BOB GRAHAM CENTER

2018 Graham Civic Scholars Program – Access to Voting

A research opportunity open to all residential, undergraduate UF students

The Bob Graham Center is looking for 50 students to explore the critical challenges facing Florida counties in providing citizens access to voting.

As a Graham Civic Scholar, you will explore the challenges counties face in providing access to voting by researching the issues and your county, interviewing stakeholders, and writing a report. Interviews must be conducted in person in your county. Upon satisfactory completion of all requirements, you will receive a $500 stipend.* The application deadline will be Monday, January 15, and the research and reports must be completed by Friday, April 6. Students from all majors and backgrounds encouraged to apply.

Important Dates

Applications Due	Jan. 15
Notifications Made	Jan. 22
Orientation*	Jan. 31
Lecture 1*	Feb. 7
Lecture 2*	Feb. 14
Roundtable*	March 21
Reports Due	April 6

*mandatory events are Wednesday evenings, plan accordingly.

Upon completion of the program, each student will receive $500

*If you receive needs-based financial aid or student loans, please check with the UF Office of Student Financial Affairs (www.sfa.ufl.edu) to determine the impact of this stipend on your financial aid package. If you receive loans, the stipend will likely be applied directly toward your repayment. The stipend will be distributed directly through Student Financial Affairs, you will not receive a check.

Step-by-step program guide for all Graham Civic Scholars

1. Attend the Orientation on Wednesday, January 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Pugh Hall Ocora.
2. Attend both Lectures on Weds., Feb. 7 in the Pugh Hall Ocora, and Wed., Feb. 14 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. (location TBD). This will include meeting with and checking in with your Mentor.
3. View and read background material related to access to voting in the United States and Florida. There is a massive amount of research available online.
4. Research your county's situation and status as it relates to access to voting and all related programs. Start online, every county has a Supervisor of Elections Office as mandated by the state.
5. Conduct *in-person* interviews with *two* county-level officials whose work is directly related to voting in your county.* Be sure to collect a business card or other artifact documenting your visit, which you must scan and submit with your final report.
6. Attend the Roundtable on Wednesday, March 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Pugh Hall Ocora.
7. Based on your interviews and your reading, write a report on your county. The required format of the report is described below and a rubric is provided on the last page of this memo. In order to receive the full stipend, you must "meet expectations" for each criterion listed in the rubric.
8. Email your report and scanned images of two business cards to Dr. Kevin Baron at kbaron76@ufl.edu by Friday, April 7 by 11:55 p.m.
9. Complete online Evaluation.

*Students must cover their own travel expenses to and from their assigned county.

Format of your report:

> Name and UF ID number
> Title (must include the name of your county)
> Abstract
> Introduction that introduces your county and the topic
> Critical issue No. 1
> Critical issue No. 2
> Critical issue No. 3
> Potential solutions
> Concluding paragraph
> Bibliography

As with all academic papers, you must use and cite legitimate sources of information and provide a bibliography. Your paper must include at least three (3) references beyond your interviews. The bibliography must include all of your information sources (print and digital) as well as the interviews. Please use APA style. We recommend the following guide: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/

Technical specifications for the Report: All reports must be submitted in a Microsoft Word document, minimum 7-pages, typed in 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with one-inch margins all around. There is no need for a title page. Please label your document file as follows: County name_Your Name.doc (example: Orange_Jane Smith.doc)

Any questions or comments on the project can be directed to Dr. Kevin Baron at kbaron76@ufl.edu.

Resources:

- Florida Supervisor of Elections Offices by County http://bit.ly/2in2J5J
- Florida Department of State, Division of Election http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/
  - Make sure to look at the resources on this website, including the sections on 'data & statistics' and 'laws & rules' and 'voting systems'
- Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/area-profiles/county/index.cfm
  - Additional Socioeconomic/Demographic Data - https://datausa.io/
- Academic Papers
  - Brian Amos, Dan Smith, Casey St. Claire (2017), "Reprecincting and Voting Behavior" http://bit.ly/2htYUMA
  - Michael Herron and Dan Smith (2012), "Souls to the Polls: Early Voting in Florida in the Shadow of House Bill 1355" http://bit.ly/2lEPaU7
  - Michael Herron and Dan Smith (2016), "Precinct resources and voter wait times" http://bit.ly/2znILD0
  - Micah Altman, Brian Amos, Michael McDonald, and Dan Smith (2015), "Revealing Preferences: Why Gerrymanders are Hard to Prove, and What to Do About It" http://bit.ly/2lEGWLH
  - William Hicks, Seth McKee, Mitchell Sellers, and Dan Smith (2015), "A Principle or a Strategy? Voter Identification Laws and Partisan Competition in the American States" http://bit.ly/2ylA3ow
- Think Tank/Advocacy Sources
  - Christopher Famighetti, Douglas Keith, and Myrna Perez (2017), *Noncitizen Voting: The Missing Millions* from the Brennan Center for Justice http://bit.ly/2z9hd3m
  - Voter Rights Restoration Efforts in Florida from the Brennan Center for Justice http://bit.ly/2fIXyxI
  - Erika L. Wood, "Florida: An Outlier in Denying Voting Rights" http://bit.ly/2iSldio
  - Florida Rights Restoration Coalition https://floridarrc.com/
  - The League of Women Voters of Florida http://www.lwvfl.org/
  - Fair Elections Legal Network http://fairelectionsnetwork.com/

Resources Continued

- News Sources
    - NY Times: Culling Voter Rolls http://nyti.ms/2AAxAat

Criterion	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations
Orientation ($60.00)	Student did not attend the orientation.	Student attended the orientation.	
Lecture One ($60.00)	Student did not attend the lecture.	Student attended the lecture.	
Lecture Two ($60.00)	Student did not attend the lecture.	Student attended the lecture.	
Interviews ($60.00)	Student did not conduct the interviews in-person, or provide documentation that interviews were done.	Student conducted two interviews in-person and provided proper documentation.	Student conducted additional interviews beyond the two mandated and provided documentation.
Paper ($150.00)	Student submitted a weak paper in which some required elements are missing **and/or** so poorly developed that the reader fails to grasp the issues relevant to the specified county. Paper does not include the proper amount of sources. The paper demonstrates the student did not prepare or conduct the proper research.	Student submitted a well written paper that includes all required elements, communicates basic understanding of the causes and consequences of the issues impacting their county, offers reasoned solutions and analysis. The paper includes the appropriate sources.	Student submitted a high-quality paper that meets expectations and also presents advanced reflection and analysis of the issues impacting their county, and offers cogent policy solutions. The student utilizes more sources than required and provided additional interviews.
Roundtable ($60.00)	Student does not attend, or has failed to conduct any research or interviews, therefore have nothing of value to offer their colleagues during the discussion.	Student attends the Roundtable, having done research and conducted at least 1 interview, identifying issues at play within their county and have ideas for policy solutions.	Student attends the Roundtable having completed all the research and interviews, leads group discussions on issues and solutions.
Quality Assurance ($25.00)	Student submitted a report that was sloppily prepared with more than a few grammatical and spelling errors **and/or** technical specifications were not followed.	Student submitted a report that reflects adherence to proper grammar, syntax, and spelling. Report is clear and easy to read and all technical specifications were followed.	
Evaluation ($25.00)	Evaluation not submitted.	Full evaluation submitted by deadline.	