Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps
Summer Internship Program
2012 Application

Clockwise from top left: Brittany Williams with national movement leaders at SisterSong’s Reproductive and Environmental Justice convening; Ivone Ortega with members of NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado; Hallie Hoffman with Queers for Economic Justice; and Chiedza Mufunde at the Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies.
Instructions

Thank you for your interest in the Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps (RRASC) program.

Our internships are substantive in nature. In fact, at least 70% of your internship will be devoted to substantive work. This may include research, writing, or grassroots organizing. Because of this, internship organizations require certain skills/backgrounds. These skills can be acquired through life experience, education, work experience, volunteer experience, or hobbies. This application is designed so we can learn more about you, your skills, and your interests.

To be eligible for a RRASC grant, you must:

• Be a current undergraduate student at one of the following schools: Amherst College, Greenfield Community College, Hampshire College, Holyoke Community College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, Springfield Technical Community College, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, or Westfield State University.

• Not be graduating from a 4 year program (BA) in Spring 2012.

• Not be abroad or on a leave of absence when you apply.

We recommend that you review the entire application before you begin. Please note that:

• There are 7 parts to the application: Application Cover Sheet, Personal Statement, Internship Preferences, Resume, Recommendation Forms, Verification of Current Enrollment (for non-Hampshire students), and Financial Need Statement. You must submit 1 copy of each item, printed single-sided only.

• When choosing your top 5 internship preferences, make sure to read each organization's internship description completely and carefully. Each internship description includes the organization's mission, proposed projects for the internship (when available), the internship location, and any background or skills required. All internship descriptions are available at clpp.hampshire.edu/internship.

• We will NOT be interviewing applicants during the fall semester this year. In order to apply you must be available for an in-person interview (not on leave or abroad) during the spring semester. We will inform all applicants of our final decisions by the end of March 2012.

• We are available to support you as you complete this application. If you would like feedback or input, please contact Corinna Yazbek before February 10, 2012 (contact info is below).

Application Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2012

The application must be received by 4pm on Friday, February 17th.

If you have questions regarding your application, please contact:
Corinna Yazbek, CLPP Program Coordinator
Hampshire College, 893 West St., Amherst MA 01002
413.559.5859 / cyazbek@hampshire.edu
clpp.hampshire.edu/internship
I. Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps // Application Cover Sheet

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

College: □ Amherst □ GCC □ Hampshire □ HCC □ MHC □ Smith □ STCC □ UMass □ WSU

Year in school: □ 1st □ 2nd □ 3rd □ 4th       If Hampshire student: □ Div I □ Div II □ Div III

Legal address: ______________________________________________________________________

Local mailing address: ________________________________________________________________

Local home/dorm phone: ______________________________ Cell phone: __________________________

Email: ______________________________________________________________________________

Major/Concentration: __________________________________________________________________

How did you hear about the RRASC program? (select as many as apply)

□ Info Session □ CLPP website □ Career Center □ Faculty □ Other: __________________________

Internship preferences:

Note: Some internship organizations have more than one location

1. ______________________________________ Location: _____________________________

2. ______________________________________ Location: _____________________________

3. ______________________________________ Location: _____________________________

4. ______________________________________ Location: _____________________________

5. ______________________________________ Location: _____________________________

Languages spoken (other than English): _____________________________________________

Where an intern is placed depends primarily upon how well the individual’s interests, skills and experience meet the requirements of a specific internship. We ask you to be flexible about your organizational and geographical preferences.

Would you accept a placement other than those you listed above? □ Yes □ No

Is your placement limited to a specific geographic area? □ Yes □ No

If so, location: _____________________________________________

Travel subsidies (toward air/train/bus fare) may be available and are for those who would not otherwise be able to accept an internship.

Do you need to be considered for a travel subsidy? □ Yes □ No

If so, estimated need: $ __________________________

Are you applying to other sources of support? □ Yes □ No

If yes, what sources? __________________________________________

The RRASC program strives for a diverse applicant pool.

Gender: _________ Age: ______ Race/ethnicity: ____________________ Sexuality: _______________
II. Personal Statement:

Please write a statement to tell us about yourself and why you are interested in the RRASC program. This statement should be five to six pages in length, double-spaced, Times New Roman font, size 12. It can be written as an essay or in short answers. Your personal statement should answer the following questions:

1) What does the connection between reproductive rights and social justice mean to you?
2) What motivates you personally to do reproductive rights and social justice work?
   a) What issues concern you most?
   b) Are there any personal experiences that lead you to want to do reproductive rights or social justice work?
3) What do you hope to gain from your summer internship?
4) How will this internship relate to your current and future academic and career goals?
5) Describe three of your greatest gifts/skills/strengths that you will bring to your internship (for example: creativity, attention to detail, excellent writing and research skills, a sense of humor, active listening skills, or good work ethic).

Please provide enough detail so that the review committee will have a good understanding of who you are and why you are applying to the RRASC program.

III. Internship Preferences:

Please write one page total about why you chose each of the five internship organizations you listed on the cover sheet.

IV. Resumé:

In one page, list and briefly describe:

- Past work, internship, or volunteer experiences. Indicate the organizations where you worked and the dates of employment. Also include a short description of your work.
- Any other training, academic, or study abroad experiences that may be relevant to your application.
- Separately, list your relevant skills and interests. This may include: language proficiency, computer skills, research skills, writing abilities, film/video proficiency, political involvement, etc. Please make sure to address the skills required for the internships you have chosen.

Please note: It may be helpful to meet with a career counselor or mentor when preparing your resume.

V. Recommendations:

Two recommendations are required. Without them, your application will not be complete. One must be from a faculty member who can assess the quality of your writing, research, participation in class, and group and independent work; the other should be from a work supervisor (paid or unpaid) who can attest to your work style, abilities, and experience.

Recommendation forms are included in this application and may be submitted in a sealed envelope or faxed directly to the CLPP office at 413.559.5826 by the application deadline.

VI. Verification of Current Enrollment:

If you are not a current Hampshire student, you must obtain a letter from your college or university’s registrar verifying that you are enrolled as a student. It may be sent via postal or 5-College mail, but to ensure timely delivery, you may want your registrar to fax the letter to CLPP at 413.559.5826. We only need 1 copy of this letter.

Submit only 1 complete copy of your Application Cover Sheet, Personal Statement, Internship Preferences, Resumé, Verification of Current Enrollment, one copy each of 2 recommendations, and Financial Need Statement by

- Friday, February 17, 2012 at 4:00pm -

to the Civil Liberties & Public Policy program office at Hampshire College, located in room G-13, Franklin Patterson Hall (FPH).

Applications can be mailed to:
RRASC 2012 Application
Civil Liberties & Public Policy
Hampshire College
Amherst, MA 01002
VII. Financial Need Statement

Please carefully read and complete this form, then include it with your application. This form will be kept separately from your application and will not be read by the RRASC selection committee until internship selections are made.

This year we’re piloting a new approach in order to expand our robust, dynamic, and talented RRASC cohort. RRASC is a competitive program with limited resources; every year we are unable to offer internships to strong, passionate applicants because of our budget limitations. As you thoughtfully complete your application and secure your recommendations, the RRASC selection committee asks that you also reflect on the financial support you require in order to participate in this internship program. If you don’t need the $3300 grant to support your work this summer, we ask that you “opt out” of receiving it.

RRASC is a paid summer internship program because we believe that movements for social justice must include people from across the class spectrum. By opting out of the grant, you will allow us to offer an additional internship opportunity. This not only benefits a fellow RRASC intern, it also benefits the organization that would not otherwise receive critical intern support.

There are many non-financial benefits to being a RRASC intern, including but not limited to:

- Participation in a prestigious, nationally known internship program.
- Access to internationally renowned organizations that otherwise work primarily with graduate and law school interns.
- Analysis-building and training before you leave for the summer.
- Camaraderie with the other interns who are working in reproductive rights and social justice organizations around the country.
- Access to a weekly reporting module to track your progress, see what other interns are working on, and get support, ideas, and inspiration for your work.
- Institutional support from CLPP staff who have relationships with all the RRASC host organizations.
- Consideration for a coveted opportunity to present at our annual conference, From Abortion Rights to Social Justice: Building the Movement for Reproductive Freedom, on the work you did during your internship and support to help you develop your presentation.

We hope you will consider the collective needs of your cohort and engage in self-reflection and conversations with your family and support network to evaluate your access to resources and what you truly need to be able to participate in RRASC.

Please note: opting out of receiving the grant will not affect your eligibility nor will it increase your chance of receiving an internship. We will make all internship decisions based on applications and interviews. If any selected students have opted out of the grant, we will then go to the top student on our waiting list and offer that person an internship. If that person opted out of the grant, we will go to the next student on the waiting list, and so on. **Opting out of the grant does not change the reporting requirements for your internship nor does it mean your internship can be part time.**

Name: ____________________________________________
School: ____________________________   Email address: ______________________

____ I am opting out of receiving the 2012 RRASC grant and am able to complete the internship through access to other support/resources.

____ I need the full $3300 grant in order to participate in the 2012 RRASC internship program.

____ I do not need the full amount; I am able to complete a full time, 10-week internship during summer 2012 with $__________ from CLPP.

*This information will not be shared beyond the RRASC selection committee.*

If you have questions or concerns about this part of the application, please feel free to contact Corinna Yazbek at cyazbek@hampshire.edu or 413-559-5859.
Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps
Recommendation Form #1

TO THE APPLICANT:

Please give this form to your recommender with an envelope. Attach your recommendation to your application in a sealed envelope or have your recommender fax it to us.

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

Thank you for taking the time to evaluate this RRASC applicant. Attached is a recommendation form.

The Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps (RRASC) is a paid summer internship program for undergraduate students offered by the Civil Liberties and Public Policy and Population and Development programs at Hampshire College. RRASC places students at reproductive rights and social justice organizations throughout the U.S. and internationally. The RRASC program defines reproductive freedom broadly to include economic justice, racial equality, queer rights, immigrants’ rights, freedom from violence, access to healthcare, environmental justice, and human rights.

Each applicant submits a personal statement along with supporting information and indicates their top five choices for internship placements (chosen from a list of RRASC host sites). This information, in addition to two recommendations and an interview, are considered by the selection committee in order to match potential interns with organizations.

This recommendation form is meant to help the selection committee by providing a perspective on the applicant from someone who has worked with them. Please return this form to the applicant in a sealed envelope or fax it directly to us at 413.559.5826.

Applications, including recommendation forms, are due on Friday, February 17, 2012 by 4pm.

Recommendations can also be mailed to:

RRASC 2012 Application
Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program
Hampshire College, 893 West St.
Amherst, MA 01002

If you have any questions about this form or the RRASC program, please contact:

Corinna Yazbek, CLPP Program Coordinator
413.559.5859 // cyazbek@hampshire.edu
Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps
Recommendation Form #1

Name of Applicant: ____________________________________________________________
Applicant’s college/university: __________________________________________________

Recommender’s Name: _________________________________________________________
Title: ______________________________________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________

Phone number: ________________________ Email: ________________________________

How do you rate this student in terms of:

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<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
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*Please write legibly throughout this form.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what context?
*Please write legibly throughout this form.

2. In your opinion, what skills or qualities will the applicant bring to a summer internship? This can be from academic, work, or personal experience.

3. In your opinion, what skills or qualities might need strengthening for the applicant to succeed in an internship position (e.g. communication, organization, reliability, or something else)?

4. Is there anything that might be helpful to the selection committee in considering this applicant for an internship position?

Signature: _____________________________________________ Date: ___________________

(Please return to applicant in a sealed envelope)
Reproductive Rights Activist Service Corps
Recommendation Form #2

TO THE APPLICANT:
Please give this form to your recommender with an envelope.
Attach your recommendation to your application in a sealed envelope or have your recommender fax it to us.

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

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