one faculty reference form (sent by the faculty directly to the Office of Service-Learning),
- an official transcript (sent by the Registrar's Office to the Office of Service-Learning, or electronically to Dr. Matthews at pmatthew@uga.edu), and
- a 250-500 word statement explaining 1) how participation in the PSO Student Scholars program would enhance your career and academic goals, and 2) your preference for possible internship placement, and why.

*Application deadline is **Friday, March 31, 2017**. Program finalists will be interviewed in April, with final notification prior to the end of the semester.*

Questions?

Contact OSL Associate Director, Dr. Paul Matthews, pmatthew@uga.edu, 706-542-0892.

Application forms and information are linked from the Public Service & Outreach page at <http://outreach.uga.edu> and can also be accessed at www.servicelearning.uga.edu/psso-student-scholars/ or through the UGA Involvement Network at <https://uga.collegiatelink.net/organization/PSOScholars>.