UC Irvine Public Policy Prep (P3)

Preparing STEM Scientists for Advocacy & Careers in Public Policy

Program Launch
Featuring: Alzheimer’s OC
Monday, Sept 25th, 2017

Program Leadership & Primary Contact:
Emma Flores-Kim, Ph.D., eflores@uci.edu
In December of 2016, GPS-BIOMED hosted a 2-part science policy series highlighting (1) career opportunities for scientists and (2) successful collaborations between scientists and policymakers. The series brought together academic scientists, scientists in policy roles and graduate students and postdocs from a variety of STEM fields. Over 150 UCI scientists attended the series and learned about the importance of tailoring a message, understanding an audience and actively listening. The success following this series led us to develop UCI P3.
UCI P3 is funded by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund. In February 2017, GPS-BIOMED submitted a proposal describing the P3 program that was successfully awarded. The Ayala School of Biological Sciences and UCI Foundations Relations were close collaborators during the grant development phase. The UCI Science Policy Group and UCI Community and Government Relations have been important partners during program implementation and execution.
UCI P3: Program Goals & Format

GOALS

- Increase knowledge of & experience with public policy processes
- Increase knowledge of & experience with advocacy related to science policy
- Develop the ability of scientists to communicate effectively with policymakers

APPROACH

Our three-tiered program fuses learning & practice. Grad students & postdocs choose their degree of participation within the following tiers.

- Tier 1 (F 2017): Build a foundation through interactive seminars & workshops
- Tier 2 (W - Su 2018): Apply skills working on policy & advocacy projects
- Tier 3 (Sp 2018): Meet with policymakers at the local, state & federal level

UCI P3 Timeline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1: Seminar &amp; Workshop Series</th>
<th>Tier 2: Trainee Working Group Projects</th>
<th>Tier 3: Meetings with Policymakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 Fall Quarter</td>
<td>2018 Winter Quarter</td>
<td>2018 Spring Quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018 Summer Quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UCI P3 goals and timeline are listed above.
Tier 1 will end with a networking event (late Nov/early Dec) that will bring P3 trainees together. Trainees will be encouraged to mingle and share what they are passionate about. This event is intended to facilitate the organic assembly of the working groups.
Tier 2: P3 trainees will engage in working groups focused on self-identified interests or activities of our local advocacy partners. Once formed, groups will be encouraged to identify specific policy issues, devise talking points and decide on dissemination methods. These methods may include speaking with appropriate stakeholders, writing op-eds, and responding to Dear Colleague letters. A campus mentor or community partner will be assigned to each group to aid them during this process.
UCI P3 community and on-campus partners are listed above. Each partner has or will select specific projects for trainees to work on. Some projects are currently listed next to the community or campus partner.
In partnership with UCI Community and Government Relations, select trainees will have the chance to meet with legislators, staffers or other policymakers who are directly linked to policy issues explored during working group research projects. These visits can occur locally, at the state capitol or in Washington D.C. Trainees who are selected will be highly engaged participants who show outstanding dedication, leadership and teamwork throughout their time in P3.
In Spring 2018, we will have a UCI P3 year-end reception where each working group will share the projects they have worked on. UCI faculty members, students and staff from across campus will be invited to attend. Community members, local policy makers and their staff will also be invited.
One aspiring outcome of UCI P3 is to unify the various science policy groups and initiatives across campus. Doing so will help provide a supportive network for trainees seeking to participate in advocacy and/or enter public policy.