

From: [Rufa N Pazyuk](#)
To: [coe-cee-grad-students Sympa List](#)
Subject: CEE Grad Newsletter
Date: Friday, August 7, 2020 2:29:43 PM
Attachments: [TA Orientation \(TAO\).pdf](#)

Hello Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Students,

Can you believe it is already August?!! Me either! I hope you all are safe and well. Please see the announcements below:

[CEE Department Information and Announcements](#)

- [Dept. DEI Events](#)

[Awards and Fellowships](#)

- [STEM Solutions in Public Policy Award](#)
- [2021 Schmidt Science Fellowship](#)
- [“Call for Nominations” for the 2021 College of Engineering Graduate Student Awards](#)

[TA Orientation, TA Workshops, and GSR Position](#)

- [TA Orientation \(TAO\)](#)
 - [Developing a Statement of Teaching Philosophy for Academic Job Applications](#)
 - [GSR Position in the Tobacco Grant Program Evaluation \(TGPE\) Team](#)
-

CEE Department Information and Announcements

Dept. DEI Events

Previous Email

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Dear CEE Community,

The following events related to diversity, equity, and inclusion will take place over the next week.

Please consider joining one or more of these events.

CEE Events

DEI Spaces (Tuesday August 11, 10 to 11 am): This month's DEI Space will discuss ideas for supportive spaces for engineering students from underrepresented races and ethnicities in engineering. The goal of the session is for engineering students of color to share experiences within engineering and discuss ideas for supportive structures/programs. For example, what student organizations exist to support students from minoritized races and ethnicities and what audiences/needs do they serve? Is there a desire among students for a graduate student organization for BIPOC students?

Please attend to learn about or share resources that you have found helpful, and to brainstorm new ideas. The session will be co-facilitated by CEE graduate student Aisha Faruqi and CEE Assoc. Prof. of Teaching Colleen Bronner. All college of engineering undergraduate and graduate students are

welcome.

Zoom: <https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/92559049350?pwd=ZzhoS29wUU1HbUZ2UzRGMVRCa1dkZz09>

[Full Schedule of CEE DEI Events](#)

Campus Events

[UC Davis Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Events](#)

Other

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, you would like to share with the department's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee you may [contact a committee member directly](#) or respond to [our questionnaire](#). Questionnaire responses are anonymous unless you choose to identify yourself.

We have started a [list of social justice resources](#) for the department. If you have recommendations, please share through [our questionnaire](#).

Please email Prof. Colleen Bronner (cebronner@ucdavis.edu) if you have any questions about any of the above events. Thank you to the members of the CEE DEI committee (Aisha Faruqi, Kanotha Kamau-Devers, Laura Hernandez-Bassal, Lauren Worrell, Fatima Garcia, Alejandro Martinez, John Harvey, Alissa Kendall, and Michele Barbato for planning the CEE events.

With gratitude and hope,
Colleen

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Awards and Fellowships

STEM Solutions in Public Policy Award

UC Center Sacramento is pleased to announce the STEM Solutions in Public Policy Award. This award will recognize one or more outstanding proposals for [new California legislation](#) from UC STEM graduate students. The winner(s) will receive \$1,000 for research support and -- should their bill advance through the legislative process -- travel expenses covering a trip to Sacramento to convene with Legislators and/or legislative staff.

Submissions will be accepted until midnight Pacific time on October 23rd, 2020 and applicants will be notified of their status in March 2021. Further information is available at [UCCS STEM Solutions](#) or on the UCCS website (uccs.ucdavis.edu).

2021 Schmidt Science Fellowship

This is specifically for graduate students entering their final PhD year and provides \$100,000 during their first postdoctoral year. Details may be found below:

Important deadlines:

August 13, 2020 – Pre-applications due to Office of Graduate Studies

September 8, 2020 – Notifications sent to all applicants, 3 institutional nominees chosen
September 14-30, 2020 – Nominated candidates will submit basic personal information to sponsor
November 30, 2020 – Final completed application due to sponsor

Nominations are being accepted for the 2021 Schmidt Science Fellowship from our most outstanding, intellectually first-rate PhD students who have conducted their graduate degree in the natural sciences (Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth Sciences), Engineering, Mathematics, or Computing – and all sub-disciplines therein. Candidates must have a keen interest in undertaking an interdisciplinary research pivot during a postdoctoral placement and to have completed, or be expected to complete, all the requirements for their PhD between April 30, 2020 and September 30, 2021. Fellows are expected to combine scientific curiosity with extraordinary academic achievement. They should demonstrate a collaborative spirit and have the ambition to make a lasting impact in science and in society, conducting research and pursuing knowledge that will benefit the world.

Fellows receive a stipend of \$100,000 and are supported by the Program to undertake a full-time, postdoctoral study for at least one year in a world-leading laboratory in a field different from their existing area of expertise. Fellows also spend five weeks during their fellowship year at four residential meetings around the globe where they receive bespoke training to help them become the next generation of science leaders. In these meetings the fellows are introduced to new research ideas, techniques and questions, they are exposed to a wide-range of cutting-edge science, leading thinkers and institutions, and they receive tailored training in science communication, leadership and, how to facilitate interdisciplinary research. Throughout the Fellowship year Fellows receive regular scientific and professional mentoring from a member of our Academic Council and they continue to have access to this support after their Fellowship is complete to support their professional development further.

Eligibility

- Graduate degree in the natural sciences (Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth Sciences), Engineering, Mathematics, or Computing – and all sub-disciplines therein
- Completion or expected completion of the PhD in one of these fields between April 30, 2020 and September 30, 2021 (the year preceding the fellowship)
- Be available for the entire period of the program, from July 2021 to July 2022, including attendance at each Global Meeting (which may be conducted virtually depending on the circumstances)

To Submit a Pre-Application to Office of Graduate Studies:

Please submit the below materials as a single PDF to Amineh Helalian (ahelalian@ucdavis.edu) by **5:00pm on August 13, 2020.**

Please note that the below materials are only for the internal nomination process. If selected as a UC Davis nominee, the final application package will be more comprehensive.

- Current CV with details of relevant publications or research
- 2 page personal statement on why you are interested in the program and what you hope to achieve during and after it. Make sure to address the criteria the sponsor will be using for final selection (found at <https://schmidtsciencefellows.org/fellows/>) and what your plans are for

pivoting your research during the fellowship period.

Pre-applications will be reviewed and the selected institutional applicants will be notified no later than September 8, 2020. Please contact Amineh Helalian if you have any questions about the pre-application process. For further information about the Schmidt Science Fellows Program, please visit their website, <https://schmidtsciencefellows.org/>

“Call for Nominations” for the 2021 College of Engineering Graduate Student Awards

The goal of the award is to recognize a COE graduate student who has demonstrated exemplary leadership in promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion. The graduate student who is selected will receive an award of \$500. Self-nominations and departmentally-sponsored nominations are allowed. Nominations are due **October 1, 2020**. To learn more, please visit: <https://ucdavis.app.box.com/s/rkmeshv8xup1lpjlufbg0ot0gqk7p3ki>

TA Orientation, TA Workshops, and GSR Position

TA Orientation (TAO) (Attached)

The campus-wide TA Orientation (TAO) will be offered in September 2020. All TAs who have not yet attended the UC Davis TA Orientation are *required* by the UC Office of the President and UC Davis Graduate Studies to attend, even if they have taught previously. New TAs must participate in the Fall TA Orientation on either **Monday, September 28th** or **Tuesday, September 29th, 2020**, *depending on the date assigned to their program*. Please register as soon as possible, the registration deadline is September 11th. To learn more and register, please visit <https://cee.ucdavis.edu/tao> or see the attached PDF.

Developing a Statement of Teaching Philosophy for Academic Job Applications

Why do you teach? How do you teach? How do you measure your effectiveness? Most academic job applications require applicants to address these questions in a Statement of Teaching Philosophy (SoTP). Developing a SoTP can help you clarify your goals as an educator and reflect on how you teach. This workshop will provide you with resources to develop a compelling statement that will make you a more competitive job applicant. To register or see more online workshops, please visit: <https://cee.ucdavis.edu/events/developing-statement-teaching-philosophy-academic-job-applications-1>

GSR Position in the Tobacco Grant Program Evaluation (TGPE) Team

50% time GSR/editor available beginning September 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2021. The Tobacco Grant Program Evaluation (TGPE) team analyzes the expenditures and activities of approximately 150 grantees funded to reduce access to tobacco products by California youth and is funded by a contract with the California Department of Justice (CDOJ). The team consists of two professors, a staff researcher, and a GSR/data analyst.

GSR duties:

1. Report production: Lead the production of the semi-annual reports, including coordinating

with data analyst to produce results in a timely manner; working with multiple report authors; copyediting and producing the final versions of the report; incorporate changes from funding agency and others. As needed, format scientific manuscripts for publications, conference posters, and short reports for the funder and other audiences.

2. Project management: With the Principal Investigator (PI), track the scope of work and update and project team regularly on progress; attend bi-monthly team meetings on Zoom.
3. Data inventory: Manage data deliveries from the funding agency and organize them on a server so that all team members can access them.
4. Limited data entry duties.

Required skills:

- Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office suite, especially Excel and Powerpoint.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

Preferred skills:

- Report writing experience or experience in journalism.
- Interest in or background in program evaluation.

This position pays tuition, but not the professional fee, and a salary. Hours are flexible, with attention to project deadlines, and location is remote for now. To apply, send brief e-mail describing your qualifications, a relevant writing sample, and a resume to Dr. Cassady (dlcassady@ucdavis.edu)

by 5pm on August 19th.