

Mellon/ACLS
PUBLIC FELLOWS PROGRAM



Job Title:	Government Relations Project Manager
Organization:	American Association for the Advancement of Science
Location:	Washington, DC
Start Date:	September 1, 2020

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

AAAS seeks to “advance science, engineering, and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people.” The world's largest multidisciplinary scientific society and a leading publisher of cutting-edge research through its *Science* family of journals, AAAS has individual members around the globe.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

One of the fundamental challenges in advancing science policy is the ability to communicate the value of science to policymakers, most of whom do not come from scientific backgrounds. The Office of Government Relations, one of AAAS’s external affairs divisions, helps to address this challenge by providing timely, objective information to policymakers on current science and technology issues and helping the science and engineering community effectively engage in policy. This role is a new position in the Office of Government Relations, which will be responsible for managing two ongoing OGR projects: the **Engaging Scientists and Engineers in Policy (ESEP) Coalition** and the **Golden Goose Award**. The Project Manager will serve as lead manager for the Coalition, supporting its co-chairs and steering committee, and will coordinate year-round activities related to the Award, culminating in the annual ceremony in the fall.

The Engaging Scientists & Engineers in Policy (ESEP) Coalition is an ad hoc alliance of organizations that have joined together to empower scientists and engineers to effectively engage in the policymaking process at all levels of government. ESEP serves as a one-stop resource shop, a communication forum, a networking community, and as an engagement vehicle for those interested or already engaged in science and technology policy, including students, faculty members, industry scientists and engineers, policy fellows, and others.

The Golden Goose Award honors federally funded researchers whose work may sound silly, odd, obscure, or serendipitous, but has had a major positive impact on society. Nine organizations, including AAAS, launched the Award in 2012. In 2017, AAAS brought the Award under its stewardship. A ceremony to honor the awardees takes place every September at the Library of Congress. The Award has garnered the support of dozens of organizations and a bipartisan group of Members of Congress (the “gaggle”) who speak at the annual ceremony and help promote the Award throughout the year.

While these are two separate projects, they share the same goals of improving the way science is communicated to policymakers. ESEP helps to facilitate training and networking opportunities for scientists and engineers, including many STEM graduate students, who are interested in science policy. Similarly, the Golden Goose Award is aimed at telling stories about science and its impacts to society in a way that will resonate and appeal to policymakers. The two programs fit well into the overall mission and activities of AAAS’s OGR, and the Project Manager would also have the opportunity to engage in other OGR priorities, such as its landmark **CASE Workshop**.

Visit <http://www.acls.org/programs/publicfellowscomp> to learn more about the Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows program. This position is only available through this program; please do not contact the host organization directly.

In addition to collaborating with other AAAS Government Relations staff members, the Project Manager will also liaise with our external partners at the **Association of American Universities** (AAU). Though AAAS will serve as the host organization, AAU staff will serve as a key partners and mentors in the Project Manager's work for the Golden Goose Award and the ESEP Coalition. AAAS and AAU co-chair the steering committees and closely coordinate with each other on both efforts.

Key duties and responsibilities:

- Organize and manage ESEP and Golden Goose Award external activities, e.g., workshops, webinars, networking events, and the websites and social media accounts;
- Research potential Golden Goose Award nominations, which may involve conducting interviews and literature reviews, and assist with vetting nominees and crafting their stories;
- Raise awareness of the Award and ESEP by engaging in social media, attending meetings and conferences, and organizing or participating in public engagement opportunities;
- Convene regular ESEP and Golden Goose Award committee meetings;
- Assist in developing funding strategies and proposals for each of these programs; and
- Assist OGR in keeping abreast of emerging issues in science and technology policy, and with additional projects as schedule allows.

This position would help prepare the fellow for future positions in public policy, communication, and/or program management. A fellow in this role will have an opportunity to meet and work directly with senior scientists, government affairs representatives, science policy leaders, and federal policymakers.

QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD in the humanities or humanistic social sciences;
- Proven ability to synthesize complex information into coherent and compelling narratives for nontechnical audiences;
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively and effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills;
- Ability to multitask and contribute to time-sensitive tasks while keeping sight of larger projects;
- High level of organization and attention to detail;
- Self-motivation, creativity, and flexibility; and
- Enthusiasm for learning about and communicating science.
- Experience with website management and/or utilizing social media in a professional context is preferred but not essential.

STIPEND AND BENEFITS

Each 2020 Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow receives an annual stipend of \$70,000, as well as access to employer-based health insurance through the host organization. In addition, ACLS provides funds for relocation and professional development. Fellows receive professional mentoring and participate in career development programming, both in-person and virtually.

APPLICATIONS

- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS online application system (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: March 18, 2020, 9 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

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