



Public Service & Outreach (PSO) Student Scholars Program

The PSO Student Scholars program was launched Spring Semester 2011. The goals of the program are (1) to provide participants with a deeper understanding of PSO's purpose, breadth, and depth through supervised service experiences in PSO's 8 units, and in communities; (2) to help PSO Student Scholars link their public service experiences with their career and educational goals; and (3) to create a community of Student Scholars who understand the role of public service in Georgia and beyond. The program is supported by the Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach, and administered by the Office of Service-Learning.



2011 Scholars touring the State Botanical Garden of Georgia with director Wilf Nicholls.



2011 Scholars touring the Marine Extension education programs on Skidaway Island.

How the Program Works

During the Fall semester, PSO Student Scholars meet regularly as a group with PSO faculty members. They get to know the mission and activities of the 8 PSO units that report to the Office of the Vice President:

- Archway Partnership
- Carl Vinson Institute of Government
- Fanning Institute
- Georgia Center for Continuing Education
- Marine Extension
- Office of Service-Learning
- Small Business Development Center
- The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

The PSO Student Scholars go on **field trips to PSO sites** such as Archway Partnership communities and Marine Extension's Skidaway Island campus. Each PSO Student Scholar also participates in a **150-hour supervised internship** in a PSO unit during the subsequent Spring semester. PSO Student Scholars are eligible to apply for a **paid full-time summer internship** in a PSO unit.

How Can I Apply to be a PSO Scholar?

Each academic year, about 10 students are selected to participate in the program. Applicants must have completed at least 60 credit hours, and have a 3.0 or higher GPA by the start of the program. Applications are generally due by April 1 for the next year's program. Applicants are interviewed by members of the PSO units.

Who are the PSO Student Scholars?

The first 2 groups of PSO Student Scholars reflect the geographic, ethnic, and academic diversity of UGA's students. Examples of past PSO Student Scholar majors include international affairs, child and family development, biology, advertising, Spanish, accounting, health promotion, geography, and management.

What do past PSO Student Scholars say about the program?

"It was a very meaningful experience and definitely gave me a perspective that I did not previously have about public service."

"Thank you for everything, this experience has been invaluable!"

"I loved it! And it helped me love UGA even more!"

"I thoroughly enjoyed my experience in this program."

"I've had an extremely rewarding experience. Thank you for this opportunity!"

Where can I learn more?

For more about the PSO Student Scholars program, including program application materials, deadlines, past participants, and other information, see

http://outreach.uga.edu/index.php/programs/student_programs/student_scholar_program/

or contact the program coordinator:

Dr. Paul Matthews
Assistant Director
Office of Service-Learning
1242 ½ South Lumpkin Street
Athens, GA 30602
(706) 542-0892 • pmatthew@uga.edu



2011 Scholars meeting to learn about PSO's mission and activities