

September 6, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find a copy of the 2006 AAAS Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellowship application enclosed. The deadline will be January 15, 2006 for the summer 2006 program.

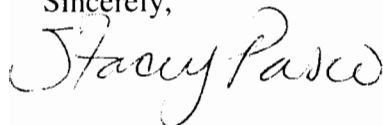
Increasing public understanding of science and technology is a principal goal of AAAS, so it only makes sense that it recognizes the need for scientists who are well versed in communicating complex ideas to a general audience. Enter the AAAS Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellows program, which has thrived in this endeavor for more than 30 years.

The 10-week summer program places graduate and post-graduate level science, engineering and mathematics students at media organizations nationwide. Fellows have worked as reporters, editors, researchers and production assistants at such media outlets as the *Chicago Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, National Public Radio, *Sacramento Bee*, and *Scientific American*. Participants come in knowing the importance of translating their work for the public, but they leave with the tools and the know-how to accomplish this important goal.

If you would like additional copies, please contact me at 202-326-6645 or spasco@aaas.org. Please note that the application, as well as additional program information, is available online.
(<http://www.aaas.org/programs/education/MassMedia/apply.shtml>)

Thank you for your help promoting this important program.

Sincerely,



Stacey Pasco
Manager Mass Media Program

Directorate for Education and Human Resources Programs

American Association for the Advancement of Science
1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005 USA
Tel: 202 326 6670 Fax: 202 371 9849
www.aaas.org

Chronicle

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PEDRINI

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Le Monde

2006
Mass Media Science
and Engineering Fellows
Program



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

THE PURPOSE

Increasing public understanding of science and technology is one of the principal goals of AAAS. The association has improved coverage of science and technology in mass media for more than 30 years through the **Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program**. This highly competitive program strengthens the connections between scientists and journalists by placing advanced science, mathematics and engineering students in newsrooms across the country. The AAAS Fellows use their academic training in the sciences as they research, write, and report today's headlines, sharpening their abilities to communicate complex scientific and technical issues to non-specialists.

THE PROGRAM

The AAAS **Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows** work for 10 weeks during the summer as reporters, researchers, and production assistants in mass media organizations nationwide. Fellows collaborate with media professionals at radio and television stations, newspapers, and magazines. The student-scientists and their host-journalists strive to make science news clear and comprehensible to the public.

The fellowship program is designed to enhance coverage of science-related issues in the media in order to improve public understanding and appreciation of science and technology. Fellows have the opportunity to observe and participate in the process by which events and ideas become news, improve their communication skills by learning to describe complex technical subjects in a manner understandable to the lay public, and increase their understanding of editorial decision making and the way in which information is effectively disseminated. Now in its 32nd year, the program has supported more than 500 Fellows.

THE CRITERIA

Applicants must be enrolled as college or university students (in their senior year, or in any graduate or post graduate level) in the natural, physical, health, engineering, computer, or social sciences or mathematics in order to apply. Applicants must apply for the summer fellowship within one year of graduation or defense of their thesis. Students enrolled in English, journalism, science journalism, or other non-technical fields are not eligible for these fellowships. Successful applicants will attend an orientation at AAAS headquarters at the start of the summer and a wrap-up session at the end of the summer. They will prepare reports on the progress of their fellowships throughout the summer.

THE AWARD

AAAS selects 20-25 **Mass Media Fellows** each summer. Fellows are provided a weekly stipend of \$450 as well as travel expenses to and from AAAS and their sites.

THE RESULTS

The program's impact extends beyond the 10 weeks Fellows spend at their summer sites. Some program alumni have been encouraged by their fellowship experiences to pursue careers related to science journalism. Others, working as scientists or engineers, become more adept at describing scientific concepts to reporters who call their institutions for information. Some hire on as freelancers, or have otherwise incorporated new activities related to public understanding of science into their academic or professional work in science and engineering.

2005 HOST SITES

Boston Globe
Chicago Tribune
KUNC-FM
Los Angeles Times
Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel
National Public Radio
Oregonian
Philadelphia Inquirer
Raleigh News & Observer
Richmond Times-Dispatch
Scientific American
Seattle Times
St. Louis Post Dispatch
USA Today
US News & World Report
Voice of America
WNBC-TV
WOSU-AM

2005 FUNDERS AND SPONSORS

AAAS+
American Geophysical Union*
American Mathematical Society*
American Physical Society* +
American Physiological Society*
American Society of Plant Biologists*
Burroughs Wellcome Fund+
Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation+
Foundation for Child Development+
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, USA*

* AAAS Affiliate
+ Funded or Sponsored
Multiple Fellows

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

An application for the Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program, is enclosed. To receive an additional application form or more information please contact:

AAAS Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program

1200 New York Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 326-6441; FAX (202) 371-9849

The application is available online at:

<http://ehrweb.aaas.org/massmedia.htm>

A complete application packet consists of:

1. The application form.
2. A copy of your resume (please include any honors, awards, and relevant activities).
3. Brief sample(s) of your writing (2 to 3 pages total, not samples, on any subject written in terms appropriate for the general public—no technical papers, please).
4. Journal news story coverage (See application).
5. Three letters of recommendation (to be mailed directly to the program). At least two of these letters should be from faculty members.
6. Transcripts of your undergraduate and graduate work (to be mailed directly to the program).

DO NOT STAPLE MATERIALS.

The applicants are responsible for obtaining the necessary transcripts and letters of recommendation and seeing that all materials are sent directly to the program. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applicants will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of experts in the sciences, education, and the media. The committee will make recommendations to the AAAS staff who are responsible for the final decisions and for negotiations between the candidates and the media hosts. A telephone interview will be conducted with semi-finalists in early March. Candidates will receive final notification of the status of their applications by April 15, 2006.

The deadline for receipt of applications is January 15, 2006.

AAAS announces the
2006 MASS MEDIA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
FELLOWS PROGRAM
APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ School/Work Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Education:

Undergraduate Institution: _____

Address: _____

Field: _____ Year of Graduation/Degree: _____

Graduate Institution: _____

Address: _____

Field: _____ Year of Graduation/Degree: _____

Are you a member of any professional societies or associations? If so, please list them:

List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the three people from whom you have requested letters of recommendation. At least two of the letters should be from faculty members who can comment on your academic work.

Faculty References (2):

1. Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numbers/Home: _____ Office: _____

Email: _____

2. Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numbers/Home: _____ Office: _____

Email: _____

Reference:

3. Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numbers/Home: _____ Office: _____

Email: _____

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**This form can be copied or is available online at <http://ehrweb.aaas.org/massmedia.htm>
You may use additional sheets if necessary.**

1. Why are you, as a scientist or engineer, interested in participating in this program?
2. What in your background has prepared you for this fellowship?
3. How do you think the skills learned from this fellowship will impact your future career or academic plans?
4. Have you had previous media related experiences? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, give details including specific experiences.
5. Describe any activities, other than previous media experiences, you have undertaken that involved increasing public understanding of science and technology.
6. What community outreach or educational activities have you participated in, science or otherwise?
7. How did you find out about the program?

WRITING SAMPLE

- A. Enclose a 2 to 3 page sample(s) or clip(s) of your writing that is directed towards a non-scientific audience. Please do not include technical or journal articles.
- B. Select a science or engineering journal article from the past 6 months. Write a 750-word "news" story for the general public summarizing what the study's findings are, why the study's findings are important and what impact it will have on the public. Include a copy of the journal article with your application.

**The deadline for receipt of application is January 15, 2006.
All application materials should be sent to:**

Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program
AAAS
1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005
(Voicemail) 202-326-6441; (FAX) 202-371-9849

Thank you for your interest.



About AAAS

Founded in 1848, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is the world's largest federation of scientific and engineering societies, with some 262 societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. AAAS individual members include more than 138,000 scientists, engineers, science educators, policy makers, and interested citizens.

The Association's goals include:

- Fostering communication among scientists, engineers and the public;
- Enhancing international cooperation in science and its applications;
- Promoting the responsible conduct and use of science and technology;
- Fostering education in science and technology for everyone;
- Enhancing the science and technology workforce and infrastructure;
- Increasing public understanding and appreciation of science and technology; and
- Strengthening support for the science and technology enterprise.

AAAS also is the publisher of *SCIENCE* magazine.

Education and Human Resources Programs (EHR) seeks to:

- Improve education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- Foster equal access to these fields for racial/ethnic minorities, women, and people with disabilities.
- Enhance the public understanding of science and technology.

EHR's many initiatives and projects include:

- School reform in science, mathematics and technology.
- Educational research on schools, colleges, universities, and human resources.
- Informal science and mathematics education with community-based organizations.
- Libraries, science museums, and technology centers. EHR projects and activities include a children's science and mathematics online club, science media fellowships, science and technology summer internships in government and business for students with disabilities, and a science radio show.



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

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Washington, DC 20005