PURPOSE OF SMITHSONIAN FACILITIES INTERNSHIPS AT THE SMITHSONIAN

The primary purposes of the Smithsonian Facilities (SF), Office of Planning, Design and Construction (OPDC) Construction Manager internship is to provide a practical learning experience in the administration, management and execution of design and construction contracts for various Museums. Expected knowledge and skills will vary according to the specific area of study within the discipline of design and construction administration, academic requirements of the university, and professional goals of individual students.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Students will learn about oversight, management and administration of design and construction contracts in support of the capital improvement and maintenance projects in furtherance of SF’s mission by assisting senior and management level staff.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students will engage in activities which contribute to the smooth functioning of the specific internship experience. Depending on the internship experience, students will be expected to demonstrate skills among the following: oral and written communication, leadership, initiative, and self-monitoring. Skill and knowledge in contract management, plan review, field visit and evaluation of constructability are expectations of the position.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisor will provide students with assignments and activities which will provide the opportunity for the student to learn about, and participate in a professional capacity in the management of design and construction projects. Supervisor is also responsible for identifying the expectations of the project and the provision of opportunities to participate in plan review, field investigations, review meetings, design and construction contract administration procedures, and the provision of resources, time, and support to facilitate the successful completion of the assignments.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

1. Written report of the experience gained from the internship
2. Written report of any recommendations and process improvements or leveraging of new technologies to improve current practice of design and construction administration procedures.
3. Presentation to SF senior staff of final project (including process used, results obtained, benefits to SF and suggested follow-on work)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Design and construction contract administration.
2. Student will learn components of field investigations as well as how to conduct specific area investigations.
3. Student will learn how to review schematic drawings, contract document and specifications and how these documents compare to as built conditions.

Student must be willing / able to work in a non-office setting.

Student must be able to lift 40 pounds and perform work that requires bending, squatting, stooping and climbing ladders.

Visit our website for more information. | E-Mail: SFinternship@si.edu