

Roots & Shoots Graduate Fellowship

The Jane Goodall Institute

Location: Roots & Shoots College and University Programs Office- Danbury, Ct

Duration: 12 Months, August 1, 2008 to July 31, 2009

Stipend: \$1400 per month

The Jane Goodall Institute's [Roots & Shoots](#) program is unique in its approach to youth empowerment. Through our Youth Leadership Councils and youth-directed community service projects, we provide opportunities for outstanding young people to hone their communication, planning and leadership skills. The Roots & Shoots **Graduate Fellowship** takes this aspect of our program to a new level.

The Roots & Shoots [Graduate Fellow](#) works with the Roots & Shoots College and University Programs Manager and the Youth Fellow to provide very important representation and outreach at Roots & Shoots and Jane Goodall Institute events. For the Graduate Fellow representation and outreach opportunities mainly focus on events that relate to College and University students. Beyond these outreach responsibilities, the Graduate Fellow also assists in the day to day operation and programming of the Roots & Shoots College and University Program. This work includes mentoring newly formed College and University groups of Roots & Shoots, as well as supporting current groups and supporting the [College Leadership Council](#). This position offers a unique behind-the-scenes look at a fast-growing nonprofit organization, as well as the opportunity to effect lasting change on an evolving program.

Responsibilities

1. Act as a key spokesperson for Roots & Shoots at events and functions. Specific projects include:
 - o Be available as speaker and trainer for Roots & Shoots College and University Programs and the Roots & Shoots Youth Leadership Initiative.
 - o Travel to national events or conferences that require a strong Roots & Shoots spokesperson or workshop leader.
 - o Travel nationally, to colleges and universities that require a Roots & Shoots speaker or presenter.
2. Give presentations and workshops to college students and professors interested in establishing Roots & Shoots on their college campuses.
3. Engage and foster Colleges and Universities in the Roots & Shoots network.
4. Support existing College and University Roots & Shoots groups in their projects and community service work.
5. Act as a support person for the Youth Leadership Initiative, primarily the College Leadership Council, including facilitating, recruiting, training and mentoring members throughout the year.
6. Act as a youth advisor and communications liaison for our program, collecting ideas and feedback from youth leaders, college students and the entire Roots & Shoots network on initiatives, national and local program needs and continuously transmitting ideas back to Roots & Shoots staff on national and regional levels.

7. Manage other projects and events that emerge during the Fellowship from national program goals and priorities. These might include additional media, event or initiative planning, public policy work and additional travel.
8. Assist the Youth Fellow and Roots & Shoots staff to plan and implement the Youth Leadership Initiative Training and Orientation Retreat.
9. Work with the Roots & Shoots College and University staff to plan and implement outreach events when needed.
10. Assist Roots & Shoots staff to produce ongoing College and University Newsletters, featuring college aged Roots & Shoots groups nationally and globally.

Qualifications

- Recent College Graduate (no more than one year beyond undergraduate degree) – All majors and concentrations welcomed.
- Previous leadership experience required. Roots & Shoots leadership experience preferred.
- Commitment to the mission of Roots & Shoots and the Jane Goodall Institute
- High energy
- Strong communication skills
- Public Speaking or Presentation skills helpful
- Creativity
- Ability to work with adults and youth of all ages
- Interest in aiding college campuses to be a part of Roots & Shoots
- Proven initiative and ability to work independently
- Ability to work and contribute as a part of a team
- A sense of humor
- Ability to travel alone
- Ability to work comfortably in professional as well as educational environments
- Writing and/or desktop publishing experience preferred
- Proficiency in PC computer applications. Preferred experience with Microsoft computer applications.

The Graduate Fellow will be paid a monthly stipend of \$1,000 in addition to a \$400 monthly housing stipend (a total of \$1,400 per month).

If you have any questions regarding the Graduate Fellowship please contact, 2007 - 2008 Graduate Fellow Shawn Sweeney via email at ssweeney@janegoodall.org or via phone 203.837.3260.

To apply please download the application and submit with a cover letter and resume. Send all materials via email to ssweeney@janegoodall.org or mail them to:

Shawn Sweeney, Graduate Fellow
Roots & Shoots – College and University Programs Office
c/o Western Connecticut State University
181 White Street, White Hall, Room 029
Danbury, CT 06810 USA

Application Essays

Name:

Email:

1. Please explain your past involvement with Roots & Shoots. Include a Roots & Shoots experience that inspired you. If you are applying and have not been involved in Roots & Shoots, please explain and discuss your past experience as a leader. Include one personal meaningful leadership experience that inspired you. (Please answer in essay format 500 words max)
2. What skills do you believe you bring to the Graduate Fellowship and what skills would you like to hone during your 12 month experience as Graduate Fellow? (100 words max)
3. As the Graduate Fellow you are given a great deal of responsibility and are expected to complete projects and assignments with sometimes minimal supervision. Are you up to this challenge? Why? Describe a project you have done that demonstrates this. (500 words max)
4. Why is this opportunity appealing to you? How do you see this as an opportunity to apply your strengths and improve upon your weaknesses? (200 words max)