

Are you interested in green infrastructure, watershed management, urban land use, and the translation from science to solutions? At the upcoming ESA 2019 meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, the Earth Stewardship Initiative (ESI) Demonstration Project is organizing a series of workshops and interdisciplinary learning sessions addressing Louisville's green infrastructure (GI) for stormwater management, particularly within the Ohio River floodplain. We now invite applications for as many as 30 ESI Student Fellows to participate in this exciting opportunity to work with City of Louisville sustainability officers and research ecologists throughout the summer of 2019 to brainstorm effective solutions to some of the City's most pressing sustainability concerns.

Since 2014, ESI has collaborated with representatives from the cities where the ESA conference is held to bring together multiple local organizations and academic institutions. By soliciting Fellows annually from around the country to work with city officials, practitioners, and ESA organizers on urban ecological projects, ESI is able to give graduate students a hands-on applied sustainability learning opportunity that is otherwise unavailable during typical ecological graduate studies. Participants collaborate on an urban design process to generate sustainable design strategies and propose ways of improving research methods for these projects through designed experiments and other adaptive management tools. ESA 2019 offers unique opportunities to evaluate current GI design for the City of Louisville and to develop designed experiments with a team of senior ecologists, ecology students, and city managers. Through a collaborative, multidisciplinary network of government, individuals, nonprofits, businesses, and other resources, Louisville is working toward being recognized as one of the top ten sustainable metro areas in the nation by 2025.

Selected ESI Fellows will kick off with a review of synthesized materials regarding key sustainability issues within Louisville and a conference call with ESI organizers and the City prior to the ESA conference. Contingent upon funding, Fellows will participate in activities throughout the week including a possible field trip, workshop, and inspire session that will engage senior ESA research scientists and Louisville city managers to discuss existing and develop new strategies around the design, engineering, and maintenance of local GI for future integration of ecological research. Following the meeting, Fellows will synthesize the notes and materials from the field trip and workshop into a white paper of recommendations for integrating monitoring and research using designed experiments and other adaptive management tools for green infrastructure in Louisville.

ESI Fellows are expected to register for and attend ESA 2019 and to review materials, attend the conference call prior to the meeting and all ESI events during the meeting, and to work remotely for two weeks after the conference to edit to complete the white paper. One intention of ESI is to foster contacts and engage a team of Louisville sustainability managers and ecological researchers who will work with Fellows to potentially develop scientific publications.

We have received NSF and non-profit funding in past years and we anticipate having funding available for outstanding Fellows to cover conference and transportation costs. **To apply, please send a one page statement of interest and resume/CV to Christine Manuck (cmanuck@ecopolitandesign.com)**. We look forward to working with you!

Best regards,

Alexander Felson