UC Global Food Initiative Application
2020-2021

Eligibility: UCSD Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Level Students
Deadline to submit: May 22nd, 2020
Submit a PDF by email to: scholarships@ucsd.edu

The overarching goal of the UC President Janet Napolitano’s Global Food Initiative (GFI) is to harness the resources of the University of California—research, people, expertise, and tradition of public service—to put the world on a pathway to feed itself in ways that are nutritious and sustainable. The President’s Global Food Initiative Student Ambassador Program was created to engage students in this critical effort.

The program provides research funds for two student research fellows with $3,000 that will be disbursed quarterly (1/3 per quarter). These students will work under the direction of Dr. Keith Pezzoli, faculty member in the Dept of Urban Studies and Planning; and Director of the Bioregional Center for Sustainability Science, Planning and Design. There are opportunities for the two student recipients to be engaged in various aspects of this research. (see UCSD GFI Research Opportunities below).

In addition to the two selected GFI Fellows, a student engagement campus representative will be selected to lead student engagement and communication efforts for the Global Food Initiative. This Student Ambassador will be expected to share their student voice, report on student engagement activities, and collaborate with GFI working group leaders. The UC San Diego Student Ambassador will receive a $3,000 scholarship and an additional $500 budget for campus programming.

Student Ambassador Responsibilities:

- Promote student awareness of the Global Food Initiative and student fellowship projects (e.g., Disseminate information across campus through the UCSD GFI social media accounts, contribute to the GFI student engagement blog, etc.)
- Network and help assist with publicizing campus events related to GFI activities
- Infuse, where appropriate, GFI branding into campus events, including campus activities
- Support GFI Working Groups
- Meetings: Participate in monthly Ambassador system-wide conference calls, attend GFI leadership meetings, actively participate in working groups and subcommittee meetings, meet with GFI Fellows and leaders on campus to learn about to support their efforts through engagement
- Reporting: Submit quarterly updates, share status of engagement efforts, provide student feedback and communicate campus needs and opportunities, and advancing campus-based student GFI engagement.

Both the ambassador and fellows must participate in a UC Systemwide virtual orientation on July 7, 2020 and a Spring field trip in 2021 (TBD). An additional leadership retreat for GFI Student Ambassadors November 13-15, 2020 is also required. A closing symposium and poster presentation will be held in conjunction with the CA Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC) in July 2021. Additional activities may include quarterly conference calls, attendance at meetings of GFI leadership and participation in GFI-related activities in support of the initiative. Fellows and ambassadors are expected to be in good academic standing, remain registered during the award period, and spend approximately 8 hours a week during the instruction period each quarter—Fall 2020 through Spring 2021. There is no academic credit associated with this award.

To apply for the fellowship or ambassador position, please complete this form, save it as a PDF (use the following naming convention: lastname_firstname_GFI_2020.pdf), and email it to scholarships@ucsd.edu
UC San Diego GFI Research Project Possibilities

When applying to the UC San Diego Global Food Initiative Fellowship/Internship, it is best to have a good idea of what you will work on as a GFI Fellow if you are selected. There are several options to choose from when considering potential GFI projects—see these options below:

1. **Independent Research Projects**

If you are currently working on a research project for your major or your graduate degree program and that project falls in line with the **UC Global Food Initiative**’s goals, you can potentially continue that work as a GFI Fellow. In the text box for question #1 above, be sure to explain your project and how it can contribute to the Global Food Initiative at UC San Diego.

2. **Ongoing Research Projects**

As a GFI Fellow, you have the opportunity to link up with ongoing UC GFI projects. See the [UC GFI organization webpage](#) to learn more about GFI topic areas, working groups, and systemwide engagement. Be sure to investigate options already in-progress at UC San Diego. Some of these include the Engaged thru Quality University Community Infrastructure for Participatory Research and Popular Education (“Getting Neighborhoods EQUIPPED”), and the Communication, Literacy and Education for Agricultural Research (CLEAR) working groups. There is also the possibility to work on a research project in collaboration with the Ocean View Growing Grounds, a community garden in southeastern San Diego managed by the **Global Action Research Center (Global ARC)**, in partnership with the **UC San Diego Bioregional Center for Sustainability Science, Planning and Design**.

3. **Internships**

Finally, there is the possibility for you to serve as an intern at the Ocean View Growing Grounds (OVGG) or **UCSD Roger’s Urban Farmlab** as a GFI Fellow. In this option, you will negotiate the nature of the internship with the managing entities—the **Global Action Research Center (Global ARC)** in the case of OVGG, and Zack Osborn and the **UCSD Bioregional Center** in the case of Roger’s Farm. This internship will depend on the needs of the farm, but could take the form of assisting the Global ARC in building a Backyard Growers’ Network, helping build the infrastructure of OVGG, or aiding in the evaluation and mapping of the UCSD treescape part of the Triton Tree Trust project (especially if the candidate has GIS experience).

**Deliverables and Project Expectations**

Ultimately, what project you devote your energies to is up to you and will be decided in the initial stages. Due to Covid-19 your project MUST be compatible with being live-streamed or presented remotely, and a Learning Agreement will be negotiated with the UCSD GFI Ambassador and an assigned UC GFI mentor. This Learning Agreement will include what deliverables will be expected by the end of the fellowship/internship experience in Spring 2020 and how to make this research work with potential Covid restrictions. These deliverables include options such as a report, a presentation, or a blog, for example.
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First Name: ___________________________    Last Name: ___________________________

UCSD PID: ___________________________

Email Address: ______________________@ucsd.edu

Current UCSD Student Level:

☐ Undergraduate Student, Expected Graduation Year: ________________
☐ Masters Student
☐ Ph.D. Student
☐ Other: ___________________________

Major Field of Study/Graduate Program: _____________________________________________

Are you applying to be a Research Fellow or Ambassador? _______________________________

Professional Reference/Potential Research Mentor: Please supply the name and contact information of a UCSD faculty member who can serve as a professional reference. There is no need for your reference to provide a letter. Reviewers will contact them as needed.

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Title: ___________________________________________________________________

UCSD Department or Program Affiliation: ___________________________________________

Email Address: ______________________@ucsd.edu

Work Phone Number: ___________________________

Brief statement of how you know your reference (i.e., professor in multiple classes, research advisor, etc.)

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
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1. Describe your interests, skills, abilities, and experience in research and leadership related to this award.
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2. Provide your educational and career objectives and how selection for this fellowship will further your goals.
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(Optional) Please provide any additional information that would support your application for this award.

I hereby give my permission for the selection committee to access my academic records collected and maintained by UC San Diego.

Electronic Signature  (Type Full Name)                     Date
RESEARCH AGENDA
Critically analyze and evaluate urban agriculture (including community gardens, urban farms, food forests, aquaculture, and animal husbandry) in low income and underserved neighborhoods. Do so from diverse conceptual perspectives, including biological, geographic, spatial, energy, ecological, economic, socio-cultural, health, legal-institutional and political. Contribute to sustainability science and bioregional theory. Explain root causes of food disparities while opening new frontiers in transdisciplinary research and knowledge networking focused on coupled natural--human systems, social innovation, communication, learning, and the democratization of science and technology.

ACTION AGENDA
Establish a comparative, multicampus research program within the UC system dedicated to critically examining urban agriculture's potential to increase food security and food justice. Critique conditions that are reproducing food disparities locally and globally while drawing attention (in academic, public policy and planning arenas) to alternatives that diminish food disparities. Build trusted community-- university relationships that are culturally sensitive, participatory, authentically reciprocal and attuned to how race, class, gender, ethnicity and power interact in food systems. Create educational and training curriculum in support of sustainable food systems planning and design.

Research + Action Goals and Outcomes

1. Communication supports equitable knowledge production, sharing and awareness (community leaders, local residents and researchers co-create narratives, stories, and multimedia that cultivates healthy places, healthy people and rooted democracy).

2. Community Gardens and Food Forests in Southeastern San Diego and City Heights deliver cumulatively impactful social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits (more people well nourished, healthy soil created, food disparities and nature-deficit disorder diminished).

3. Edible Plant Sampling and Analysis Program addresses community concerns about health (residents and community organizations gain access to UC science; enabling them to deal with concerns about growing fruits and vegetables on land that may be contaminated).

4. Green Infrastructure projects demonstrate the power of biotic approaches (e.g., urban forests, vegetation, landscape ecology) to improve food-energy-water security and soil in climate friendly ways. (community gardens and food forests function as living labs and provide useful data and knowledge about vital vegetation-soil-invertebrate and microbiome interactions).

5. Open Access Geographic Information Science and data integration/visualization technologies strengthen participatory planning and governance (local leaders, researchers and community organizations collectively gain analytical and mapping capability to advance the common good).

6. Informal food markets generate local micro-entrepreneurship (food sector generates safe, legally sanctioned livelihood opportunities).