Volunteer for Credit Internship Opportunity # 1

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) addresses many challenges facing the nation through exemplary agricultural science. NIFA works with the best and brightest scientists at universities and colleges throughout the United States and around the world to find innovative solutions to issues related to agriculture, food, the environment, and communities.

NIFA is looking for highly-skilled student interns who are passionate about agriculture and how research, education and extension can solve some of society’s most pressing challenges, such as global food security, food safety, sustainable bioenergy, climate change, water, and childhood obesity prevention. As an intern, you’ll have the opportunity to be a part of a federal agency that is investing in science that will help secure our future as a nation.

Position with: NIFA’s USDA Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food (KYF2) Working Group

Description of the internship opportunity:
The intern will compile information on extension and education programs, supported by NIFA, that contribute to the nation's local and regional food systems. This information would be shared with stakeholders nationwide through the USDA Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food KYF2Compass: (www.usda.gov/kyfcompass). The KYF2 Compass is a map of federal investments in local and regional food systems that are updated regularly. The map helps the public see the breadth of support available for local food work through federal programs. It has been a goal of the group to add extension and education activities related to local food systems to enable a more comprehensive understanding of the breadth of work being done in this area across the nation.

Specifically, the intern would gather information from land grant institutions through direct contact and through review of their websites, to catalog their extension and education related efforts to build local and regional food systems. This information would be displayed as a point on the map for each Land Grant University that is willing to supply data. Additional information would be displayed in a pop-up box regarding local food-related activities, resources or programs, as well as points of contact and URLs so that the public can learn more about the work being done at that institution.

This internship is a great opportunity for someone with an interest in local and regional food systems who is familiar with the land grant university extension system. Data compilation and data management skills, the ability to work methodically and independently, the ability to condense information into short, informative segments for the map, and the ability to work with a team are all highly valued.

Learn more about NIFA’s work at www.nifa.usda.gov or on Twitter: @usda_nifa

For more information or to obtain an application packet contact:

Dwane Jones at dwane.jones@udc.edu or (202) 274-7182