

WEBVTT

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00:00:15.830 --> 00:00:21.310

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Welcome everyone. We're just waiting for attendees to join. We're gonna give it just a couple of minutes.

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00:00:23.090 --> 00:00:24.809

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and then we'll start our webinar.

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00:00:52.910 --> 00:00:58.539

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Good afternoon. We'll take one more minute and just allow folks to join, and then we'll get started with the webinar.

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00:01:19.850 --> 00:01:27.979

Stacie East: Well, Sue, it looks like the number of participants is slowing down the joining. So I will start. If that's okay with you.

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00:01:28.340 --> 00:01:29.370

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: That sounds great.

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00:01:29.660 --> 00:01:50.429

Stacie East: All right, perfect. So my name is Stacy East, and I am Director of Equity and Grants at the Entomological Society of America, and I want to welcome everyone and thank everyone for attending and being interested in public health entomology for all.

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00:01:50.610 --> 00:02:16.410

Stacie East: So public health entomology for all is a joint program between the Entomological Society of America and the Cdc. To introduce and support public health entomology to students and graduates and people who have touched stakeholders and minority serving institutions.

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00:02:16.570 --> 00:02:31.869

Stacie East: and I am looking forward to a great webinar and a great year, with our new and coming 2025 fifa interns and fellows, which I am sure are on this webinar. So, Sue, I'm going to turn it over to you.

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00:02:33.640 --> 00:02:49.450

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Great thanks so much, Stacey. Yes, just a quick overview of what we have planned for you today in terms of an agenda. We'll do some brief introductions. I'll share with you a little bit about the centers for Disease control and prevention, as well as a little bit about the division in which I sit.

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00:02:49.450 --> 00:03:11.299

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: which hosts the public health entomology for all program along with the essay. I'll share with you a little bit about why we think vector-borne diseases should be a public health priority. And then we'll talk through the goals of the internships and fellowships. Then Stacy will talk through some details about the internship

and fellowship and the application process for each.

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00:03:11.300 --> 00:03:32.760

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and then I'll take it back, and we'll talk about what to expect when you begin as part of that what to expect. We thought we would share with you some perspectives from 2 of our participants, Jerry Champion, who is a current fellow at the Dengue branch, and also a Michelle Leander who was an intern this summer, also in Puerto Rico at the Dengue branch.

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00:03:32.890 --> 00:03:34.290

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So let's begin.

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00:03:37.110 --> 00:03:42.289

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Okay. Introductions. Stacy, would you like to give a little bit further background on who you are?

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00:03:45.680 --> 00:03:46.829

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: You're on mute.

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00:03:47.490 --> 00:04:02.190

Stacie East: All right. I am the primary contact on the Esa side for public health entomology for all essentially until you are hired. I am the

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00:04:02.360 --> 00:04:23.460

Stacie East: primary and maybe sole contact to get you through the application process and the initial interviews. Then it kind of broadens up to Sue and her team, and then it. You get a lot of help from the Cdc. As well as Esa. But I'm the initial contact. And so

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00:04:23.794 --> 00:04:32.820

Stacie East: some of you have my email, and we'll put it in the chat. And if you have any questions, feel free to contact me after this, Webinar.

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00:04:34.080 --> 00:04:49.089

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Great. And I'm Dr. Sue Visser. I am the deputy director for policy and extramural program here in the division of vector-borne diseases at Cdc. I'm the Cdc Fife program director, and I'm joined with Miss Holly Hooks. Who's going to introduce herself to you as well.

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00:04:50.335 --> 00:04:52.109

Holley Hooks, CDC DVBD: Hi, everyone. My name is Holly.

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00:04:53.890 --> 00:04:55.400

Holley Hooks, CDC DVBD: and sorry about that.

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00:04:59.050 --> 00:04:59.720

Holley Hooks, CDC DVBD: Yeah.

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00:05:00.280 --> 00:05:11.550

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Okay. Sorry everyone. Hi, my name is Holly Hooks, and I am the program manager for Fife on the Cdc side, and I look forward to hearing from all of you.

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00:05:13.150 --> 00:05:15.670

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks, Holly, and then over to Jerry.

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00:05:18.210 --> 00:05:27.239

Jerry Champion: Hello, everybody! My name is Jerry Champion. I am the current one of the current fellows here in the San Juan Dengue Branch here in Puerto Rico.

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00:05:27.520 --> 00:05:28.678

Jerry Champion: I'm excited to be here.

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00:05:29.520 --> 00:05:31.090

Jerry Champion: I'm from Lower Texas, so

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00:05:31.120 --> 00:05:32.380

Jerry Champion: I'll talk to y'all soon.

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00:05:32.654 --> 00:05:38.140

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks, Jerry, and we'll have a Michelle introduce herself a little later if she is able to join us today.

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00:05:38.510 --> 00:06:08.389

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So I'm going to go ahead and share with you a little bit about Cdc and Dvbd, our division, along with a little bit about vector-borne diseases as a public health priority. So 1st Cdc. Is the lead agency for public health in the United States. We're a Federal agency that is headquartered in Atlanta, over 10,000 staff that are part of Cdc. Spread across a number of different infectious and non-infectious disease centers.

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00:06:08.390 --> 00:06:20.239

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: We focus on everything from chronic disease, birth defects, injury both unintentional and intentional injury along with a whole host of infectious disease threats

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00:06:20.270 --> 00:06:35.880

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: within the National center for emerging and zoonotic, infectious diseases, which is where the division of vector-borne diseases sits. We have a number of offices, and we do cover foodborne illness, waterborne illness.

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00:06:35.880 --> 00:06:53.199

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: very, very scary, Ebola-like illnesses, viral hemorrhagic fevers and we're a very

response focused center and inside that center, we also deal with one health issues and the division of vector-borne diseases focuses obviously on vector borne disease.

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00:06:53.310 --> 00:07:13.240

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So what is a vector well. A vector is defined here by the Merriman-webster dictionary, an organism such as an insect that transmits a pathogen and a pathogen could be a bacteria or a virus, also a parasite that can make people sick.

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00:07:13.590 --> 00:07:42.320

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So vector-borne diseases are a growing domestic threat. Here in the United States. For 3 reasons. We have more cases, more pathogens, and more people at risk. In terms of more cases. We had a major outbreak of Zika virus in 2016. The greatest number of tick-borne diseases reported ever in 2017 and a doubling of reported vector-borne disease cases from 2,004 to 2020, which was when we did a really in-depth look at vector borne diseases across the United States.

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00:07:42.430 --> 00:07:56.439

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And we also recently had the largest localized outbreak of West Nile virus. Since its introduction, and that was in 2021 in Arizona, where we had 121 deaths and

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00:07:56.630 --> 00:08:19.619

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: over a thousand documented cases. In addition to that, we had a major dengue outbreak this year. It's still ongoing. We're at the height of the curve in Puerto Rico, the largest dengue outbreak. We have had in years. And we're really struggling to maintain our vector, control efforts and our epidemiology efforts to both investigate and respond to that outbreak.

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00:08:19.620 --> 00:08:43.810

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: There's also more pathogens. Just in general, 10 vector borne pathogens were newly identified in the Us. In the last 2 decades. That includes the 1st domestic outbreaks of Chikungunya and Zika viruses, which you may remember, along with 7 tick-borne pathogens that have emerged both because of increased detection efforts, but also the expansion of ticks into new areas of the United States

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00:08:44.290 --> 00:08:57.349

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and we also had the emergence of Orapoosh virus in the Caribbean this year, and all the cases we've had thus far, which are 94 travel associated cases thus far have been attributed to travel to Cuba.

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00:08:57.960 --> 00:09:27.259

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: There's also, just in general more people at risk. So commerce moves, vectors, including mosquitoes, ticks, fleas, and now, possibly biting midges to areas that they wouldn't normally be that they can't naturally expand into. And we also have more infected travelers, because travel and trade has really dramatically increased. And this just brings mosquitoes, ticks, fleas, biting midges into new areas of the country, posing a greater risk to more people in the United States.

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00:09:27.330 --> 00:09:56.530

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And you can see the result of that here. So this is a curve of our vector-borne disease cases that are reported to Cdc. Within the Continental United States along with its territories. And although we know this is a small fraction of what actually happens, it's extraordinarily sizable. And you can see over time. Since 2,004,

we've seen the steady increase in vector-borne disease cases largely attributable to the expansion of tick-borne diseases in the United States.

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00:09:56.560 --> 00:10:11.140

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And then something happened in 2016, and that something was Zika virus. The expansion of an introduction of Zika virus to the Americas resulted in a major increase in Zika that was documented in 2016 and 2017.

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00:10:11.520 --> 00:10:23.780

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Now, after Covid-nineteen, we, along with everyone else in the United States experienced a dramatic drop in the number of reported cases and probably actual cases of vector-borne diseases in the United States.

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00:10:23.780 --> 00:10:48.539

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: due to a major change in the behavioral patterns of Americans, and also our ability to investigate those cases and then have those cases reported to Cdc, so you see that drop in 2020 there was a rebound in 2021, and then by 2022, you see that increase that we would have projected if Covid-nineteen never would have happened. You can see that now. The tick-borne disease cases are certainly as high as we would have expected

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00:10:48.540 --> 00:11:08.870

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: them had Covid-nineteen never happened. There was a change in our ability to report lyme disease cases because of a change of the case definition making it a little bit easier to report those cases. So we do know that there was an increase in Lyme disease reporting because we made it easier for States to report those cases to Cdc.

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00:11:08.870 --> 00:11:24.010

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: But as of 2020, we had more than 78, almost 79,000 cases of vector-borne diseases reported to Cdc from States and Territories. So this is a really important issue. It's a major burden on public health.

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00:11:24.130 --> 00:11:30.450

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And so we have the division of vector-borne diseases within Cdc to respond to all of these vector-borne diseases.

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00:11:30.520 --> 00:11:54.240

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: more than 400 staff across a whole host of different disciplines. I myself am a pediatric epidemiologist by training, and now I'm a policy director, but we also have entomologists and ecologists. We have microbiologists and immunologists, physicians, veterinarians, and virologists, all working together along with our administrative staff program officers to execute programs of the division of vector-borne diseases.

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00:11:54.480 --> 00:12:07.169

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and we are located across 3 different locations and 4 different branches. So we have the Arboviral diseases branch and the bacterial Diseases Branch located right here where I am in Fort Collins, Colorado, and that's our building to the right. There.

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00:12:07.540 --> 00:12:31.340

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: We also have the dengue branch where both Michelle did her internship, and Jerry is doing his fellowship in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and then we have the rickettial zoonoses branch that is, in Atlanta, Georgia, which is the headquarters of Cdc. And for the purposes of Fifa we also have partnered with another division the division of parasitic diseases and malaria, which is also located in Atlanta.

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00:12:32.280 --> 00:12:56.910

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So here are some priority vector borne diseases and pathogens for our division. In addition, again, there's parasitic diseases that are not represented here, babesia and malaria are both really, really important. Vector borne diseases that are not necessarily listed here, but we have them broken out by mosquito-borne flea louse biting midge and sugar borne tick-borne, and then other primary transmission of Q fever. All of these are under our purview.

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00:12:56.910 --> 00:13:15.340

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and actually the division of vector-borne diseases has the largest number of pathogens that we're responsible for, largely because there are so many arboviruses that we know can harm people. And so we try to keep an eye on all of them, and we have the diagnostic capacity to test for over 100 Arboviral diseases.

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00:13:16.570 --> 00:13:41.300

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So to help respond to this, we've developed along with 16 other Federal agencies, the vector-borne disease, National Public Health Strategy. And in that strategy which we published in February of this year we cast a vision to create a future where vector-borne diseases no longer threaten public health. And our mission is to reduce illness and death due to vector borne diseases. We have 5 key goals in that strategy.

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00:13:41.300 --> 00:14:02.840

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: The 1st is really just to understand when, where, and how people are exposed to and get sick or die from these diseases. And so we include our vector competent studies in there, everything we know about the vectors, everything we know about investigating new or old pathogens. That's all. In that kind of epi understanding bucket.

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00:14:02.890 --> 00:14:24.900

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: The second goal is to detect and diagnose vector borne diseases and germs or pathogens that cause disease in people. The 3rd is to prevent exposure and reduce the consequences of infection. The 4th is to support best practices for treatment, which we do very little of. Most of that is focused on disseminating best practices and guidelines for diagnosis and treatment.

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00:14:24.970 --> 00:14:40.209

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And then number 5 is to implement programs that take all 4 of the best practices from those goals, above all, the best practices from those activities and implement them and support programs that can help us prevent and control vector-borne diseases.

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00:14:40.370 --> 00:15:01.979

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: But in order to do that we need a healthy, robust workforce. And unfortunately, when we sat down to evaluate our workforce circa Zika, so in 2016 2017, we realized that our workforce really lacked the diversity that we needed to respond to all of these emerging and reemerging

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00:15:02.040 --> 00:15:10.720

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: vector-borne disease threats. And we. We felt very strongly that a diverse workforce strengthens our ability to respond effectively to all of these threats.

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00:15:10.820 --> 00:15:34.519

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So on the right hand side, you can see at that time when we started this program, you can see data from the National Science Foundation and the US. Census suggested that the demographics of entomology and parasitology, graduate students at the time drastically underrepresented the black and Hispanic or Latinx population that you would expect if you looked at the US. General population.

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00:15:34.520 --> 00:15:44.679

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And so with this under emphasis, we were seeing that in the workforce so just based on race and ethnicity, we saw a massive underrepresentation of racial and ethnic minorities in the workforce.

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00:15:44.680 --> 00:16:04.659

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: But beyond that we didn't have as much cultural, demographic, or experiential diversity that we would have wanted in our incoming workforce as well. So we developed the Public Health entomology for all program, Stacy and I, along with a big group of folks who are interested in trying to ensure a healthy workforce that can respond to these threats.

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00:16:04.700 --> 00:16:23.570

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: We thought through what would be some strategies that could expand the diversity of the public health entomology workforce to help us meet our public health needs. And so we designed a program that had some key activities that include outreach mentorship training service and promoting networks among both current and future entomologists.

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00:16:23.860 --> 00:16:50.910

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So this is my last slide before handing it over to Stacey to talk through the internship and fellowship program. Our mission statement that we developed actually with our 1st year cohort of fellows and interns is through internships and fellowships. Fife encourages students and recent graduates to pursue public health entomology as a career and work toward a future in which all communities benefit from creative, inclusive, and equitable processes and public health solutions.

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00:16:51.100 --> 00:16:57.569

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So with that, I'll pass it over to Stacey. Who's going to talk you through the the internship and fellowship experience? Stacy.

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00:17:00.430 --> 00:17:17.469

Stacie East: Thank you, Sue. So as we seek to include more people in the or more core health, more diversity within the public health entomology field. We are working towards

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00:17:17.609 --> 00:17:23.550

Stacie East: eliminating barriers to getting experiential learning in the field.

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00:17:24.197 --> 00:17:32.629

Stacie East: Our internships. The application, as well as the entire process, is geared towards decreasing barriers. So

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00:17:33.350 --> 00:17:51.729

Stacie East: the application period opens December 15, th and closes February 3, rd that should give everyone an adequate amount of time to complete the application, get recommendation, letters, etc. The application is not intended to

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00:17:51.860 --> 00:18:09.269

Stacie East: create competition. It's actually viewed more as a method of making sure that the right interns are matched with the right mentors. In order to apply, you need to be eligible to work in the United States

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00:18:09.270 --> 00:18:34.769

Stacie East: you have to be a student or graduate of a minority serving institution at some point along your academic journey. So if you started out at a community college that was a minority serving institution, and Hsi a predominantly black institution, and then transferred to a predominantly white institution. That's fine. If you did a semester

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00:18:34.770 --> 00:18:49.619

Stacie East: at a community college or minority serving institution, that's fine, we're not requiring that you have graduated from an Msi. Only that you have attended an Msi. You have to have 3 quarters of your college

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00:18:49.640 --> 00:19:12.630

Stacie East: education completed, so you can be going into your last year of college, or you can have graduated or or will have graduated by the time the internship starts as kind of filling that gap between college and graduate, school or college, and you figuring out what you need to do

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00:19:12.960 --> 00:19:22.649

Stacie East: or want to do. There's no academic Gpa required. You have to be able to prove that you are in good academic standing.

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00:19:22.940 --> 00:19:43.340

Stacie East: and that's a nod to the realization that some people have a first, st a rough 1st or second year of college. We want a list of the college science courses, 2 recommendations, and then interviews are planned for the second week in March. It says 2023, but it's 2025,

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00:19:44.910 --> 00:19:46.270

Stacie East: next slide, please.

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00:19:49.320 --> 00:19:59.529

Stacie East: So the internships will be in Atlanta, Georgia, and Fort Collins, Colorado, and San Juan Puerto Rico.

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00:20:00.377 --> 00:20:07.919

Stacie East: They are for 10 weeks. Our plan is to start them the day after Memorial Day this year.

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00:20:08.841 --> 00:20:10.949

Stacie East: It says 18 an hour

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00:20:11.320 --> 00:20:19.779

Stacie East: an hour. You get a round trip, ticket to your location, so we will get you to wherever you need to go.

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00:20:19.950 --> 00:20:28.870

Stacie East: We will provide housing for the interns who would like housing. So the interns at Fort Collins have stayed at Colorado State.

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00:20:29.260 --> 00:20:30.680

Stacie East: The interns

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00:20:30.700 --> 00:20:40.100

Stacie East: in Atlanta have stayed on Emory's campus and the interns in San Juan have stayed on the campus of inter American University.

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00:20:40.100 --> 00:21:02.860

Stacie East: You get a 3 year Esa membership and Cdc. And Esa mentorship. There are some things that are not listed in that slide. For instance, Michelle and several of the interns are going to be leaving tomorrow or Saturday to meet us in Arizona for the Entomological Society of America.

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00:21:02.890 --> 00:21:04.580

Stacie East: Annual meeting

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00:21:05.030 --> 00:21:06.050

Stacie East: next slide.

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00:21:06.890 --> 00:21:20.030

Stacie East: The Fellows. The application period is the same. December 15th to February 3, rd you need to be eligible to work in the United States at the time that your fellowship starts

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00:21:20.540 --> 00:21:29.770

Stacie East: a student or graduate of minority serving institution again, you don't have to have graduated from an Msi. You just have to have attended one at some point.

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00:21:30.283 --> 00:21:48.460

Stacie East: You can have a bachelor's master's or Phd, so you just need a terminal degree relatively recently, and what we mean by that is, within 2 years of the time that the fellowship would start again after right after Memorial Day.

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00:21:48.830 --> 00:21:53.870

Stacie East: You need to be an academic good standing and have graduated with a Gpa. Oops.

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00:21:54.150 --> 00:22:12.760

Stacie East: Excuse me of 2.7 5. We want to know the science classes. You take it, you've taken 2 recommendations, 2 essays. It says, essays. They're narratives they're relatively short, focused on what type of research you're interested in, and then the interviews are likely to happen in March 2025.

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00:22:19.570 --> 00:22:21.060

Stacie East: Thank you, Sue.

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00:22:21.060 --> 00:22:46.320

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks, Stacy. Sorry about those years. I'll get those updated for next time. I was going to talk through some of the Fifa core programmatic elements so regardless of. If you do an internship for 10 weeks or a fellowship for a full year, we have these same components. So everyone is matched to a Cdc subject matter, expert mentor or mentors. Oftentimes you will have access to multiple mentors at Cdc.

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00:22:46.320 --> 00:22:59.580

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: you'll get exposure to a set of core entomology skills, including colony maintenance, whether it's mosquitoes or ticks or both vector collection methods vector-borne disease research, taxonomy and vector biology and control.

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00:22:59.750 --> 00:23:24.340

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: There's also some professional skill building. We try to tailor this to what folks are interested for the year, and we ask throughout the year what folks are interested in learning this year. There's a spotlight on scientific writing, but sometimes it's other sorts of professional skill building. We always focus on communication, professional communication and presentation and giving opportunities to to present to your peers

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00:23:24.490 --> 00:23:36.049

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: is always really important. We also talk through building a resume or a Cv. And helping support our fellows and interns in case they are applying for other opportunities as well.

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00:23:36.170 --> 00:23:59.969

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: You'll get an orientation that everyone attends together, interns and fellows together, so that we can introduce you to the community of Fifa that we have here, and they're all oriented together. It's a really fun week where we spend trotting around Fort Collins and spending time together and just getting to know each other. We also try to expose all of our participants to public health entomology, career paths.

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00:23:59.970 --> 00:24:16.909

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: both through informal and formal presentations by our entomologists here at Cdc. Along with participation in entomentos, which is a major that's a major focus of that effort, too, so that you get a glimpse into entomology that is outside the Federal Government.

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00:24:17.140 --> 00:24:35.059

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And then, as Stacy mentioned, there are these optional activities. You can attend the Esa meetings and events, including the annual meeting present research at Esa meetings. Also here in the division, we have opportunities for fellows to present and also volunteer opportunities. If you have time and are interested in that.

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00:24:36.810 --> 00:25:00.339

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: All right. There's also some really interesting location, specific attributes to the 3 different locations that we have within the division. And therefore, the Fife program. So if you are applying to or receive an offer from either our division of parasitic diseases and malaria or the division of vector-borne diseases. Rickettsial Zoonoses branch, which is a mouthful.

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00:25:00.340 --> 00:25:17.139

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: You'll be in Atlanta, Georgia, and that is Cdc headquarters. It's really impressive. It's a beautiful campus I worked there for 16 years of my 23 at Cdc. Close proximity to Emory University, right next door. And if you're an intern, you actually stay on the Emory campus in one of the Emory dorms.

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00:25:17.140 --> 00:25:45.029

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: There's some field work opportunities there, and our mentors work really hard to connect you over to local universities or nearby universities and also do field work right in the backyard, sometimes of our mentors homes. And so that's something that's really unique. And there's a blend because of Dpdm and division of vector-borne diseases being there of both mosquito-borne and tick-borne disease focus.

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00:25:45.440 --> 00:26:13.329

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Here in Fort Collins, Colorado. This is the division of vector borne disease headquarters due to a long history, but we are located here. 2 of our branches are located here. We have a large lab building. It's proximal to Colorado State University, which is where our interns stay during the summer. There are some field work opportunities as well, both on the mosquito and tick-borne side, and we again have both mosquito and tick-borne disease focused

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00:26:13.330 --> 00:26:16.130

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: areas here and in Fort Collins

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00:26:16.260 --> 00:26:39.650

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: San Juan is unique in that. It is placed within a dengue endemic Us territory. And there's a current outbreak happening there. And so everyone and Jerry's shaking. Everyone has been involved in the emergency response. It's absolutely critical to the work that we do. We actually, most of our division is activated and deployed to working on that dengue outbreak. And so

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00:26:39.650 --> 00:26:52.779

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: lots of opportunities to do field work there because it is inside the territory where both the area of focus for dengue is, and also where the outbreak is so tons of field work, opportunities rolling up your sleeves.

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00:26:52.780 --> 00:27:08.400

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And I'm getting in there doing trapping and vector control activities, educating the community and really working closely with the community. So that's unique, really to our branch in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and then

106

00:27:08.400 --> 00:27:28.980

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: also because there are very few ticks in Puerto Rico, and the ticks that are there are not considered vectors the work there. It really is mosquito-borne disease focus. So we find other opportunities to expose our interns and fellows to tick vectors when we do our orientation and cross training activities.

107

00:27:29.410 --> 00:27:39.019

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So here's our 2024 fifa intern class. You can see Michelle located right in the middle on the top. The top row there, and you're going to hear from her in a little bit.

108

00:27:39.020 --> 00:28:01.249

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: But this was our Fifa intern class. Here is our fellow class, and there's Jerry Top, middle of that class as well, spread out again across the division, and also Dpdm. And we had one placement in the Georgia Department of public health. Jamicia Henderson. This was our 1st year, this year of trying a

109

00:28:01.250 --> 00:28:22.550

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: a process where we try to actually place some of our graduates directly within the health departments for a second or a 3rd year of the program, so that they can be trained by Cdc. And Esa, and then go straight into health departments, thereby directly impacting the workforce that we're trying to grow and diversify. So we're really proud of Jamicia, and how that program is going.

110

00:28:23.480 --> 00:28:34.460

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And with that I'll turn it back over to Stacey, who is going to moderate a session now, asking some questions of our intern and fellowship participants that we have here today.

111

00:28:34.710 --> 00:28:35.630

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Stacy.

112

00:28:36.230 --> 00:28:38.540

Stacie East: I'm Michelle. How are you?

113

00:28:39.260 --> 00:28:40.534

Amechelle Leander: I am good.

114

00:28:41.480 --> 00:28:52.399

Stacie East: Good. So I'm just gonna start a a couple of questions in chronological order, and, you know, feel free to.

115

00:28:52.740 --> 00:29:03.020

Stacie East: you know. Say, what you think is accurate. So tell the attendees from your perspective a little bit about the application process.

116

00:29:04.648 --> 00:29:10.429

Amechelle Leander: My application process was actually very smooth. I

117

00:29:10.470 --> 00:29:39.709

Amechelle Leander: graduated from my college, and before I graduated I was looking for ways to kind of get involved with public health entomology, entomology, overall. And I came across this program and it was pretty straightforward. Yeah, I applied. And we did the 2 essays we filled out which branches we want to go to, based on like scale, like what

features we're interested in and things like that. And it was pretty straightforward. Yeah.

118

00:29:41.330 --> 00:29:46.300

Stacie East: So perfect, and you ended up in the dengue branch.

119

00:29:46.450 --> 00:29:49.997

Amechelle Leander: I did. I end up in San Juan? Puerto Rico? Yeah.

120

00:29:50.624 --> 00:29:53.669

Stacie East: Okay. So it was great. What was great about it?

121

00:29:53.670 --> 00:30:04.869

Amechelle Leander: I honestly like. I miss it so much because I honestly just loved the environment, and I feel like I learned so much and was given so much trust to like

122

00:30:05.390 --> 00:30:16.979

Amechelle Leander: basically like input, my opinions or my thoughts, and trust to like run experiments on my own with like support. Of course, from my mentors. And yeah, I really

123

00:30:17.100 --> 00:30:28.689

Amechelle Leander: enjoyed it. I was able to ask questions. They weren't, really. I kind of assumed that working in the Cdc. Everybody would be so rigid like. You're not a Phd. A person with a Phd. Like sit to the back like.

124

00:30:28.710 --> 00:30:34.629

Amechelle Leander: Just listen. But no like they actually wanted to hear like my thoughts, and they actually like

125

00:30:34.670 --> 00:30:38.819

Amechelle Leander: made me like, be able to be hands on with almost everything that

126

00:30:39.430 --> 00:30:41.399

Amechelle Leander: that they were doing, which was great. Yeah.

127

00:30:42.310 --> 00:30:47.289

Stacie East: So you did some cool research. Just say a couple sentences about the research you did.

128

00:30:47.290 --> 00:30:53.389

Amechelle Leander: Yeah. So I did outdoor and indoor residual spring, because in Puerto Rico there was a

129

00:30:53.400 --> 00:31:12.710

Amechelle Leander: state of emergency for dengue, and there was a plan to spray elementary schools with a pesticide, to probably lower the rates and kill the mosquitoes, and I was just testing certain commercial pesticides on that. They were planning to spray on the schools.

130

00:31:13.080 --> 00:31:13.830

Stacie East: Alright!

131

00:31:14.200 --> 00:31:22.199

Stacie East: If you were thinking about pla applying, if it was a year ago, and you knew everything, you know. Now, what would you say.

132

00:31:23.070 --> 00:31:25.660

Amechelle Leander: If I was thinking about applying again, or.

133

00:31:25.800 --> 00:31:33.050

Stacie East: If you were. You're you're talking to yourself a year ago, or basically to the audience. Presently.

134

00:31:33.690 --> 00:31:37.900

Amechelle Leander: I would say, apply to be honest, I mean.

135

00:31:38.690 --> 00:31:47.000

Amechelle Leander: I feel like going in. I was very nervous, because I feel like there will be this expectation because it is a Cdc. You are in a very, in a.

136

00:31:47.200 --> 00:31:49.071

Amechelle Leander: in a very high ranking

137

00:31:49.960 --> 00:32:08.319

Amechelle Leander: program kind of and working with very smart, educated people. I feel like apply. I feel like you'll always be accepted. You'll learn so much. You could ask all your questions because I was always in my mentor's office asking questions. 24, 7, and it never really got offended. They actually like are willing to help like, I still talk to

138

00:32:08.420 --> 00:32:21.039

Amechelle Leander: one of my mentors, or both of them, have them. Write me recommendations, letters, even had one of them introduce me to somebody for grad school, and gave me a lot of opportunities that I complied to to like find labs

139

00:32:21.090 --> 00:32:38.060

Amechelle Leander: in New Jersey, because I'm in New Jersey right now. So yeah, I will see apply because it's a really good experience, and you get good exposure, and you learn so much. And even in Puerto Rico I only speak English, and it wasn't super difficult to navigate, and you always have help

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00:32:38.150 --> 00:32:40.629

Amechelle Leander: from your mentors and your support system.

141

00:32:41.060 --> 00:32:44.510

Stacie East: And did, participating in Fifa. Change

142

00:32:44.630 --> 00:32:50.449

Stacie East: your the trajectory of your career. Did it modify what you're thinking of doing in the future?

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00:32:53.530 --> 00:33:03.119

Amechelle Leander: yes, I feel like this was kind of like a trial run to see if I would want to do public health entomology for my career, because I always

144

00:33:03.380 --> 00:33:07.770

Amechelle Leander: I knew about mosquitoes growing up because I grew up in an island, but like I never knew

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00:33:08.330 --> 00:33:35.289

Amechelle Leander: what it was like to actually study public health entomology. So I think now that I, after I did this internship, I think that it kind of just had my mind thinking about. Okay, what colleges can I do? What college can I go to? Public health entomology, what colleges actually like? Have community engagement with the vector-borne diseases? Because I kind of want to bridge that gap because of all the work I did in Puerto Rico, because I was actually doing something for like the community. And so, yeah, I think so, for sure.

146

00:33:35.640 --> 00:33:38.499

Stacie East: Alright perfect. Thank you very much, Michelle.

147

00:33:42.340 --> 00:33:44.360

Stacie East: Jerry, how are you.

148

00:33:46.680 --> 00:33:51.320

Jerry Champion: Hello! I'm doing good. How are you? Oh, I guess you already answered that sorry I'm doing good.

149

00:33:52.972 --> 00:34:04.070

Stacie East: So A Michelle asked. Answered a little bit about the application process. So tell me from your perspective about the orientation process.

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00:34:04.920 --> 00:34:08.531

Jerry Champion: Cool. Okay. So for me, I had a really good orientation

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00:34:09.389 --> 00:34:10.630

Jerry Champion: experience.

152

00:34:10.699 --> 00:34:19.109

Jerry Champion: I really got to enjoy the little community aspect. We all stayed very close to each other. We're all pretty much in the same hallway, so we saw each other quite a bit.

153

00:34:19.260 --> 00:34:28.019

Jerry Champion: Everything was very event. Orient. I how do I say? Everything was very event oriented? So you got to really like mingle mix talk to the other fellows a lot.

154

00:34:28.570 --> 00:34:36.470

Jerry Champion: It was a really great experience for me. I made a lot of friends that I still talk to. I still talk to some of the interns. I still talk to most of the fellows. Obviously

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00:34:37.092 --> 00:34:39.110

Jerry Champion: but it's been a really good experience and

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00:34:39.360 --> 00:34:50.000

Jerry Champion: highly recommend the orientation. Yeah, I think it's really fun. I know it's a little bit anxiety inducing being like this is my 1st time moving like from my family. For my friends.

157

00:34:50.796 --> 00:34:58.960

Jerry Champion: My family. There'd be a lot of parties whenever I was leaving, because they were all very upset that I was leaving. But it's an incredible experience you make like a little second family during orientation.

158

00:34:59.720 --> 00:35:04.289

Stacie East: Perfect. Thank you. So tell us a little bit about your experience.

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00:35:04.560 --> 00:35:11.220

Stacie East: 1st in San Juan, as living and and adjusting to that, and then at the dengue branch.

160

00:35:12.010 --> 00:35:13.861

Jerry Champion: Okay. So here in San Juan,

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00:35:14.230 --> 00:35:17.070

Jerry Champion: So I'm from Texas. So, and my family is Mexican.

162

00:35:17.180 --> 00:35:19.530

Jerry Champion: So I already came. Knowing

163

00:35:19.670 --> 00:35:21.270

Jerry Champion: a good amount of Spanish.

164

00:35:21.630 --> 00:35:28.230

Jerry Champion: The Spanish here are learning everything. Here has been a lot of fun. I think the people here are some of the nicest people you will ever meet

165

00:35:29.130 --> 00:35:31.580

Jerry Champion: that goes for in and out of the branch.

166

00:35:31.820 --> 00:35:36.119

Jerry Champion: but especially like Puerto Rican, people are very loving. They're very nice.

167

00:35:36.290 --> 00:35:39.940

Jerry Champion: Everything is very friendly. Everyone here is so nice.

168

00:35:40.090 --> 00:35:44.500

Jerry Champion: I'm living here. So I live by myself in an apartment that I rent.

169

00:35:45.190 --> 00:35:50.239

Jerry Champion: Esa is very helpful, and if I was gonna struggle. I would fully trust Esa to get me

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00:35:50.420 --> 00:35:52.709

Jerry Champion: to a hotel or something if I needed to.

171

00:35:53.182 --> 00:35:54.669

Jerry Champion: I really do trust

172

00:35:55.330 --> 00:36:00.239

Jerry Champion: the people up here, Stacy, Sue, and Holly quite a bit, and it's very nice.

173

00:36:01.067 --> 00:36:02.260

Jerry Champion: About the branch.

174

00:36:02.580 --> 00:36:06.160

Jerry Champion: I have made a lot of friends there. It's really fun.

175

00:36:06.880 --> 00:36:08.880

Jerry Champion: So Halloween just passed right.

176

00:36:09.110 --> 00:36:12.140

Jerry Champion: Everybody in the branch dresses up

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00:36:12.230 --> 00:36:36.420

Jerry Champion: so, but it's by department. So we came as bottles. It was really cute. We got 3rd place, because 1st place, was the Admin team, and they did a whole queen apart sketch. They had a fully choreographed dance, so next year we are going to have to step it up here for the Endo team. But it is incredible. It's such an amazing experience. You really make a lot of really good connections. I've been networking a lot.

178

00:36:37.500 --> 00:36:41.819

Jerry Champion: I'm not sure if I should talk about that. But I've been networking a lot which has been really nice

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00:36:41.900 --> 00:36:44.489

Jerry Champion: without wasting all of y'all's time.

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00:36:44.650 --> 00:36:51.270

Jerry Champion: It's an amazing experience. I've really loved it here in Puerto Rico. I loved it there at the Dengue Branch so highly recommend.

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00:36:51.760 --> 00:37:00.059

Stacie East: And you don't have to talk about the the details of the science that you have been doing necessarily. But tell me

182

00:37:00.070 --> 00:37:01.360

Stacie East: how you

183

00:37:02.350 --> 00:37:12.079

Stacie East: perceive that the the science, the entomology will that you've been doing will impact your career. Your graduate school programming.

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00:37:13.610 --> 00:37:20.471

Jerry Champion: Yeah, honestly. So. The science that I've been doing has been incredible. So my specialty before I came here to the branch and

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00:37:20.780 --> 00:37:27.430

Jerry Champion: beef and everything. My specialty was code and RI worked at a mosquito lab before this at my university, Texas tech

186

00:37:28.114 --> 00:37:32.580

Jerry Champion: but coming here, I was like. Let me try to break out of the code. Let me see what else I can do.

187

00:37:32.770 --> 00:37:36.869

Jerry Champion: And it's been really fun. I've been working with bacteria I've gotten stretched

188

00:37:37.410 --> 00:37:40.870

Jerry Champion: to many different projects. I do a lot of field work as

189

00:37:40.970 --> 00:37:43.069

Jerry Champion: everyone was, as I think Sue mentioned, like

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00:37:43.230 --> 00:37:50.810

Jerry Champion: there's a lot of opportunities for field work. I work with the Prbcu quite often I'm with Louisa and just by myself. Sometimes.

191

00:37:50.810 --> 00:37:52.799

Stacie East: What is the Prbcu.

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00:37:53.220 --> 00:37:57.658

Jerry Champion: Oh, I probably should have said that. So the Prvcu is the Puerto Rican vector, control

193

00:37:58.110 --> 00:38:07.430

Jerry Champion: unit. They are some of the nicest people. They're so funny. 2 of them are Mark and Amadi. I know that doesn't mean much. Yeah, but they're very nice people, and they're so helpful.

194

00:38:07.450 --> 00:38:10.699

Jerry Champion: Everybody really does want to help you learn and grow.

195

00:38:10.850 --> 00:38:15.569

Jerry Champion: And I have been put on quite a few projects. So I'm on a few coding projects.

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00:38:15.930 --> 00:38:17.489

Jerry Champion: health, specialty and everything.

197

00:38:17.630 --> 00:38:31.770

Jerry Champion: And I've also been put on quite a few. So I also do like the super pool project with what we call it. Essentially. It's a lot of DNA extractions for mosquitoes that we leave out. Some of them have dengue. Some of them don't. I'm trying to see how long

198

00:38:32.060 --> 00:38:36.499

Jerry Champion: dengue last out of field conditions in mosquitoes and how high of

199

00:38:36.720 --> 00:38:38.310

Jerry Champion: detectability we can

200

00:38:38.690 --> 00:38:42.139

Jerry Champion: use. It's a it's a really interesting project. I really enjoy it.

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00:38:42.320 --> 00:38:49.789

Jerry Champion: But there's so many opportunities to do. Really whatever you want. My project working with bacteria is all trying to figure out

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00:38:49.910 --> 00:38:55.949

Jerry Champion: what kind of bacteria is attracted to mosquitoes, and I'm actually finding that some bacterias have a

repellent effect

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00:38:56.300 --> 00:38:58.960

Jerry Champion: which has been really interesting to find so.

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00:39:00.040 --> 00:39:00.880

Stacie East: South.

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00:39:01.100 --> 00:39:01.980

Stacie East: Great!

206

00:39:02.250 --> 00:39:17.070

Stacie East: How do you believe you're you're midway through year, one almost midway through. So what? How do you think that the fellowship will impact your career or graduate school programming.

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00:39:17.930 --> 00:39:21.650

Jerry Champion: Oh, yeah, the fellowship has drastically changed my like.

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00:39:22.710 --> 00:39:25.930

Jerry Champion: I don't wanna say my opportunities, but it's it's helped quite a bit. So

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00:39:26.890 --> 00:39:39.849

Jerry Champion: From this fellowship I have networked so much with like potential grad schools, because I knew I wanted to go. I want to do my fellowship, get my Phd. And then work for the Cdc. My goal has always been to work for the Cdc. So getting here has been

210

00:39:40.020 --> 00:39:41.759

Jerry Champion: a dream come true actually.

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00:39:41.820 --> 00:39:46.849

Jerry Champion: and I hope to end up back here at the Cdc. So I'm gonna do everything I can to achieve that. But

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00:39:46.860 --> 00:39:50.249

Jerry Champion: honestly, I've got to network so much with so many like

213

00:39:50.390 --> 00:39:54.600

Jerry Champion: prop potential professors. I've had a professors reach out to me now

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00:39:54.800 --> 00:39:55.940

Jerry Champion: which has been

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00:39:56.010 --> 00:39:59.370

Jerry Champion: insane work. I had never had that happen. But

216

00:39:59.570 --> 00:40:03.830

Jerry Champion: it's just a really big chance to really get to network. Get your name out there.

217

00:40:04.780 --> 00:40:13.900

Jerry Champion: I'm looking at going into a Phd program in the 2026 year. So I'm very excited for that. I'm still choosing which one because I

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00:40:13.990 --> 00:40:17.450

Jerry Champion: never had options before. But now I have options which is crazy

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00:40:18.290 --> 00:40:20.149

Jerry Champion: so definitely recommend.

220

00:40:20.320 --> 00:40:23.500

Stacie East: I'm glad. And what do you think of the application process?

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00:40:24.290 --> 00:40:25.750

Jerry Champion: The application process

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00:40:25.970 --> 00:40:27.959

Jerry Champion: very easy. I think.

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00:40:28.824 --> 00:40:34.649

Jerry Champion: There's 1 part of the process that I think was really fun, and that's interviewing. I personally love to interview with people.

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00:40:35.220 --> 00:40:37.749

Jerry Champion: I'm not sure if that's actually part of the application process, but

225

00:40:37.960 --> 00:40:44.310

Jerry Champion: the actual application very easy. I know. It says, like essays, but it's like paragraphs, and it's very.

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00:40:44.680 --> 00:40:46.159

Jerry Champion: if you have like.

227

00:40:47.180 --> 00:40:49.510

Jerry Champion: How do I say it? Like a thought process in mind

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00:40:49.710 --> 00:40:52.149

Jerry Champion: of what you want to say very easy.

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00:40:53.590 --> 00:41:02.559

Stacie East: Alright perfect. Thank you so much, Jerry. I really appreciate your insight, and I'm glad you're having a good experience.

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00:41:03.060 --> 00:41:03.810

Jerry Champion: Thank you.

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00:41:05.090 --> 00:41:34.810

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Me, too. Thank you, guys both. We love all of our interns and fellows, Holly and I and Stacy really enjoy the orientation week, which this is a picture of all the interns and fellows that participated this this past year in the orientation process, and love to get to know everybody. We wanted to take some questions just in general from all of you. You can use the Q. And a. To ask those questions.

232

00:41:35.149 --> 00:41:52.460

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: I'll pose them out to folks or answer them myself, and I'll start with one for you, Stacy. This is a general question that I think we get a lot which is from international applicants, and basically just asking if they are eligible for exploring internship and fellowship opportunities and feedback.

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00:41:52.700 --> 00:42:04.869

Stacie East: So, in order to be considered, one must have attended a minority serving institution as defined by the United States Department of Education.

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00:42:06.340 --> 00:42:12.005

Stacie East: since it's the United States Department of Education, it really only has jurisdiction over

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00:42:13.090 --> 00:42:14.270

Stacie East: schools

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00:42:14.320 --> 00:42:30.359

Stacie East: within its borders and territories. So if a person has only gone to school outside the United States. They won't be eligible if the person has gone to schools in the United States, but none that are minority serving institutions

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00:42:30.450 --> 00:42:32.210

Stacie East: not eligible.

238

00:42:32.550 --> 00:42:41.309

Stacie East: So once one meets the the school eligibility, one must be able to start working

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00:42:41.930 --> 00:42:56.510

Stacie East: at orientation. So the day after Memorial Day in 2024. Unfortunately, we don't sponsor visas, so one must

have the ability and right to legally work in the United States.

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00:42:56.540 --> 00:42:59.470

Stacie East: At the end of May 2025.

241

00:43:00.860 --> 00:43:02.259

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks so much, Stacy.

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00:43:02.460 --> 00:43:21.460

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And we have another question just asking about flexibilities about start dates. And if people can come back for graduation. If they graduate, for example, in August, if they're able to go to orientation in June and then come back for something significant that might be happening during the summer. For example.

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00:43:23.030 --> 00:43:24.360

Stacie East: So it's a little.

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00:43:24.490 --> 00:43:41.460

Stacie East: So let me repeat back, as I understand the question, the person wants to start potentially with everyone else at orientation and leave for the summer, or just be able to take a few days off in August and.

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00:43:41.460 --> 00:43:42.820

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: The latter the latter.

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00:43:42.820 --> 00:44:09.470

Stacie East: It's take a few days off whether you're an intern or a fellow. As a fellow you are an Esa employee. You get 13 days off of Pto, which is vacation or sick, and as long as it is amenable and acceptable to your mentor and Esa, there's no problem taking vacation. If you're an intern, and you need to do something. Yes, you absolutely can

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00:44:09.890 --> 00:44:15.030

Stacie East: manage your personal requirements. We do ask that.

248

00:44:15.100 --> 00:44:25.350

Stacie East: An intern work as close to the entirety of 10 weeks. But if they need a day or 2 off to take care of personal things, that's reasonable.

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00:44:26.220 --> 00:44:41.959

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks. Stacy and nested within that question also was just a general question about flexibility of of start and end dates, and I will say that for the internship we don't have a ton of flexibility beyond, you know, a few days here or there on the beginning and the end, because, as Stacey mentioned, we're trying to keep it to 10 weeks.

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00:44:41.960 --> 00:44:59.710

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: But do have a little bit of flexibility on the front and back end, we do want you to

attend orientation in that last week of May 1st part of June, just because of that critical experience of bonding with everyone, meeting all the mentors being trained in the facility, etc.

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00:44:59.985 --> 00:45:14.049

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: However, we have had fellows who have had to finish their Phd. And needed to start later in the summer, and then just started their year later. That's also that could potentially be worked out. So in terms of a fellowship, there's a little more flexibility on start and end dates.

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00:45:15.030 --> 00:45:24.939

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Another question, Stacy, for you. We have a current undergraduate and exercise science, and she plans to get her master's in public health, and she's wondering if she's eligible for the program.

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00:45:24.940 --> 00:45:25.920

Stacie East: Absolutely

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00:45:27.460 --> 00:45:48.149

Stacie East: for both the interns and the fellows. This is a training program in my mind. You need to be interested in science, but you don't have to have studied entomology. Some of our fellows and interns have studied microbiology, meteorology.

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00:45:48.540 --> 00:45:49.630

Stacie East: There's a

256

00:45:49.680 --> 00:45:58.269

Stacie East: animal science. There's a wide span of academic interest, going into the internship and fellowship.

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00:46:04.540 --> 00:46:09.789

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Okay? And I have a question for Jerry. Jerry. What area do you want to do your Phd in.

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00:46:10.780 --> 00:46:12.310

Jerry Champion: Hey? So

259

00:46:12.330 --> 00:46:20.010

Jerry Champion: interesting question. So originally, I was actually to get my Phd. Be in like biostatistics, because my background is mathematics.

260

00:46:20.681 --> 00:46:28.000

Jerry Champion: But after doing the fellowship and like while mid this fellowship, I've decided that I really do love mosquitoes. So I'm gonna stick with entomology. So

261

00:46:28.920 --> 00:46:33.760

Jerry Champion: fellowship really does change your your like perspective. So it's gonna be entomology.

262
00:46:34.456 --> 00:46:36.639
Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks, Jerry. That's good news.

263
00:46:37.212 --> 00:46:56.870
Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And then back to Stacy. We have someone who's graduating this fall with her bachelor's in public health from a minority serving institution. So check. She's a nontraditional student, though, and although she has many years of work experience, none of it relates to public health or entomology, and she's wondering if that will affect her application for the fellowship program.

264
00:46:58.310 --> 00:47:06.819
Stacie East: So the timing? So you're graduating? And is this person graduating in December 2024 or December 20?

265
00:47:06.820 --> 00:47:10.750
Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Sounds like it. December 24, because this fall is what she said.

266
00:47:10.750 --> 00:47:14.369
Stacie East: Okay? Well, the timing is perfect. You are.

267
00:47:14.500 --> 00:47:17.640
Stacie East: You'd be a great applicant. I don't.

268
00:47:21.310 --> 00:47:24.959
Stacie East: I am not. I don't think that any of our

269
00:47:25.270 --> 00:47:31.560
Stacie East: fellows have been non-traditional students. I will say that some of our interns are

270
00:47:31.680 --> 00:47:38.489
Stacie East: potentially in the category of nontraditional students. I don't think that that's at all a problem.

271
00:47:40.140 --> 00:47:54.940
Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks so much. And in the same realm of nontraditional students, there's 1 about a mom asking how she might navigate this opportunity with the child with moving and everything, and I will add on to what Stacey mentioned. I think

272
00:47:55.610 --> 00:48:11.739
Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: the interns in general tend to be younger as a cohort because they tend to be coming out of their undergrad opportunities. We don't have any age restrictions in terms of participation at all. The fellowship, I think

273
00:48:12.223 --> 00:48:27.519

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: is is different. Right? So the internship could be complicated in terms of us paying for and placing a nontraditional participant with a child in the dorms. We'd have to sort that through Stacy that might not.

274

00:48:27.520 --> 00:48:50.300

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: That might not work, but we could probably sort something out there. The fellowship. The fellows all determine their residents independently out of the stipends or salary that they receive from Esa. So, whether or not you have a child at home and daycare, and all of that would not be something that would complicate participation from that perspective.

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00:48:50.300 --> 00:49:02.989

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: however, moving costs and all of those things are handled by the fellow themselves. Esa and Cdc. Do not pay for moving expenses. Is there anything else, Stacy? You'd want to share about a potential mom participating.

276

00:49:03.330 --> 00:49:21.879

Stacie East: Yeah. Well, any potential parents there, I guess in some ways this brings up demographic questions. We don't ask demographic questions. We won't know that a person is married or single, childless or childless, unless that person divulges the information.

277

00:49:21.910 --> 00:49:33.079

Stacie East: and we don't ask race gender sexuality questions, and so we won't know that information unless it's divulged or obviously visibly apparent.

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00:49:36.540 --> 00:49:38.000

Stacie East: and and we

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00:49:38.290 --> 00:49:48.519

Stacie East: I appreciate that potentially depending on the age of the child moving, a child would be challenging, and all of that. But we hope

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00:49:49.570 --> 00:49:52.370

Stacie East: that you're you apply, you know.

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00:49:52.430 --> 00:49:53.970

Stacie East: Ben, and

282

00:49:54.340 --> 00:50:01.299

Stacie East: we can work that out, or or you can work that out, or we can work it out together with as much support as we could reasonably give.

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00:50:03.350 --> 00:50:28.279

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Great thanks. So much so here's a question for Jerry and Michelle. There's a master's student at Texas State researching soft ticks and tick-borne relapsing fever, and she is wondering if you could share a

little bit about your career goals and plans after completing the fellowship. So Jerry shared. He's going to apply for Phd programs, which is really great next fall. But just questions about what are your most? What are you most excited to pursue next

284

00:50:28.940 --> 00:50:39.920

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: for both of you starting Jerry with you, like, maybe even the research you might want to do if you apply to that Phd program and you get in what you might want to pursue, and then I'm Michelle. What you hope to do next.

285

00:50:40.780 --> 00:50:42.236

Jerry Champion: Yeah, I can start

286

00:50:42.910 --> 00:50:43.970

Jerry Champion: So

287

00:50:44.110 --> 00:50:53.809

Jerry Champion: first, st I need to settle down with. So I've been talking to a lot of professors here at the upcoming meeting. I can actually meet with a few of them by to kinda whittle down my options a little bit more.

288

00:50:54.120 --> 00:50:55.689

Jerry Champion: But so

289

00:50:55.840 --> 00:51:00.100

Jerry Champion: since I plan on going in 2026. I'm still kind of like filtering out

290

00:51:00.360 --> 00:51:05.570

Jerry Champion: what I'm actually interested in. I'm I'm sticking with mosquitoes. I love mosquitoes. I like working with them.

291

00:51:06.200 --> 00:51:10.239

Jerry Champion: I think I'm really so. The research that I'm doing now at the Cdc

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00:51:10.260 --> 00:51:13.660

Jerry Champion: I would really like to continue doing more of the kind of

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00:51:13.820 --> 00:51:24.040

Jerry Champion: ecology aspect of the mosquitoes trying to find out what they're attracted to, what they're not attracted to, maybe seeing what actually repels them again because it's been really interesting working with that.

294

00:51:24.250 --> 00:51:27.310

Jerry Champion: I'm on an egg project, too, that I've been really enjoying. So

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00:51:27.470 --> 00:51:32.289

Jerry Champion: sticking along the side of that. But I definitely want to get my Phd. And then end up back at the Cdc.
So

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00:51:32.930 --> 00:51:34.380

Jerry Champion: no, I'm Michelle.

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00:51:34.520 --> 00:51:35.500

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks. Jerry.

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00:51:37.222 --> 00:51:41.307

Amechelle Leander: Yeah. So I'm gonna put this out in the universe, hoping that it comes true.

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00:51:41.650 --> 00:51:49.909

Amechelle Leander: But I I don't know. I don't know. I don't know if Stacey remembers but or or Sue cause we were in.
Was it

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00:51:50.180 --> 00:51:59.509

Amechelle Leander: Longhorn when we had like our mid? And I was telling Stacey about how I really want to work
with this professor at University of Arizona.

301

00:51:59.820 --> 00:52:23.769

Amechelle Leander: and Ryan knew Ryan, who was Dr. Ryan. He was one of my mentors. He knew who it was, and
Stacy was like you should definitely have him introduce you, and, you know, get something started. Well, I did. He
introduced me, and she was my number one choice, and she really wanted to apply to her lab. So I am actually applying
to the University of Arizona.

302

00:52:24.297 --> 00:52:29.859

Amechelle Leander: Yeah, in a month. Basically, like this month, I'm submitting my application for the Phd. In
entomology.

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00:52:29.980 --> 00:52:34.910

Amechelle Leander: And I'm gonna visit her on Tuesday in Arizona, when we're there to like.

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00:52:34.910 --> 00:52:35.630

Stacie East: Thanks.

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00:52:35.630 --> 00:52:37.830

Amechelle Leander: The face meeting before, like.

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00:52:37.860 --> 00:52:40.499

Amechelle Leander: I actually submit my application. So yeah.

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00:52:41.100 --> 00:52:53.729

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Fantastic. That's a great update on Michelle. Thank you so much for sharing that you can see how excited Jerry is like, you're a big family. And we are cheering you guys on. So that's really exciting. Can't wait to hear how it goes.

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00:52:54.700 --> 00:53:09.280

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: And then just one last question that I see, Stacy, that Holly is also going to answer and text a little bit here, too, but just in general, if folks finish up more in the middle of the year? Are they still eligible to participate in the internship or fellowship.

309

00:53:09.280 --> 00:53:14.860

Stacie East: Sure, absolutely as, and, I assume finish up means graduate.

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00:53:15.620 --> 00:53:26.650

Stacie East: Our application will open December 15, th close February 15. We should know individuals should know whether they've been selected

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00:53:27.040 --> 00:53:31.359

Stacie East: by April ish, and we'll have very specific

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00:53:31.560 --> 00:53:33.570

Stacie East: timelines

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00:53:33.820 --> 00:53:36.049

Stacie East: into 2025,

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00:53:36.270 --> 00:53:53.019

Stacie East: and then everyone starts together as a class. The day after Memorial Day. So if someone graduates in December of 2024, or January 2025, they might have to find something to do

315

00:53:53.797 --> 00:53:59.219

Stacie East: for income, and to be engaged between that graduation time and Memorial Day.

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00:54:00.110 --> 00:54:01.659

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thanks so much, Stacy.

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00:54:02.100 --> 00:54:26.170

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: So, seeing no more open questions, I'll just share that this webinar has been recorded, we will be posting it to the Cdc website, and then Stacy will be cross-linking from the Esa website. So you should be able to find it on either of our Fifa program pages in the next couple days it'll take us a minute to get it 5 weight compliant and up on the website. But we will have that available for those of you who would like to go back and review

318

00:54:26.170 --> 00:54:38.230

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: some information, but also our 2 websites, which I'm going to ask Holly to post our 2 websites in the chat as well, so that you all can go and find more information there

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00:54:38.230 --> 00:55:02.599

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: in addition, if, after you review those pages and you still have questions. Please feel free to email Stacy East, our Esa program director. She can answer questions for you. And as she mentioned, they manage the application process from the very beginning. And so we end up coming in at Cdc. After the 1st review of those applications, making sure that everyone is eligible, based on the eligibility requirements.

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00:55:02.770 --> 00:55:20.860

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and after initial review of eligibility they'll pass it over and we'll conduct the interviews here at Cdc. So if you have questions about the process. Please go ahead and ask Stacy. She can connect you with Jerry or Michelle or others. If you have specific questions for our participants as well.

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00:55:21.100 --> 00:55:24.430

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: thanks to Holly for dropping those links in the chat.

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00:55:24.490 --> 00:55:28.200

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: and with that I'll pass it back to Stacey for any final comments.

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00:55:28.620 --> 00:55:47.080

Stacie East: Well, my one final comment is, it was great that Jerry and Michelle were able to participate. And they they were from port, both from San Juan, Puerto Rico. And so it sounds as if there was no input from Port Collins or

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00:55:47.880 --> 00:55:49.100

Stacie East: Atlanta.

325

00:55:49.110 --> 00:56:08.210

Stacie East: There are other videos where we've interviewed interns and fellows. That reference Fort Collins and Atlanta, and I can assure you that if we had had other interns and fellows from Fort Collins or Atlanta. They would have sang their locations praises, too.

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00:56:08.715 --> 00:56:17.799

Stacie East: So I don't want there to be any perception of bias, and I look forward to getting your questions and reviewing your applications.

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00:56:18.970 --> 00:56:20.139

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Thank you. Everyone.

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00:56:21.100 --> 00:56:21.840

Sue Visser (she/her), CDC/DVBD: Bye.

