



January 16, 2014

Dr. Robert Frank, PHD
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Ohio University
Athens OH 45701

Dear Dr. Frank:

We are pleased to announce the Ohio Department of Agriculture internship program for Summer 2014. We are now accepting applications from students from all disciplines for the internship program that will run from May 20 – August 8, 2014. Upon successful completion of the internship, \$500 scholarships will be awarded to interns and dispensed directly to their college or university of enrollment. We need your help to dispense this information throughout your academic system.

Our goal is create awareness about the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the breadth of its activities. We want young people to consider careers with our agency and to accomplish that goal, students need to have some exposure to our wide range of programs. We have analytical laboratories, disease diagnostic testing, and food safety regulatory programs that need chemists, biologists, and public health majors to name just a few. We have the ride safety program that needs physics majors, architects, engineers, and social scientists. Our weights and measures division needs engineers, as well as educators to assist the county auditors with their needs. Our division of communication needs people with communication and social science backgrounds. And the examples go on and on.

The interns we select will also attend “ODA University”. Every Wednesday afternoon, interns will attend an education session. Each session will be an in-depth investigation into a topic that impacts the operations of a regulatory agency. An example of topics will include, but not be limited to:

- Interpersonal communication (job interview skills; communication with colleagues, constituents, and cows; professional business etiquette, etc.)
- “By the Numbers”- challenging myths about agriculture, agribusiness and related disciplines.
- *Research: “Lies, #@#\$ Lies and Statistics”* – “how and why” to read basic science information and its application to regulatory areas.



- *How to speak bureaucrat*: communication and public relations in public agencies.
- *Fairs: It's more than lambs and jams* - state, county and independent fairs and the impact of animal health, public health and safety of visitors, exhibitors and vendors and local economy.
- Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches working together to serve farmers and protect consumers – how the bill becomes the law, how the law is operationalized, how the law is upheld in court challenges and what happens when people don't follow the rules.

The application process is very simple. We are asking applicants to submit a resume, cover letter, letter of reference, and the check sheet enclosed with this letter to our human resources office. We have extended the application deadline to February 7. We will do brief interviews in February, 2014 and notify successful candidates by March 7, 2014. The program will run May 20 – August 8, 2014.

We will require the individual be enrolled for the following term after summer. Should the student request credit hours specifically for their internship, we will provide necessary supervision, evaluation and support as required by their college or university. We do not have the ability to give scholarships directly to an individual, only to their institution.

Will you please help disseminate this information to other colleges, departments and divisions? Included in this packet, there is a checklist that needs to be included in the application – please copy as needed. Also included is a small poster to be copied and posted or scanned and distributed via electronic systems.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to having your students join us for the summer of 2014. If you have any questions, you can contact me directly at 614.644.8621 or sereana.howard.dresbach@agri.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,



Sereana Howard Dresbach, PhD
Deputy Director
Animal/Human Health and Laboratory Services
Ohio Department of Agriculture

