Increasing Diversity in Fields Where Science and Society Intersect

While many career opportunities exist at the intersection of science and society, undergraduates may not know about them, especially if they are first-generation college students. To help increase participation by underrepresented minorities in science policy and science and technology studies (STS) fields, NSF awarded a supplemental grant to CNS-ASU in 2014 to develop a program to give a select group of undergraduate students a better understanding of the careers available and the educational paths to those careers.

The program will create a cohort of 24 students—the Policy, Science, Technology & Society (POSTS) Scholars—from 12 universities across the US. Targeting sophomores and juniors who have already shown an interest in STS and science policy fields, the program includes mentorship and guidance from an STS or science policy faculty member, a personalized research experience, and two summer workshops in Washington, DC, to introduce students to the complexity of the science policy process.

The first round of applications closed on March 30, 2015. More information about the program is available at cns.asu.edu/diversity

Program to

INCREASE DIVERSITY in

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY STUDIES and

SCIENCE POLICY fields

Dr. Ira Bennett, the assistant director of education for CNS-ASU, for 10 years has led the Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes (CSPO) Science Outside the Lab program, a DC-based workshop that introduces graduate engineering and science students to the science policy process and players. Together with Dr. Jameson Wetmore, he leads CNS-ASU education and outreach.

Participating faculty from the 12 universities met up in Arizona for a two-day mentoring training in January 2015.

Ira Bennett | Arizona State University
Assistant Research Professor, CNS-ASU and CSPO

Jameson Wetmore | Arizona State University
Associate Professor, School for Human Evolution and Social Change