

# MARINE POLICY RESEARCH INTERN

## Adaptive Capacity and Change in the Fishing Industry

**Deadline: April 16, 2018**

Virginia Sea Grant (VASG) and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) are pleased to announce the availability of a paid, 12-week summer graduate internship in marine policy and social science research (\$5,000). The intern will learn about and support research to understand how fishing industry and coastal communities are impacted by climate-related ecosystem changes, and the extent of the industry's adaptive capacity and change readiness to respond to those ecosystem changes. The internship is located at Gloucester Point, Virginia in VASG offices at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), but will travel at least once to GMRI in Portland, Maine. A cover letter, resume, unofficial graduate transcript, and three references should be submitted online at <https://jobs.wm.edu/postings/31314> by **April 16, 2018**.

### BACKGROUND

Ocean waters off the Northeast U. S. have warmed rapidly over the past decade. This warming is already affecting the spatial distribution and population productivity of species that support fisheries in the region, and it is projected to continue into the future. Understanding how the ecological effects of warming may affect fishing industry participants and coastal communities is critical for planning adaptation strategies that can buffer negative impacts and create new opportunities. Scientists at VASG at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, and the Northeast Fisheries Science Center at the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service are collaborating to develop an integrated social-ecological assessment of the vulnerability of fishing communities to climate-related ecosystem changes and to evaluate adaptation strategies that may support the resilience of fishing communities in the context of environmental variability and change.

Effective adaptation to future changes requires a supportive institutional setting as well as personal adaptive capacity. Individual-level adaptation hinges on a willingness and readiness to

In Collaboration With

change in some manner. Personal attitudes to change, perceptions of the readiness of the broader operating environment, and a variety of other factors shape an individual's propensity to change. We have conducted surveys of fishermen to document changes they are seeing on the water as ocean temperatures warm, to identify ways in which these changes are affecting fishing and fisheries, and to assess their readiness to change their fishing practices or operations in response to ecosystem changes.

## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be enrolled in a full-time graduate or professional degree program at an academic institution during 2018, i.e., current graduate students returning to school in the fall 2018 or recent graduates who finished in spring 2018. We strongly encourage members from under-represented minority groups, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans, and students from Virginia to apply.

## SUMMER INTERN

The 12-week summer marine policy research intern will work with a team of scientist at VIMS and GMRI. The intern will help analyze and interpret the survey data that have been collected for this project and may help obtain additional survey responses. This work will include helping to identify questions to be investigated through the data and implementation of proper statistical summaries or analyses to address those questions. Data entry and cleaning may also be required. The intern will work under the guidance of Dr. Troy Hartley at VIMS/VASG and in collaboration with Drs. Steve Eayrs and Kathy Mills at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. The research team will draft findings and the intern may be involved in the writing process. The intern will need to complete web-based training on protection of human subjects in research.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this internship position should have the following interests, skills, and characteristics:

- Interest in climate, ocean, and fishery issues
- Interest in factors that drive individual perceptions and actions (e.g., background in sociology, psychology, policy/political science, or other relevant discipline) to change
- Communication skills, both oral and written
- General familiarity with social science data, particularly survey data
- Proficiency in Excel, including data entry and use of functions
- Coursework or training in basic statistics
- Data analysis skills (e.g., t tests, categorical tests)
- Ability to facilitate and receive guidance and to work independently
- Attentive to details

## HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should submit a:

- Cover letter that speaks to the candidates interest in the position and qualifications
- Resume
- Copies of graduate transcripts (unofficial is fine).
- Names and contact information for three references.

Materials should be submitted via the William & Mary job board at <https://jobs.wm.edu/postings/31314> by **5:00pm EST on Monday, April 16, 2018.**

## TENTATIVE TIMELINE

Coastal & Marine Policy Intern announcement released	March 2018
Applications due 5:00 p.m. EST	April 16, 2018
Applicant interviews	late April/early May, 2018
Notification of results	mid-May 2018
12-week Internship begins	late-May/June 1, 2018
Internship ends	August 24, 2018

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please contact Troy Hartley.

Troy Hartley, Director

Virginia Sea Grant

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