

Position ID

L22-01

Office

Nanette Diaz Barragán

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

California; CA-44

Relevant Committee Membership

Energy and Commerce

Mentor

Matt Dernoga; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

environmental justice, clean water, clean energy, climate change, transportation, reducing port and shipping emissions

Expertise Desired

A background or passion for environmental justice would be great, but overall we'd be happy with someone who has a background in any of the portfolio priorities. Our preferred working style is someone who is a self-starter and can take initiative to come up with ideas and follow through on implementation (recognizing there is a learning curve to working on the Hill).

Day In the Life

On an average day, a fellow could be working with the mentor to prepare questions for a committee hearing, putting together sign-on letters to advocate for certain issues, working on a memo for an event the Congresswoman has related to the fellow's portfolio, and working with advocacy groups and colleagues in other offices to develop legislation.

Office Culture

We take our work seriously, but try not to take ourselves too seriously. It's important that work is done on time, that we have good communication, and that a fellow is comfortable staffing a member of Congress. We also try to keep a sense of humor around the office :)

COVID Policies

Hybrid - we alternate days staff are in with days we're not

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

No/No

Position ID

L22-02

Office

Doris Matsui

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

California; CA-06

Relevant Committee Membership

Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Energy

Mentor

Laura Forero; Climate Legislative Assistant

Portfolio Summary

Congresswoman Matsui is currently a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee which has jurisdiction over environmental protection; clean air and climate change; and national energy policy, among other topics. The Committee also oversees the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Commerce, which houses the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Congresswoman is also a co-chair of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC), the largest climate caucus in the House of Representatives which works to educate Members of Congress and advocate for policies that advance clean energy innovation; help combat the climate crisis; protect our nation's clean air, water, and natural environment; and promote environmental justice.

Historically, Congresswoman Matsui has been known for her robust work in clean transportation and electric vehicles. For 2022, the Congresswoman and Laura Forero (mentor host) are focused on expanding her environment, energy, and climate portfolio to include a more holistic approach to clean energy and climate solutions. The Knauss fellow would work on issues such as natural climate solutions (including ocean-based solutions), conservation (land and ocean based), and offshore wind. They will also provide support with general environment, energy, clean transportation, and renewable energy work handled by the mentor host. The fellow will also have the opportunity to help with SEEC for a few months as the executive director of the coalition will be on parental leave starting in March. The fellow's portfolio can be tailored based on existing skills, needs, interests, and experience within these spaces. They will also draft bills; engage with groups and stakeholders; develop briefing materials for the Congresswoman, and staff her at meetings and hearings as needed. On occasion, the fellow will aid the legislative correspondent on constituent mail that requires specific issue area expertise.

The fellow will work closely with Laura Forero, legislative assistant on energy, environment, and climate, as well as Flynn Rico-Johnson, deputy chief of staff, and Christina McCauley, legislative director. Our chief of staff, Jeremy Marcus, hosted several Knauss fellows at his previous office and is invested in ensuring that our office provides a meaningful experience for fellows.

Expertise Desired

Fellows should be able to work well with others; respond to requests quickly and accurately; synthesize complex concepts into simple language; and incorporate environmental justice and equity considerations into their work. Creativity is always welcome as we are looking to develop new legislative efforts in 2022. Scientific expertise or interest in climate change, clean energy, its intersection with other issues (particularly health and conservation) is also a benefit. An understanding of California and Western environmental issues are a plus.

Day In the Life

No two days in the office are exactly the same, but there are DC staff meetings twice times a week and a check in with the district staff every other week. An additional weekly meeting between the mentor host and the fellow will be added. The meetings help coordinate workflow, respond to fast-breaking issues, and address staffing needs for committee hearings, markups, and other official business. On any given day, the Sea Grant fellow could be working on drafting legislation; conducting research for the legislative assistant or the congresswoman; meeting with stakeholders; following a hearing or mark up; assembling materials and staffing Congresswoman Matsui for committee business or a meeting; writing bill and letter recommendations; working with the press team on press materials; or performing other tasks critical to advancing the interests of the office and constituents.

Office Culture

We are a small, supportive, and collaborative team that provides creative freedom to “take it and run with it” to develop new efforts. Similarly, the Congresswoman wants for her staff to continue highlighting and expanding her leadership in her core issue areas, and she trusts her staff to find the best path to do so. We are always open to all sorts of questions, big and small, to ensure that our more junior and newer staffers can get a strong footing and grow into their role. Staffers are friendly, thoughtful, and have great personal and professional relationships with each other. Similarly, we often interact with the Congresswoman since it is a small office, and she enjoys her time with the staff. Nonetheless, the office is respectful of work-life balance and mindful of personal boundaries and needs. Our senior staff actively incorporates suggestions from junior staff, and we like to do social outings as an office about once or twice a month. The regular workday runs from 9AM – 6PM during voting and committee work weeks and 9-5pm during recess.

COVID Policies

Currently, our staff is only coming into the office during voting days and working remote during non-voting days and committee work weeks. That breaks down to roughly 50% in person and 50% remote. We are closely monitoring developments with the Omicron variant should we have to go back to 2/3rds staffing during voting days or fully remote for non-senior staff. We are not currently hosting in-person meetings, just virtual meetings, and the Congresswoman is participating in all committee activity remotely.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Unknown/No, Although the host mentor has not hosted a fellow, the Chief of Staff, Jeremy Marcus, has hosted several Knauss fellows over the past decade. The host mentor, Laura Forero, has also worked with various Knauss Fellows in the past due to her work with former Senator Bill Nelson, former ranking member of the Senate Commerce Committee.

Position ID

L22-03

Office

Nicole Malliotakis

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Republican

State Represented

New York; NY-11

Relevant Committee Membership

Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard & Maritime

Mentor

Michael DeFilippis; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

A majority of NY-11 is an Island. The fellow will be responsible for the working with the T&I Legislative Assistant to assist with the Coast Guard portfolio, the environmental portfolio, A majority of NY-11 is an Island and is home to one of the largest Coast Guard stations in the United States. The fellow will be responsible for the working with the T&I Legislative Assistant handling with the Coast Guard portfolio and the WRDA reauthorization portfolio. It is hoped over time handle the environment and animals portfolio independently. The fellow will work with the Legislative Director in handling the Staten Island Seawall project which also involved radioactive waste clean-up. The fellow will also be in charge of the Conservative Climate Change Caucus and Oceans Caucus portfolio for the Congresswoman.

Expertise Desired

We would like a team player who can think independently and not afraid to bounce ideas off the team. Someone who understands city life and mentality but most importantly open to understanding other ideas.

Day In the Life

We are a 9-5, 6pm when in session or portfolio specific votes are finished. We have weekly staff meetings and Legislative team meetings to ensure everyone understands there expectations/responsibilities for the week.

Office Culture

Our office culture is very important to us, a team that is able to work together to serve the Member is very important. The Legislative Director has worked in 8 different offices and has mentored a NOAA Fellow in the past and understands each person's roll in the office. We are loud and have vastly different backgrounds, but we are a team that likes what we do.

COVID Policies

Everyone in our office is vaccinated and ask the same of the fellow.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

No/Yes, in a past office

Position ID

L22-04

Office

Jared Huffman

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

California; CA-02

Relevant Committee Membership

Natural Resources Committee (Chair of the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee), Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Select Committee on the Climate Crisis.

Mentor

Casey MacLean; Legislative Assistant

Portfolio Summary

Jared Huffman represents California's 2nd Congressional District, made up of six Northern California counties that stretch from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Oregon border. Boasting a third of the California coastline, the district includes marine sanctuaries, pristine rivers, fishing communities, tribes, national forests and wilderness, agriculture, and protected wildlife, presenting a wide array of natural resource issues that the Fellow will work on. Congressman Huffman is a senior member of the Natural Resources Committee and is the Chair of the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife (WOW) subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His position as Chair of the WOW subcommittee makes him one of the most active members working on water, ocean, and wildlife issues in the House; WOW-related work constitutes a significant part of the fellow's portfolio. He is also a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee and is a member of the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis (SCCC). As a former Natural Resources Defense Council attorney and California Assembly Member, working on environmental issues is a priority for him and the office. The Fellow will handle a natural resources-focused portfolio that will include ocean and fisheries management, wildlife and endangered species, and climate and energy. The Fellow will be treated as a full member of the legislative staff and will be involved in all steps of the legislative process. They will be responsible for developing legislation; preparing for committee hearings and markups; working with committees, agencies, and outside groups; and advising and staffing Congressman Huffman. The Fellow will also assist in drafting speeches, press releases, briefing memos, oversight letters, and other materials as needed. Finally, the Fellow will meet with constituents, interest groups, and others on a regular basis. The Fellow will be the staff lead for the Wild Salmon Caucus, which Congressman Huffman co-chairs, and legislation including the Salmon FISH Act, Coastal Habitat Conservation Act, and more. The Fellow will play an active role in reauthorizations of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

The Fellow will report directly to Casey MacLean, a legislative assistant for Rep. Huffman covering natural resources and science issues. Prior to joining the Huffman office, Casey worked on the WOW

subcommittee staff for nearly 3 years. She has worked with many Fellows and detailees on the WOW subcommittee and in Rep. Huffman's office and is committed to ensuring a positive learning experience for the Fellow.

Expertise Desired

A successful candidate will be creative, demonstrate strong communication skills, and be capable of learning quickly while working as part of a team. The candidate should possess a desire to work on a wide array of issues within the environment and natural resources portfolio, as described above. In addition, the candidate will have excellent organizational and time management skills, a professional manner, and most importantly a sense of humor. Staff have worked with many fellows over the years and understand how to provide the resources and guidance necessary for fellows to thrive.

Day In the Life

The Fellow will work independently and with the DC staff, taking the lead on a few long-term projects and shorter-term or time-sensitive projects as they come up. Day to day might include taking meetings with constituents or outside groups, preparing for and attending committee hearings and markups, reaching out to experts on relevant topics, conducting research, or drafting and editing legislation. The Fellow is expected to join weekly staff meetings, weekly meetings with the Congressman, and weekly one-on-one meetings with the Fellow's supervisor.

Fellows are encouraged to seek out professional development opportunities, including but not limited to webinars, conferences, Congressional Research Service trainings, and relevant travel. The office is collaborative and supportive of the Fellow and the Fellow's success in the position.

Office Culture

Our office values: "Rep. Jared Huffman combines progressive values with a pragmatic focus on making a difference. He and his team take pride in setting high standards of service, competency, and integrity. They value problem solving above ideology, and work creatively and collaboratively with diverse stakeholders and colleagues to get things done. They champion solutions that protect our environment, foster economic opportunity, promote social justice, improve the functioning of our Democracy and public institutions, and help make the world safer and healthier. They are accessible to and respectful of constituents regardless of their political views. They care about the wellbeing of the people and communities they represent, and continually try to deliver results for them."

COVID Policies

The Huffman office is currently following a hybrid in-person and work from home model. When Congress is in session, the fellow will work in the office. When Congress is not in session on a given week, the fellow will work in the office on Monday and two other days of the week of their choosing, subject to approval of the Chief of Staff. The remaining two days of the non-session week, the fellow can choose to telecommute by working from their approved residence location (they are also welcome to come into the office all days). Official hours during telecommute will be the same as the hours under in-office circumstances. The hybrid in-person and work from home policy is subject to change throughout the year, and office policy may require all staff to return to the DC office to work. The fellow will be provided with a laptop and work phone.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office, Yes, in a past office

Position ID

L22-05

Office

John Garamendi

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

California; CA-03

Relevant Committee Membership

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Mentor

Iain Hart; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

Fellows in the office of Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA03) are fully fledged members of our legislative staff with their own policy portfolios and responsibilities. The Knauss Fellow will be assisting the Legislative Director in staffing the Congressman on his Transportation and Infrastructure Committee assignment, particularly the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment and the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation. The Knauss Fellow will also be staffing the Congressman on non-committee issues such as environmental, public lands, natural disasters, tribal, and international conservation.

Expertise Desired

Team Garamendi is seeking a Knauss fellow excited by the challenge of taking on a variety of legislative issue areas with a general focus on pragmatic solutions. While the Congressman personally cares about ocean policy, our legislative work tends to focus more on inland waterways, as we do not represent a coastal district. The maritime policy we do in the Garamendi office tends to be focused on commerce, not oceans conservation.

Day In the Life

Team Garamendi is a hardworking, scrappy personal office where every member of staff has near-unlimited access to the Congressman. We also work for a boss who enjoys tackling “new” legislation or issues and knows how to recognize and appreciate a good idea for just that: being a good idea. If you work in our office, you will be called on to pitch potential legislative action items or give your professional opinion about topics that span the Congressman’s Committee assignments, legislative priorities, and myriad interest areas.

Office Culture

Team Garamendi has a very flat organizational structure where each member of staff reports directly to the Congressman. We are looking for a fellow who can handle a fast-paced, demanding work

environment while remaining calm, cool, and collected. A sense of humor and ability to think and act on your feet is a must.

COVID Policies

The DC staff are expected to report to the DC office in person when the House is in session or the Congressman is otherwise in the office. Otherwise, we provide flexibility for staff to work remotely when the House is in recess and the Congressman is not in the DC office.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-06

Office

Transportation and Infrastructure ; Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation

Chamber

House/Committee

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented**Relevant Committee Membership****Mentor**

Matt Dwyer; Staff Director

Portfolio Summary

The committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I, committee, or full committee) is one of the most bipartisan and effective committees in congress, and the subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation (subcommittee) is no different. As subject matter experts, committees are the avenues through which all legislation moves, providing a tangible opportunity to effect change in climate and marine policy. The subcommittee has jurisdiction over the Coast Guard, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) within the Department of Transportation, and the Federal Maritime Commission. We operate an “all-hands-on-deck” office, with fellows assuming the role of committee staff whose coastal and marine expertise; analytical approach; science communication and strong writing skills; and policy advice is highly valued. Work is delegated based on each staff member’s interests and strengths but never siloed, resulting in policy and legislative products informed by all subcommittee staff. Our team includes a Staff Director, Professional Staff, Coast Guard fellow, Knauss fellow, and Legislative Assistant, all of whom are accessible and supportive colleagues and mentors. The fellow’s success is a key priority of the committee.

As we head into the second session of the 117th Congress, the Democratic majority has large ambitions and legislative priorities to accomplish. It is expected that the subcommittee and future Knauss fellow will contribute significantly to solidifying Peter DeFazio's legacy as a staunch environmental advocate in his final term as Chair of the Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. Following the successful passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (i.e., the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), the largest single investment in our nation’s infrastructure, the subcommittee will conduct oversight of the Biden Administration’s distribution of the \$2.25 billion allocated to maritime emissions reduction and port resiliency efforts through the Port Infrastructure Development Program under MARAD. The subcommittee will also introduce, mark up, and pass the next two-year Coast Guard Authorization Act (CGAA) to follow-on to successful passage of the 2019-2020 CGAA at the end of the 116th Congress. This is an opportunity to be intimately involved in the movement of major bipartisan legislation that often includes issues affecting not only the Coast Guard but the maritime industry writ large.

Consequently, the subcommittee will continue oversight of the Coast Guard’s budgetary priorities; major data systems and asset acquisitions; shoreside facility recapitalization, maintenance, and repair; and mission balance and performance across all 11 Coast Guard statutory missions. These include

marine environmental protection, living marine resources, ice operations (i.e., polar icebreaking), port and waterway security, aids to navigation, and search and rescue, among others. In particular, the fellow can expect to contribute to the subcommittee's work on Coast Guard implementation of high seas law enforcement actions to address Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, oversight of the Coast Guard's response to and investigation of oil spills including the recent pipeline incident off Huntington Beach, CA, and Coast Guard actions and response to recent events such as sexual assault allegations in the maritime industry, and major marine casualties associated with passenger vessel safety regulations and legislation. This final issue is a key priority of Subcommittee Chair Salud Carbajal in response to the M/V Conception dive boat fire in his district in September 2019.

The subcommittee will also continue its work supporting research on, development of, and investment in non-carbon fuels for maritime transportation, and will interface regularly with environmental NGOs, academia, and industry in the US and abroad toward design, construction, and deployment of zero-carbon emission vessels, alternative maritime fuels and their transportation and storage infrastructure, and electrification of port operations (i.e., cranes, cargo stackers, cargo handlers, drayage trucks, etc.). The subcommittee will support and oversee new and existing Maritime Administration programs critical to future "greening" of the US maritime industry, including new opportunities to expand the Marine Highway network, build out and implement the aforementioned Port Infrastructure Development Program for offshore wind development and supply chain/natural hazard resiliency, and oversee new advances in remotely-operated or autonomous maritime systems and their application to Coast Guard mission sets, US cargo carriers, port service providers, and marine terminal operators. Oversight of the Jones Act's application to coastwise trade and the construction of offshore wind farms is central to the committee's work, and the fellow will support the subcommittee's oversight of the Federal Maritime Commission and their work mitigating the impacts of foreign-flag ocean carriers' disruption of the US maritime supply chain. Prior experience or knowledge of these areas are not needed, rather, the enthusiasm to learn and the ability to interpret new information is key, and subcommittee staff will work with the new fellow to provide the necessary resources to succeed. If you're looking to step outside your comfort zone, expand your knowledge in an exciting and impactful policy space, and effectuate real and lasting change, this office is your home.

Given the expanse of the subcommittee's jurisdiction, the fellow will have the freedom to determine their interests within these areas of jurisdiction and base their portfolio of work on their interest areas. The fellow will be treated as a full member of the team. She/he/they will report directly to the Subcommittee Staff Director, Matt Dwyer, while also working closely with staff on the subcommittee and T&I full committee. The fellow's work could include writing and drafting legislation, brainstorming legislative priorities, interacting with House Members on the Committee and their respective staff, preparing, and running subcommittee hearings, and taking meetings with agency representatives and stakeholders. In addition to the fellow's responsibilities with the subcommittee, we encourage and wholly support the fellow to take full advantage of professional development activities to learn and further enrich their fellowship experience. Our current fellow crafted a lengthy professional development trip along the U.S. West Coast over August recess, visiting over two dozen ports and Coast Guard units between Seattle and San Diego to learn directly from servicemembers and port executives about their operations, infrastructure needs, supply chain disruptions, and natural hazard vulnerabilities to inform maritime policy development from the ground-up. This included unique opportunities to drive numerous patrol boats, go up in a port crane, and participate in a search and rescue training mission, among others. This culminated in the fellow taking full responsibility for the success of a Coast Guard infrastructure hearing while serving as the lead staffer for Subcommittee Chair Salud Carbajal in the "hot seat" at the hearing; writing speeches, questions, and messaging documents; and drafting legislative text to be included in the Coast Guard Authorization Act as a follow up to the hearing. Previous fellows

have gone on to receive job opportunities in both the executive and legislative branches of government as well as with outside groups.

Expertise Desired

Good communication skills, especially writing skills, are necessary. The ability to quickly synthesize and distill new information is important. Hands on knowledge of the Coast Guard and U.S. maritime industry is not necessary, but a broad interest in U.S. ocean and coastal policy is very helpful. A willingness to participate, learn, and assume responsibility is expected and beneficial. We seek a fellow who can work independently but also thrive in a small team environment and be a supportive team member. The entire fellowship is geared to immerse the fellow in the legislative process, build subject matter expertise, broaden the fellow's skillset and professional network, and prepare the fellow for post-fellowship career opportunities in Congress or elsewhere, equipped with the intimate knowledge of policymaking and legislative processes that working on a congressional committee affords.

Day In the Life

The subcommittee office is located in 507 Ford House Office Building with the full committee offices located in 2165 Rayburn House Office Building. The fellow will have their own desk and cubicle space within the subcommittee office in Ford with a panoramic view of the Capitol rotunda and House office buildings. The subcommittee office provides a quieter atmosphere where staff can peacefully focus on their work without the disruptions of constituents meandering the halls, and the walk from Ford to the full committee office in Rayburn allows for a welcome breath of fresh air outdoors. This environment accommodates less formal attire depending on the day's meeting schedule (e.g., business formal when meeting with the Chairman, attending a hearing, or taking meetings with members of congress). There is also easy access to nice outdoor spaces for lunch breaks in the U.S. Botanic Garden, which is a crucial component for stress relief in the fast-paced, high-energy work environment on the hill. The fellow will work with four other subcommittee staff members in a much larger than average Congressional office space surrounded by windows, and with other subcommittee staff on the same floor. Typically, the fellow will be expected to work in the office daily but due to the ongoing pandemic, the fellow has the option to work remotely or in person as preferred. The full committee is very flexible and open to remote work, though in-person work certainly provides a fulsome and valuable hill experience. Our 2021 fellow has chosen to work in the office three or four days per week to take advantage of face-to-face interaction with members of congress, committee staff, and congressional liaisons.

Currently, subcommittee staff are working remotely with some coming into the office as needed. Despite the remote work, subcommittee staff are easily accessible for questions and guidance. While there is no "typical" day on Capitol Hill, the fellow can expect many days to include working from a computer and desk/standing desk; taking meetings with government officials and industry representatives in the office, virtually, or elsewhere on campus; attending informational agency and stakeholder briefings; staffing and/or managing hearings or bill markups; and attending weekly staff meetings. The work will also track the process of enacting a comprehensive Coast Guard Authorization Act from development to final passage. Much of the responsibility of working in a congressional office is monitoring current events and responding accordingly, so fellows should be prepared for a changing workload, enjoy the process of learning on the fly, and have the ability to turn work around quickly. Typical office hours are 9am to 6pm but might change depending on the day, events occurring, and vote schedule. As the pandemic begins to ease, the fellow will have the opportunity to travel whether for a planned field hearing on passenger vessel safety the Chairman's district in California, or staff delegations to visit Coast Guard and maritime assets in person. The committee is also open to and supportive of a fellow interested in curating his/her/their own travel opportunities both for committee-/agency-related work and for the fellow's own professional development.

Office Culture

Under the leadership of Chair DeFazio, each team member is valued and treated with respect. The subcommittee understands the fellowship is a learning and growth opportunity. For that reason, the fellow will be provided the fullest support needed to succeed in the role and is encouraged to seek professional development opportunities. Communication is vital and each member of the team, including the mentor, is available to voice questions or concerns. The work style of the office involves a mix of self-initiated projects and collaborative teamwork. While there is possible for items to come up after typical work hours such as a vote or deadline, most work will fall between the typical hours of 9am to 6pm, and Chair DeFazio stresses the value of work-life balance.

COVID Policies

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is following CDC guidance closely and working remotely for the foreseeable future. The fellow will be provided a computer and phone to enable telework abilities while connected to the House VPN. The fellow should still expect to work a typical workday from home and be familiar with video conferencing platforms, namely MS Teams. As/if the Committee moves back to working in the office full-time, staff will work with the fellow to ensure a safe return. No return date has been determined at this time but should the fellow wish to work from the office, more than enough space is provided for safe social distancing.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-07

Office

Mike Levin

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

California; CA-49

Relevant Committee Membership

House Natural Resources Committee, House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis

Mentor

Faith Williams; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

Rep. Mike Levin's office is looking for a Knauss legislative fellow to serve as a member of the office's legislative team. This person will report to the legislative director, Faith Williams, and work alongside the office's legislative assistants.

Rep. Levin represents 50 miles of California coastline in North County San Diego and South Orange County. Coastal issues directly impact the lives of his constituents and are a top priority of his in Congress. While he has many interests in the space, he is particularly focused on adapting to coastal climate impacts and mitigating climate change.

Currently, the office has a legislative assistant who covers Rep. Levin's work on the Natural Resources Committee and the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. Specifically, Rep. Levin serves on the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife and the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, both of which have jurisdiction over diverse coastal policy issues. The fellow will assume responsibility for certain issues within the jurisdiction of the two committees and assist Rep. Levin with his work in those spaces. The exact issues within the committees' jurisdiction will depend on the fellow's expertise and interests. The fellow's portfolio could also include off-committee environmental issues and other policy issues as needed.

The fellow's responsibilities will include staffing the Congressman at hearings and markups; developing and analyzing legislation and policy; drafting remarks, hearing questions, talking points, and memos; maintaining strong relationships with constituent and stakeholder groups; drafting letters to stakeholders, the Administration, and other Members; and staffing the Congressman in meetings and at other events.

Expertise Desired

Knowledge of energy issues, coastal climate adaptation, and general climate change policy are a plus. The fellow should be able to learn quickly; exhibit strong verbal and written communications skills; work in a fast-paced environment; prioritize tasks as they are assigned; and adapt quickly to changing schedules and circumstances.

Day In the Life

Our office offers work from home opportunities when the House is out of session. This impacts day-to-day operations. However, generally a day involves balancing short-term tasks and long-term projects. If the House is in session and Rep. Levin is in town, staff are in the office. Often, there will be many time-sensitive, short-term tasks. You may staff Rep. Levin in a constituent meeting (usually virtual, sometimes in-person), committee hearing, or committee markup. You may also take your own virtual meetings with stakeholders or constituents who wish to discuss an issue in your policy portfolio. At the same time, you will be preparing briefing materials for the meetings and events at which you will be staffing Rep. Levin in the coming days. You will also prepare decision memos for Rep. Levin on bills and letters you recommend that he support. If time allows, you will work on long-term projects such as bill and letter drafting.

If the House is out of session and Rep. Levin is not in town, the pace is generally slower. You will have similar responsibilities, but in-person staffing will not be needed. You may be working from home, and you will have more time to focus on long-term projects.

Office Culture

We seek to create a professional work environment that allows staff to independently manage their legislative portfolios, while also offering the supervisory support needed to navigate internal and external challenges. Staff set weekly meetings with supervisors in order to meet this goal. Regular internal and external communication is also key.

We value responsiveness to constituents, attention to issues that are important locally, and delivering results for our Congressional district. Staff are expected to reflect these values in the prioritization of their work and interactions outside the office.

COVID Policies

The office provides a flexible work from home policy on out-of-session days. We rotate staffing the office minimally, while the remainder of the staff works from home. We also work to accommodate the health and safety needs of all staff members. Office management regularly assess and adjust these policies based on local COVID-19 statistics.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

No/No

Position ID

L22-08

Office

Edward Markey

Chamber

Senate/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

Massachusetts

Relevant Committee Membership

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (Chairman of the Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety); Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Senate Committee on Foreign Relations (Chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy); Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Mentor

Hannah Vogel; Policy Advisor

Portfolio Summary

Senator Markey is currently the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee; the Chairman of the East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Subcommittee on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; and a member of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. He is also the chair of the Senate Climate Change Task Force, which sets up meetings and briefings for senators on climate-related topics, usually on a weekly basis while the Senate is in session.

Your fellowship would involve working as part of a six-person team on issues including climate, oceans, fisheries, energy (particularly offshore wind energy), and environmental protection. Sen. Markey sits on committees with oversight responsibilities for the Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of Commerce (including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration), the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Department of Transportation (including the Maritime Administration). Your portfolio will be tailored to meet your interests and experience within these spaces--drafting bills, leading oversight projects, engaging with groups and stakeholders, developing briefing materials for the senator, working on remarks and talking points, and staffing him at key meetings and hearings.

Because of Sen. Markey's strong focus on an intersectional approach to climate action, projects related to climate issues and legislation will likely involve working across several teams within the Markey office (such as health, small business, labor, etc.) and with various stakeholders and advocates. Previous Knauss fellows worked on projects as varied as drafting legislation and securing funding for local air quality monitors in environmental justice communities, developing legislative solutions to protect against Arctic oil spills, leading on water resources development reauthorization, and achieving the first-ever purchases of Atlantic groundfish through USDA.

Your fellowship mentor will be Hannah Vogel (policy advisor on climate, energy, and environmental issues), but you will work closely with the entire energy and environment team and with office leadership throughout your time in the Markey office.

Expertise Desired

Senator Markey's staff work collaboratively and closely together, both within an issue/committee area and across teams. The Energy & Environment team uses daily morning check-ins to brainstorm and discuss ongoing work, and fellows also have regular individual check-ins with mentors to ensure that work projects and the overall fellowship are going well. Fellows should be able to work well with others, respond to requests quickly and accurately, and synthesize complex concepts into simple language. An understanding of Massachusetts-specific issues is not necessary, but is a plus. Scientific expertise or interest in climate change and its intersection with other issues (such as health equity, racial justice, and the workforce) is also a benefit.

Day In the Life

The Markey office is collaborative, close-knit, and operates under a fairly flat structure. It is set up broadly as a series of issue-focused "pods" (e.g. a Commerce pod, Foreign Policy pod, Health pod, Judiciary pod, and Energy & Environment pod), which are largely autonomous and can develop and suggest their own projects. However, because climate and environmental justice are intersectional issues and key priorities for the senator, it is common and routine for pods to work together and consult on these issues. We were working mostly in person from June-December 2021 (although that is currently suspended as a result of the Omicron spread in D.C.), which enabled easy discussion and idea flow among different teams. Senator Markey enjoys walking through the office and talking to different teams about what they're working on, as well as doing broader brainstorming and briefing sessions on key climate and environmental issues.

Whether remote or in person, the Energy & Environment team (within which the Knauss fellow would primarily work) has daily check-ins to ensure that members have what they need to achieve their immediate and short-term project goals. The office as a whole has weekly meetings to discuss the legislative calendar and hear what other teams are working on.

The Knauss fellow will have the same responsibilities as any other member of the office--they can suggest new ideas for legislation, oversight, or events; work on op-eds, social media, and talking points in their portfolio area; and provide memos and expertise directly to the senator.

Office Culture

The Markey office has a culture based on mutual respect, progressive values, and individual empowerment and mentorship. As we fight for better workplaces for all, it is of paramount importance that our own office is a collegial, safe, harassment-free, and supportive place to work for each and every employee. We recognize the importance of diversity and strive to reflect in all of our decisions an understanding of the value that diverse perspectives bring to our work and our results. We welcome staff members from all backgrounds, and are committed to representation from BIPOC, LGBTQ+, working class, disabled, military, and/or other underrepresented communities. In addition to a physically safe workplace, every employee is entitled to a healthy work-life balance and mental well-being.

Senator Markey is a longstanding congressional champion for climate justice and consumer protection, and those issues underpin the workings of this office. His commitment to the Green New Deal means that policies and priorities are evaluated on whether they meet that standard: addressing the climate crisis with the urgency the science demands; prioritizing justice and addressing historic harms and inequities; and creating family-sustaining jobs in a green economy.

COVID Policies

We are continuing to respond to and monitor all new information about the COVID-19 spread and variants, so are continually reevaluating longer-term office safety and telework policy. While the office returned to in-person work in June 2021, that position has been reevaluated as the Omicron variant has advanced in D.C. We have effectively onboarded new staff and fellows in a telework situation, so will be able to smoothly integrate new team-members regardless of whether we are in-person or teleworking. We have also worked to accommodate any staff or fellows who require the longer-term ability to work from home.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-09

Office

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works;

Chamber

Senate/Committee

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented**Relevant Committee Membership****Mentor**

Elizabeth Mabry; Senior Policy Advisor

Portfolio Summary

The Committee's broad jurisdiction includes: policy and budget oversight of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including advice and consent on nominations for its senior political leadership; oversight of the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) including reviewing its nominees and its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); the Clean Water Act (CWA); the Safe Drinking Water Act; environmental justice; fish and wildlife issues including oversight of the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Endangered Species Act (ESA); Outer Continental Shelf issues including energy development and its impacts on marine ecosystems; the Clean Air Act (CAA) and related climate issues; toxic substances, including the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); remediation of contaminated lands; nuclear energy issues and oversight of the Nuclear Energy Commission; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, including navigation and ensuring the protection and resilience of coastal and riverine areas; and transportation issues. The Senator also serves as a co-chair of the Senate Recycling and Environmental Justice Caucuses.

The Knauss Sea Grant Legislative Fellow will be a key member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Democratic staff and the Fellow's portfolio will be flexible depending on the Fellow's interests and experience and needs within the team. Past Fellows have worked on NEPA, CWA, WRDA, CAA and climate, ESA and other species/wildlife refuge matters, as well as efforts to protect the nation's watersheds and estuaries, and ensure the resilience of our coasts, communities, and ecosystems in the face of a changing climate. In addition to Committee-specific issues, the Fellow will have the opportunity to help advise Chairman Tom Carper (DE) on a range of non-EPW issues including parks, lands, ocean and coastal, living marine resources, and other NOAA/Commerce and Interior-related issues he will face as a U.S. Senator.

As a full-fledged member of our professional staff, the Fellow will have opportunities to: investigate hot-button issues; draft legislation; find and prepare witnesses for hearings; organize roundtables; prepare memos, questions, and statements for hearings; draft Floor statements; participate in meetings and briefings; travel to Delaware; and directly advise Chairman Carper. This experience will give the Fellow an opportunity to work closely with staff in other Congressional offices, EPW minority colleagues, federal and state experts in multiple agencies, and the wide variety of stakeholders and other parties interested in the work of this Committee. Our staff is replete with former Sea Grant, AAAS and

Presidential Management Fellows; so, we understand the responsibilities of and opportunities for Fellows and hosts. Given that sensitivity and the wide range of topics within the Committee's jurisdiction, we will encourage our Fellow to find and focus on issues of particular interest to them. On each issue, the Fellow will report to the applicable member of the EPW staff but will have consistent, scheduled check-ins with Elizabeth Mabry, Senior Policy Advisor, and Christophe Tulou, Senior Counsel.

Expertise Desired

The ability to contribute to a positive work environment. The Committee seeks a Fellow who has a strong background in science, law, and/or public policy. We work in a fast-paced environment, and are always interested in Fellows who are self-motivated and can write well, learn quickly, and clearly articulate complex concepts to people who have only a general familiarity with the issues.

Day In the Life

Each week the Senate is in session, EPW typically has at least one Committee hearing and/or business meeting. This means each day is consumed with preparations – for Chairman Carper and our Democratic members. This involves drafting memorandums, briefing the Senator, and briefing our member offices. Senator Carper also meets with a variety of stakeholders, colleagues, and individuals on any given day, and staff prepares him and accompanies him to those meetings. Because the Committee staff serves not only the Chairman, but also our Committee members and the full Democratic caucus, we take a wide range of meetings at the staff level as well, covering issues of importance to not only Delaware but also the entire nation. When the Senate is in recess, we work on long-term projects such as drafting non-urgent legislation and scheduling lengthier meetings. EPW consistently interacts with agencies in our Committee's jurisdiction on both oversight and legislative matters. The Fellow will be invited to participate in all of these day-to-day activities.

Office Culture

COVID Policies

As of early January 2022, EPW staff are working in the office while the Senate is in session, with the option to telework while the Senate is in recess. As our protocols change, we will work with our fellow to ensure that they are safe and comfortable.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-10

Office

Jeff Merkley

Chamber

Senate/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

Oregon

Relevant Committee Membership

Senate Environment and Public Works, Senate Appropriations

Mentor

Caitlin Buchanan; Policy Advisor

Portfolio Summary

Environment (chemicals and TSCA, fisheries and hatcheries, ocean, ocean science, plastic pollution); Transportation and Infrastructure (Ports and Dams, including their impact on biodiversity and fish populations on the West Coast); Agriculture (include climate friendly agriculture and soil carbon sequestration).

Expertise Desired

Fisheries, hatcheries, oceans, and/or agriculture sciences.

Day In the Life

Our office has a lot of engagement with Senator Merkley. He is very interested in details and talking to staff. We have a robust infrastructure for getting memos to the Senator (for decision making) as well as weekly meeting with the Senator.

We are in a hybrid schedule, which means working from home is an option. However, we are expected to be in the office if we are staffing Senator Merkley.

Our office is also incredibly collaborative. We have weekly check-ins with the environment/energy/conservation teams. We have weekly meetings with the Senator, weekly full staff meetings, and 2x weekly legislative team meetings.

Office Culture

Our office is focused on "delivering for the people." This informs all of our work and lens which we view our legislation.

Our office is highly collaborative. The Fellow should feel comfortable with a high volume of email, as we are often copied on items that touch our portfolio and on comms correspondence.

COVID Policies

With the spike in omicron cases, we are at home for two weeks. For the last half of 2021, we were in a hybrid work mode. 21 people were allowed in the office at once, with priority given to those staffing Senator Merkley. Masks are worn at all times unless you are in your work station.

Able to host a Foreign National

unsure

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office, My office has hosted a Knauss Fellow. I have not been a mentor in the past.

Position ID

L22-11

Office

House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; Environment Subcommittee

Chamber

House/Committee

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented**Relevant Committee Membership****Mentor**

Priyanka Hooghan; Subcommittee Staff Director

Portfolio Summary

The House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, Subcommittee on Environment has broad jurisdiction over environmental research, including research and development at the Environmental Protection Agency; weather, climate, and ocean research and forecasting at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and climate change research and development at the U.S. Global Change Research Program. The Subcommittee is responsible for legislation, oversight, and investigation of topics within its jurisdiction. The Fellow will be considered a professional staff member and have an opportunity to work on an array of issues within the Subcommittee's jurisdiction and will be involved in all aspects of the legislative process. The Fellow will work closely with the other Subcommittee staff, as well as interact regularly with other Committee staff on the House and Senate, and legislative affairs teams at NOAA, EPA, and other agencies.

The Science Committee operates in a very bipartisan nature, and thus the Fellow will also get to work closely with Republican Committee staff leading up to markups and hearings; staff often take bipartisan agency briefings together. The Environment Subcommittee works closely with the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee as well as the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee on NOAA issues within our shared jurisdiction.

Fellows are encouraged to take advantage of professional development opportunities, such as Congressional Research Service trainings and travel, when appropriate.

Expertise Desired

The Fellow and Committee staff are considered subject matter experts. We are seeking a Fellow who is excited about the Committee/Subcommittee's jurisdiction and work and is interested in working in a bipartisan fashion. The Fellow will work independently and as part of a small team as an integral member of the Subcommittee staff. Being flexible and adaptable are key attributes for success, as staff have to be able to respond quickly to events and juggle multiple issues.

Excellent writing, interpersonal, and verbal communication skills are essential.

Day In the Life

A typical day might involve being in a briefing or meeting with NOAA, EPA, or other agency officials, researching and drafting legislation, preparing for an upcoming markup or hearing, and/or meeting with important national stakeholders on an issue.

Committee staff, including Fellows, are involved in every aspect of the legislative process, from researching, drafting, and negotiating legislation, to marking it up in Committee, and working to pass it through the House and into law, and engaging with key stakeholders along the way.

For hearings, the Fellow will be involved in all aspects of hearing preparation, including doing background research, scoping potential expert witnesses, drafting the hearing “charter,” drafting opening statements for the Subcommittee/Committee chairs, and preparing questions for the Members. The Fellow is expected to take the lead on at least one hearing and/or markup. The markup process involves preparing memos and talking points on the bills, working in a bipartisan manner in preparing amendments to the bills, and writing the Committee Report following the markup.

Finally, the Fellow will partake in daily Subcommittee staff check-ins over Microsoft Teams (or hybrid/in-person, depending) to share progress updates and exchange ideas. The team is great at staying connected even when working virtually.

Office Culture

The Subcommittee has a welcoming and respectful culture where everyone is encouraged to ask questions and provide input on Subcommittee activities. It is a very collaborative and supportive environment where opportunities for professional growth are always at the forefront of assignments.

COVID Policies

Our office has shifted practices as the pandemic has changed. We rely on guidance from the Capitol Attending Physician, the Committee on House Administration, and the CDC. At the moment, our office is back in maximum telework due to Omicron. We require vaccinations and mask wearing in public office spaces. It is our hope to return to more normal office operations when it is safe to do so.

Able to host a Foreign National

The Committee would prefer to host a U.S. National.

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Unknown/No

Position ID

L22-12

Office

U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, & Manufacturing

Chamber

Senate/Committee

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented**Relevant Committee Membership****Mentor**

Nicole Teutschel;

Portfolio Summary

Under the standing rules of the Senate, the Commerce Committee has broad jurisdiction over oceanic and atmospheric issues. Under Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington state as Chair of the committee, we have particular focus on issues that impact the Pacific Northwest such as salmon conservation, sustainable fisheries management, improvements to weather forecasts, Arctic policy, oil spill prevention and response, among many other priorities.

Much of our time is spent drafting and reviewing legislation, conducting oversight, and leading investigations that relate to the activities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the United States Coast Guard, and other entities under the committee's jurisdiction. Since oceans issues crosscut several federal agencies, we also work with the Army Corps of Engineers, NSF, NASA, FEMA, Department of the Interior, EPA, and others. We work collaboratively with committees that have overlapping jurisdiction in both the House and the Senate. Generally, every year, we work on (and pass) a reauthorization of the Coast Guard bill, which includes provisions related to the service's environmental enforcement missions, oil spill response missions, and fishery enforcement missions. We also work to reauthorize and amend any number of ocean and atmospheric related laws--including the Coral Reef Conservation Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observing System Act, the Sanctuaries Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Weather Act--just to name a few. In addition to the policy areas mentioned above, we also focus on issues important to Senator Baldwin as Chair of the subcommittee.

In addition to legislation and oversight, we staff Chair Cantwell and other members at the full committee level or within the subcommittees. This includes developing, scheduling, and staffing hearings relevant to the subcommittee's jurisdiction. Through that process we research and draft of the Committee staff memo, provided to all Democratic committee member offices in advance of hearings. Additionally, we provide materials such as memos, statements, and questions for the chair of both the full committee and the subcommittee. We expect that our fellows make the most of their fellowship year to (1) learn about Senate procedure and the legislative process, (2) build relationships in the field, and (3) to determine whether they want to further pursue a career in policy, and if so, find an excellent post-fellowship position. To do that, we recommend that our fellows pursue Congressional Research

Service trainings, and seek out briefings or other events of interest. Finally, we provide staffing and assistance to all Democratic members of the Committee, so we get involved on a broad array of national issues. Previous fellows have focused on fish and marine mammal issues, tsunami policy, corals, among other areas of interest. The fellow will report to Nikky Teutschel and Jennifer Quan.

Expertise Desired

We have hosted many different fellows with widely varied backgrounds, experiences, interests, and working styles. At the end of the day, there are only three essential characteristics of a fellow in our suite: (1) an effective writer (2) able to work in a team setting that is at times high-pressure and at other times requires self-initiation, and (3) discreet.

Day In the Life

Fellows should expect a varied set of experiences depending on the needs of the moment. Days will often include a mix of virtual meetings and calls on policy issues, research, drafting of materials, planning for hearings, and working on legislative projects.

Office Culture

COVID Policies

The office adheres to strict COVID-19 protocols to ensure staff and member safety to the highest possible degree. Fellows must be fully vaccinated (including boosters-when eligible) and expect to follow updated guidance as circumstances with the pandemic continue to change. Masks are required when working in person.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office, Yes, in a past office

Position ID

L22-13

Office

Steven M. Palazzo

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Republican

State Represented

Mississippi; MS-04

Relevant Committee Membership

House Appropriations Committee-- Homeland Security and Commerce, Justice, Science subcommittees

Mentor

Courtney Stevens; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

Congressman Palazzo represents the 4th district of Mississippi and is the senior Republican Congressman in the state. His district includes the entire Mississippi Gulf coast. His DC office consists of 5 staff, a rotating Ole Miss Space Law fellow and seasonal interns. We each play our own important role in the office, but frequently bounce ideas and chat back and forth regarding projects and initiatives. While we all independently communicate with the staff in our district offices throughout the week, we start every week with a conference call so we can remain aware of the going's on in the district and let them know our priorities here in Washington, DC. We hope to welcome a fellow into the office that can contribute, and amplify, our collective office efforts around several topics.

The fellow will be part of the legislative team and focused on aquaculture, fisheries conservation strategies, maritime economy, and coastal zone management. While these issues will be the focus of the fellow's work generally, this is a unique opportunity as the fellow will have opportunities to set their own priorities and work on issues of interest to them personally. Our legislative staff work on policy initiatives as a team and coordination on projects of interest that overlap with other portfolios (ex. Coast Guard, United States Army Corps of Engineers, etc.) is encouraged. We welcome new creative ideas or ways to improve and grow what already exists! Because of the Congressman's role on the Appropriations Committee, a significant amount of the fellow's work will focus on the Appropriations process, specifically regarding funding for Commerce/NOAA. The fellow will assist with developing the Congressman's funding priorities for fiscal year 2023, prepare questions and staff budget hearings, and work with Committee to formulate the FY23 spending package. The Fellow will also assist in drafting speeches, press releases, briefing memos, oversight letters, and other materials as needed.

The selected individual should expect significant interaction in the form of meetings (phone calls, Zoom, etc.) with university researchers in Mississippi, the Gulf of Mexico recreational and commercial fishing industry, federal agencies, and several non-profit organizations. The fellow will have opportunities to travel to Mississippi and accompany the Congressman on visits that are relevant to the portfolio. The fellow will directly report to Courtney Stevens, Legislative Director, who is under the purview of Chief of Staff, Patrick Large.

Expertise Desired

A successful candidate will be creative, demonstrate strong communication skills, and be capable of learning quickly while working as part of a team. The candidate should possess a desire to work on a wide array of issues as described above. In addition, the candidate will have excellent research, writing and organizational skills, with an ability to prioritize, meet tight deadlines in a fast-paced office, and most importantly a sense of humor. 😊

Day In the Life

The day-to-day in our office, and on the Hill in general, varies and requires the flexibility to go with the flow. COVID spikes have once again put an additional twist to our "usual" day to day as we are back to restricting in person meetings with constituents, interest groups, and others and are doing so virtually. As the second session of the 117th Congress ramps up and Appropriations season starts, a fellow should expect to participate in virtual meetings, to write memos on bills or other issues, to produce materials for Appropriations hearings and attend them with the Congressman, to work on legislation introduced by the Congressman by adding cosponsors and utilize available Congressional resources to research portfolio issue areas.

Office Culture

I want to serve as a mentor and a guide through this glorious (sometimes frustrating) world we call Congress, but I also want to give a Knauss fellow the autonomy to work on their own. I have 10+ years of work experience that has taught me about appropriations, the legislative process, and various policy areas that I want to share with a fellow. At the same time, these Sea Grant Knauss Fellows have a unique and impressive background of experience and knowledge that I hope to learn from and about! While Congressman Palazzo's office has not had the opportunity to host a Knauss fellow, we have an ongoing fellowship on a semester basis with the University of Mississippi Space Law program. In the Congressmen's eyes, fellows are considered full-time staff, and he goes directly to them if he needs to be advised on issues relevant to the fellow. Like our Space Fellows, we don't have a limited scope for a Sea Grant fellow to focus on. We welcome the Sea Grant Fellows involvement in other issue areas as they are interested in: Agriculture, Transportation, Coast Guard, Defense, etc. It could lead to new and creative ideas or ways to improve and grow what already exists. Our office doesn't have a formal office mission or goal, but the expectation is to go out of our way to help the constituents of MS-04, Mississippi, and better the workings of the United States government.

COVID Policies

Our office guidelines and recommendations issued by the CDC and the Office of Attending Physician. We have been sensitive to health concerns and work to maintain that. All our staff is vaccinated, on their own accord/choice, and working in the office as allows. We are also all equipped with laptops and cell phones to work remotely. We have access to COVID testing through the Office of the Attending Physician and if someone in our office has symptoms or has been around someone who has tested positive, they are asked to remain out of the office until they receive a negative test. Up until recently we had been allowing a very minimal amount of in office meetings, but due to the uptick of COVID cases in Washington, DC and across the country, we are going back to virtual meetings only, but will continue to evaluate as needed. As I'm aware that everyone is different, it is my intention to work with the fellow to determine what is the best for them and their health.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

No/No

Position ID

L22-14

Office

Lisa Murkowski

Chamber

Senate/Member

Political Affiliation

Republican

State Represented

Alaska

Relevant Committee Membership

Appropriations, Indian Affairs, Energy & Natural Resources

Mentor

Jamie O'Connor; Legislative Assistant

Portfolio Summary

The Sea Grant fellow in Senator Murkowski's office will have opportunities to work on a broad array of ocean, fishery, climate-related, and environmental issues that are priorities for Alaska and the nation. Alaska is the nation's largest state and has the longest coastline, which supports the biggest commercial fishing economy in the nation and important Tribal and recreational/sport fisheries. Relevant issues in the ocean portfolio range from marine mammals and Alaska Native subsistence to federal fisheries management, Arctic science, climate, seafood trade, the blue economy, and many others. Because of Senator Murkowski's role on the Appropriations Committee, a significant amount of the fellow's work will focus on the Appropriations process, developing the Senator's FY23 funding priorities for NOAA and other agencies. The fellow will play a central role in the Senator's work leading the bipartisan Senate Oceans Caucus, and will have the flexibility to develop or propose legislation and plan caucus programming and briefing events. As a member of the Senator's "Team Ocean," the fellow will staff the Senator's meetings with fisheries or ocean-related constituent groups, including environmental organizations, seafood companies, commercial fishermen's associations, and Alaska Native tribes, as well as to prepare memos, remarks, policy analyses, correspondence with cabinet officials, and to generally keep Senator Murkowski briefed and up to date on ocean- and fishery-relevant legislation and regulatory efforts. Pending the status of office travel policies, our office stresses the importance of getting the fellow up to Alaska for visits that are relevant to the oceans portfolio. The fellow will report to the Deputy Chief of Staff, and be supervised by the Legislative Assistant responsible for the fisheries and oceans portfolio.

Expertise Desired

Familiarity with or experience in Alaska is a plus, but not a requirement. Relevant experience for a fellow in the Murkowski office would include: climate change impacts on oceans chemistry and biology, environmental policy and major statutes, federal fishery regulation, Arctic issues, and/or seafood trade, traceability, and marketing. We value fellows who have a familiarity with some of the issues that are

unique to Alaska, like tribal subsistence and rural/remote communities. The fellow should be capable of integrating into a small team and communicating with team members to accomplish specific goals and meet required deadlines, but also be able to work independently on specific issues where the fellow may be given more leadership or autonomy. Strong writing and editing skills preferred. As COVID is still a concern, we expect a fellow to be able to work both in-person and remotely as needed.

Day In the Life

It's hard to describe a typical day in Senator Murkowski's office. A Fellow can expect to participate in meetings with Alaskans; stakeholder groups with an interest in ocean, fishery, or climate issues; other Congressional offices to advance shared interests or priority legislation; and other staff within the office that cover complementary topics in their portfolios. The Fellow will also be responsible for staffing the Senator (remotely and in person) during meetings with constituents, federal officials, or other Senators, as well as during relevant Committee Hearings that the Senator is participating in. As COVID restrictions lift in the District there will be many more opportunities for the Fellow to participate in events on the Hill: policy briefings, professional development, and networking events. For travel to Alaska, the Office will work to make sure the Fellow has opportunities to meet with Alaskans, get outdoors, and experience the very best of our great state.

Office Culture

A fellow will work most closely with "Team Ocean" where we prioritize and foster a collaborative and supportive culture valuing each team member's skills and capacity while tracking multiple priorities in a fast-paced environment. We value professional development in our team and actively seek opportunities to match staff interests with current projects. Team Murkowski is made up of hard-working professionals with a deep love of Alaska. The nature of the work requires flexibility and attention to detail while remembering to look up every now and then to catch the historic events, big and small, that only happen in Congress.

COVID Policies

The Office of Senator Lisa Murkowski is currently teleworking Mondays and Fridays and working in the office Tuesday through Thursday. The Office strongly encourages the Sea Grant Fellow to take all steps suggested by the CDC and other health authorities to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including social isolation, if necessary. Fellow's work hours are 9:00 am to 6:00 pm EDT (when the Senate is in Session), Monday through Friday, with a daily one-hour break for lunch. Fellow is expected to work 40 hours per week. The Fellow understands and agrees that s/he may be required to work hours and/or days in addition to those mentioned above. Should staff be considered essential for support to the Senator or management team.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-15

Office

Cory Booker

Chamber

Senate/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

New Jersey

Relevant Committee Membership

Senate Agriculture Committee

Mentor

Adam Zipkin; Counsel

Portfolio Summary

1. Develop policy on agriculture, food, nutrition, environmental justice, energy and climate, and other environment and natural resources topics.
 - a. Support Senator Booker's legislative efforts by conducting research and policy analysis, meeting with experts, and assisting with drafting legislation.
 - b. Draft letters on portfolio-related issues; write talking points for floor statements, hearings, and external speeches; and keep up-to-date with science and policy issues impacting federal agricultural, climate, and environmental policy as well as the state of New Jersey.
 - c. Assist with annual appropriations process by developing individual and group appropriations requests.
2. Support the work of the Senate Environmental Justice Caucus (co-chaired by Senators Booker, Carper, and Duckworth).
 - a. Develop ideas for caucus activities like briefings, assist with relevant Congressional and external stakeholder outreach, and coordinate with staff in caucus co-chair offices.
3. Support work on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.
 - a. Assist in preparation of background documents for committee hearings; attend briefings, hearings, meetings and conferences; review, and analyze legislation and research topics related to the Agriculture Committee.
 - b. Assist with planning, development, and witness coordination for future hearings on the Subcommittee on Food and Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics, and Research (which Senator Booker chairs).
4. Engage with constituents and local, regional, and national stakeholder groups on agriculture and environment issues.
 - a. Meet with constituents and advise the Senator and staff on issues raised by constituents.
 - b. Support stakeholder outreach and engagement activities related to agriculture and food policy, environmental justice, energy and climate, and other environment and natural resource topics.

c. Liaise with constituents, grassroots groups, industry, NGOs, and other stakeholder groups on relevant topics in the agriculture and environment portfolio.

Expertise Desired

Applicants should be interested in working on a wide range of issues within the agriculture and environment space. Applicants must be able to advance projects independently and possess excellent written and verbal communication skills. Applicants should hold a commitment to advancing environmental justice.

Day In the Life

On a typical day, the Sea Grant fellow in our office will meet with constituents and outside groups both independently and with colleagues, prepare for committee hearings or other member-level meetings, draft legislation co-sponsorship and letter co-sign memos, contribute to advancing legislation (through research, legislative drafting, stakeholder engagement, or other efforts), and conduct policy analysis and research on various topics in support of the Senator’s legislative priorities.

Office Culture

Our office culture is centered around kindness, empathy, graciousness, and being an effective public servant. These values drive all of our interactions with each other, with other Congressional offices, and with constituents and stakeholders. The Booker office is a warm, friendly, and supportive place to work, and we’re all united by our desire to support our boss in his efforts to make the country and world a better place. Additionally, diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values for the Senator, and we strive to uphold them throughout our office. Building and sustaining an inclusive and equitable working environment where all are welcome and encouraged to bring their full selves is a key part of our culture.

COVID Policies

Prior to January 2022, staffers were working one day of the week in the office, and the rest remotely. The in-office week day is assigned based on preference and social distancing considerations. Staffers are asked to wear masks when not at their desks. As of January 2022, we have temporarily returned to fully remote work, and will continue to do so until it is safe for staff to return one day a week.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-16

Office

Chellie Pingree

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

Maine; ME-01

Relevant Committee Membership

House Appropriations Committee (Chair, Interior Subcommittee and Member, Agriculture-FDA Subcommittee) and House Agriculture Committee

Mentor

Evan Johnston; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

Rep. Chellie Pingree from Maine's First District seeks a Knauss Fellow to work on fisheries and oceans issues, with a broader opportunity to engage on climate, conservation, energy, and agriculture policy. The fellow will join a five-member legislative team in the DC office and collaborate frequently with other members of staff to develop policy priorities for the Member, liaise with Executive Branch agencies, and communicate with constituents and stakeholders.

Regular duties will include conducting constituent and stakeholder meetings, preparing for committee hearings or outside events, staffing caucus meetings, researching co-sponsorship and floor recommendations, and developing legislative proposals. Past fellows have initiated and advanced several successful initiatives relating to ocean acidification, conservation, working waterfronts, and appropriations priorities. We would expect a current fellow to continue work on similar topics, along a focus on the lobster fishery, aquaculture, and offshore wind.

The Fellow will report to Evan Johnston, Rep. Pingree's Legislative Director. They will also work closely with Lisa Pahel, Policy Advisor, and Katie Bergh, Senior Policy Advisor. Note: Lisa, who handles oceans and fisheries issues, will be out on maternity leave through part of the spring and summer.

Expertise Desired

We're looking to work with a fellow who is interested in oceans, fisheries, and climate issues facing the Northeast and/or Arctic regions. We're open to any educational and professional backgrounds.

Given that we'll likely still be working remotely once the fellowship begins, we'd like to work with someone who is comfortable with self-starting and working independently with guidance from the mentor and colleagues. The office is highly collaborative and values teamwork, so we'd also like a fellow who will proactively develop relationships both within the office and with other Congressional and outside stakeholders.

Day In the Life

The daily operations of the office vary depending on the time of year and whether we're in session. With Rep. Pingree's senior position on the Appropriations Committee, our schedule reflects the federal budget cycle. Spring is often very busy with constituent and stakeholder meetings, committee hearings, and developing member priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. In the summer and fall, we'll focus on committee and floor markups of spending bills.

Weeks that the House is in session tend to be more heavily scheduled. We have a virtual staff meeting and more in-depth legislative team meeting with Rep. Pingree on Monday afternoons.

The rest of the week could include conducting constituent and stakeholder meetings, preparing for and staffing committee hearings or outside events, attending caucus meetings, and preparing co-sponsorship and floor recommendations for the Member. Weeks that we're out of session are often more relaxed and are a good opportunity to catch up from session weeks, check in with other staff, and work on long-term research projects and bill development.

Office Culture

Office culture begins with the Member, and Rep. Pingree sets a highly collaborative and informal tone. She often seeks input from staff and puts significant trust in our judgement. The office does not gatekeep; though the Chief of Staff and Legislative Director help coordinate and support, staff is empowered to talk directly with Rep. Pingree when new or complicated issues in their portfolio come up.

Rep. Pingree is particularly focused on district needs and prefers to center her legislative agenda on ideas and concerns raised by constituents. Unlike some Congressional offices, the legislative team is expected to work closely with staff in the district who focus on particular issues and conduct outreach with Maine-based stakeholders. Pandemic excepted, DC staff is encouraged to travel to the district often to attend meetings and visit businesses and organizations.

The office also strongly values flexibility and work-life balance. While staff are occasionally asked to be on call in the evening if the House or Rep. Pingree's committees are voting, staff are not expected to work beyond regular business hours and can make appointments, etc. during the day as reasonably needed. All staff receive 21 days of leave, plus additional sick time, per calendar year.

COVID Policies

Our DC office is currently operating remotely. With very limited exceptions, all stakeholder meetings are conducted virtually. Staff have the option to work in the office as desired, but it has never been required; most staff go into the office every few weeks. We plan to onboard new staff in person when feasible. Communication is frequent; we have virtual weekly staff meetings and are often chatting by Zoom/phone/email/text with the Member and other staff. As the Omicron variant continues to spread, we don't currently have a timeline for returning to the office. Factors in that decision will include guidance from the Capitol's Attending Physician, public access to the House campus, and case numbers in Washington, DC. In any return-to-work scenario, we're likely to have a standard option to work from home when appropriate.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office, I did not serve as mentor at the time.

Position ID

L22-17

Office

Committee on Natural Resources; Water, Oceans, Wildlife

Chamber

House/Committee

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented**Relevant Committee Membership****Mentor**

Lora Snyder; Deputy Staff Director, Committee on Natural Resources

Portfolio Summary

The Subcommittee Oceans and Wildlife focuses on policy and oversight related to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Our jurisdiction oversees the United States' fundamental conservation and wildlife management laws, such as the Lacey Act, Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Act. Our top priorities for the 117th Congress include addressing ocean-based climate solutions to combat the climate crisis, increasing the resilience and adaptation potential of our oceans, coasts, wildlife, and wildlife habitats, protecting the ocean and coastal economy, restoring scientific integrity, and preserving our conservation laws.

As a member of the oceans and wildlife team, the Fellow would become the resident expert on issues based on their interests and the needs of the subcommittee. The Fellow would also contribute to the team on the full spectrum of issues and committee activities as we plan and execute hearings, shepherd legislation through Congress, exercise oversight of the former and current administrations and their rule-makings, and assist Members of Congress in their duties as they relate to oceans and wildlife. The Fellow would draft memos and talking points for hearings, markups, and floor debates, identify and invite witnesses for hearings, research and draft legislation and oversight letters, attend briefings, meet with stakeholders, and brief Members of Congress and their staff.

We encourage Knauss Fellows to bring their unique perspective to our team and take on projects that fit their interests and expertise. In addition to ideas developed by the Fellow, some projects a Fellow could lead include:

- Executing a hearing and writing legislation on the use of modern technology and innovative models to achieve conservation objectives and reduce friction between economic development and wildlife conservation.
- Researching and writing legislation to understand and combat the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease, a prion-caused neurological disorder spreading rapidly among deer, elk, and other ungulates across the United States.
- Researching and writing legislation to modernize and expand the Coastal Barrier Resources System, a network of undeveloped coastal areas preserved for coastal protection. Conflicts are starting to arise

between the Army Corps and Fish and Wildlife Service over moving sand from Coastal Barrier Resources units to replenish beaches or achieve coastal restoration objectives.

- Evaluating the current programs and collaborations for combating aquatic invasive species and writing legislation that identifies and supports new strategies and opportunities for controlling invasive species.
- Developing new and innovative approaches for recovering endangered and threatened species, valuing biodiversity and ecosystem health, and promoting environmental justice.
- Identifying environmental injustices in extant policy and programs and writing legislation to eliminate these injustices while actively supporting current and emerging needs of environmental justice communities.

Expertise Desired

The U.S. House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee has hosted many fellows over the decades from various backgrounds with experiences, interests, and working styles. Practical experience is a plus. An open mind, humility about what they know and don't know, and willingness to learn new things from scratch help the Fellow succeed in this role. We work in a fast-paced, pressure-filled environment and are always interested in Fellows who can write well, learn quickly, and clearly articulate complex concepts to people who have only a general familiarity with the issues. Fellows who serve on the Committee work hard and are rewarded with an unparalleled learning experience that springboards them into a career in government, academia, and the private and non-profit sectors.

Day In the Life

We are a very collaborative team. Very little gets done in a silo— instead, we all pitch in to help with near-term priorities, and we each have longer-term projects that we are working on or issues that we're tracking. Fellows are expected to join in that structure and work on both ocean and wildlife issues: for example, one week, they may be helping develop questions for an upcoming hearing on wildlife, organizing a coalition call on Right Whales, drafting a letter to the Administration on the Endangered Species Act, and writing a markup memo for a bill on coastal resilience.

Our team holds regular, virtual check-ins a few times per week, in which we discuss near-term deadlines and longer-term projects. These check-ins are an excellent opportunity for the Fellow to volunteer to take on new tasks. Our team is always open to exploring new connections between oceans, wildlife, and society, and we graciously welcome ideas or unique interests the Fellow brings to our team.

Team members are available throughout each workday for additional check-ins to answer any questions or help scope projects. We give each other unconditional support; as a Team, we strive to stay ahead of deadlines and maintain a high standard of work product by moving each written product through multiple levels of edits and approvals.

Office Culture

Our office embraces a wholly supportive and inclusive culture. Our Committee Chair, Representative Raul Grijalva, strongly supports and advocates for diversity, equity, and inclusion, which drives our office culture. As a Committee, we uplift Chair Grijalva's values while simultaneously developing ourselves as a Team and as individuals. Our DEI Steering Committee helps us continually improve upon this commitment by holding Committee-wide DEI discussions, lunch-and-learns, and activities throughout the year. We also have a Professional Development Committee that hosts learning opportunities and facilitates a Mentorship program to help us get to know each other better, learn from each others' diverse expertise, and develop our Team member's strengths and career interests.

COVID Policies

All staff in our Committee, including Fellows, must be vaccinated.

All House Committee on Natural Resources employees are expected to work from home through February 1, 2021. We have a telework policy for the Committee that we can share. We closely monitor the current and emerging COVID variants, follow guidance from the Office of the Attending Physician, and adjust our telework expectations accordingly. When we return to in-person work, we establish Committee-wide and Subcommittee-specific protocol (if needed) to ensure each team member feels safe and comfortable within the workplace. We do not expect anyone to perform in-person work if they feel unsafe or have extenuating circumstances (for example, lack of childcare). The Congressional complex also offers free, on-site PCR testing, which we encourage and frequently utilize to ensure a continually safe and healthy workplace environment.

Able to host a Foreign National

Possibly. Hosting foreign nationals is subject to approval from the House Ethics Committee and certain restrictions may apply.

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-18

Office

Brian Schatz

Chamber

Senate/Member

Political Affiliation

Democrat

State Represented

Hawaii

Relevant Committee Membership

Commerce, Science, & Transportation - Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change and Manufacturing
Committee on Appropriations - Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee
Committee on Foreign Relations
Committee on Indian Affairs – Chair

Mentor

James Chang; Policy Advisor

Portfolio Summary

Appropriations, Authorization, and External Engagement: Oceans, fisheries, and science, with an emphasis on coastal conservation, site-based management, nature-based infrastructure, ghost gear, coral conservation, and aquaculture. General environmental advocacy.

Expertise Desired

The Schatz office would like to collaborate with a fellow to: take action on sustainability and resilience; assist with NOAA, NSF, and NASA appropriations; analyze ocean and science legislation; engage the stakeholder communities in DC and Hawai'i. We expect the fellow to take ownership of select projects, so self-starters with strong writing and strategic communication skills will have an advantage. In return, we offer professional development and mentoring through a broad array of tasks: memos to analyze issues and recommend action, discussions/negotiations with other Congressional offices, and opportunities to staff the Senator in the Commerce Committee and Appropriations Committee processes. You will undertake these tasks to support a principled, practical, and highly intelligent member with a long history of prioritizing climate action and environmental protection.

Day In the Life

You start the day with email, news, and caffeine of choice. You and James check in on projects and overnight developments in Hawai'i. Good news! If you work quickly, Hawaii colleagues can wake up to an email that answers their questions. You start the research while James reads that draft legislation you sent him.

As you finish, James pipes up: “This is a good start!” You’re on the right track, and he’s got feedback to improve your product. The best way to learn how the legislative process works is to participate in it, so James has asked you to draft changes to a bill that reflect negotiations with Committee staff. Then there’s a call with an out-of-state coastal restoration group, where you respectfully learn their priorities. James is training you to take meetings like this on your own. Next: a call with NOAA Fisheries leadership on that Marine Mammal Protection Act issue that you researched; they agree to the Senator’s request, but you’ll have to follow up on implementation. Finally, there’s “Legislative Planning,” with the Senator to discuss his requests on the Water Resources Development Act—something that you and James have teamed up to work on with the office's infrastructure staff. Collaboration is an expectation in the office, and it leads to great opportunities for professional development and exposure to other issue areas.

Office Culture

Team Schatz strives for an inclusive office that embraces diverse perspectives to solve problems for the nation and the people of Hawai‘i. Respect for each other, our expertise, and our time form the core of our office culture. The office has worked productively with fellows since Senator Schatz first came to DC, and challenges mentoring staff to integrate fellows into their work flow and ensure ample opportunities for professional development.

COVID Policies

The office has adopted formal policies to safeguard the health of employees and their families, constituents and visitors, and the Senate community at large from COVID-19. Key facets include: vaccination and booster required (as soon as eligible); masks required in the office; specific guidelines in place for individuals who have been exposed to COVID and/or have symptoms of COVID.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office, Yes, in a past office

Position ID

L22-19

Office

Senate Commerce Committee; Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing

Chamber

Senate/Committee

Political Affiliation

Republican

State Represented**Relevant Committee Membership****Mentor**

Alexis Rudd; Deputy Policy Director

Portfolio Summary

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing has broad jurisdiction over manufacturing, weather, atmospheric activities, and matters that affect the Nation's oceans, coasts, and inland waterways. The Subcommittee is also responsible for legislation, oversight, and investigations of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Coast Guard, certain programs within the National Institute of Science and Technology, Marine Mammal Commission, and the Minority Business Development Agency. The fellow will have an opportunity to work on all legislation and matters within the subcommittee's jurisdiction and will work closely with the agencies with the goal of producing effective policy.

The fellow will have many opportunities to engage with every NOAA line office through the legislative affairs specialists. The Committee expects the fellow to contribute meaningfully and considers the fellow to be an equal player with similar responsibilities as other professional legislative staff. The fellow will attend meetings and briefings; conduct background research; prepare memos, talking points, and questions for hearings; brief the Ranking Member; and draft and edit legislation. Fellows are encouraged to take advantage of the numerous opportunities for professional development that exist, including travel related to relevant topics in the portfolio.

Expertise Desired

The Subcommittee is seeking a dependable professional who has an appreciation for the reality that policy often advances with bipartisan support; therefore, we seek a fellow who has a respect for diverse perspectives and a desire to work pragmatically to address complex issues.

Strong writing, interpersonal communication, and organizational skills are required. A successful fellow would be interested in developing pragmatic coastal and marine management policies while working with constituent groups, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

Mandatory skills: An ability to contribute to a positive work environment and work well within a team culture.

Day In the Life

Committee staff are subject matter experts on the Hill and are expected to have an in-depth knowledge on topics within the Committees/Subcommittees' jurisdiction. They research, draft and negotiate legislation based on the interests of the members of the Committee. Because of the need to balance multiple member issues, committee staff often have a national or regional focus on issues, rather than looking at issues at the state or district level. Regarding day-to-day operations, a fellow should expect to meet with Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations to seek feedback on bills that are drafted by the Committee staff, including the fellow, or referred to the Committee. Based on this feedback, fellows will work with Senate Legislative Council to either draft or edit bills/amendments in preparation for text introduction and Committee consideration ("markups"). Additionally, if the Committee has an upcoming hearing for either oversight or legislative purposes, the fellow should expect to conduct background research, prepare memos, and prepare talking points for the Ranking Member. Fellows are encouraged to take classes offered by the Congressional Research Services to learn more about the legislative process, particularly at the start of the fellowship, and should actively seek out other professional development (PD) opportunities (e.g. other classes, conferences, domestic or international meetings, etc.) and make full use of PD funds.

Office Culture

The Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing fosters a friendly and collaborate work environment. The fast-paced nature of the Committee requires staffers to be agile, respectful, and work in a bipartisan manner to generate effective policy. Committee staff have both been and worked with many Knauss fellows, and their goal is to ensure that fellows are able to find a balance and succeed in their professional, academic, and personal goals during the fellowship. Fellows can expect to spend the first few months learning congressional and committee process and meeting with constituents and mentors. Full-time staff provide guidance and set expectations to allow fellows to succeed as they assume responsibilities. As former fellows, the host-office mentors foster a supportive, fun, and flexible environment with an emphasis on helping fellows achieve their career goals during their time with the Committee.

COVID Policies

Office policies regarding COVID-19 follow the guidelines of the Senate's Attending Physician that are based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention best practices to minimize risk of coronavirus transmission in the workplace through use of social distancing measures and daily screening of employee health prior to reporting for duty. Staff are vaccinated and frequently take advantage of Congress's on-site COVID testing. You will work with the Deputy Policy Director of the Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing to determine an appropriate split of telework and in person work that follows staff guidelines, accommodates fellow's personal comfort levels, and maximizes fellowship professional development opportunities.

Able to host a Foreign National

No

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/Yes, in my current Office

Position ID

L22-20

Office

Don Young

Chamber

House/Member

Political Affiliation

Republican

State Represented

Alaska

Relevant Committee Membership

Former Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee

Mentor

Jesse von Stein; Legislative Director

Portfolio Summary

Congressman Don Young is the Dean of the House as its longest serving Member. He has more bills signed into law than any other Representative and has a long history of bipartisanship. The Fellow would handle the Congressman's fisheries policy including reauthorization of Magnuson-Steven Act which he was an original author of as well as manage Caucus memberships and priorities like the Oceans Caucus and the Wild Salmon Caucus. About 60% of the nation's seafood harvest comes from Alaska so it's a critical industry to the state and region. The portfolio also depends on the Fellows interests if say they're especially interested in coastal erosion, alternative energy, or the Arctic. Our last Sea Grant Fellow handled similar responsibilities and we hired her at the end of the program where she managed the entire Natural Resources portfolio, getting three bills signed into law and reauthorization of MSA passed through the House of Representatives in a bipartisan vote. They would report to the Legislative Director, Jesse von Stein.

Expertise Desired

We are a collaborative office, but get a lot of autonomy at the same time. The Congressman has been serving the state of Alaska since 1973 and he'll be the first one to tell you the best part of the job is getting to learn new things along with working to help someone solve a problem. It is a lot of working representing an entire state and several staff have long tenures in the office and an understanding of historical context. The office is open to any background so long as the individual is a team player with a willingness to adapt and learn to the myriad of issues the office will be faced with.

Day In the Life

With Alaska four hours behind the DC office opens at 9:30 am, 10:00 am on non-session days, which gives staff a nice buffer in the morning for traffic to recede or just to get ready for your day. Of course the activities of the week are determined by whether or not the House is in session. In a session week all the legislative staff reviews what's on the schedule under their portfolio and adds it to a common drive document for the Congressman. Those responsible for Committee work check on any hearings that

week and compile another document. Legislative staff also compile a report on what they did the previous week or recess period. This includes bills introduced or cosponsored, letters written or joined, and Caucus activity on the Congressman's behalf. At that point everyone's day depends on their role. You might be preparing material with the Committee to get the Congressman ready for a hearing or working with an interest group to develop legislation for a future one. In normal times, you would be staffing the Congressman when he meets with a group from Alaska in your portfolio area, but many of those have become virtual. I think one of the best parts about the office is the trust we put in each individual to be responsible for themselves and their work instead of micromanaging them, but also that we are there to help one another figure things out when there is a question. The Congressman himself is accessible every day which is not that case in a lot of offices. You can pop in about anytime you have a question or issue come up. He's seen and done a lot representing Alaska since 1973 so is a wealth of knowledge for the history of an issue and also the institution of Congress itself. Additional activities include writing constituent letters in your policy areas for Alaskans that have written in about a topic. At the beginning of the week we also usually have a staff meeting on Monday to go over the week's schedule and make sure everyone is aware of what's happening and what to expect. I found in other offices they haven't been as open to sharing information, but that is not an issue here. On Tuesday we do a Zoom conference call to catch up as well and check-in with everyone, often including out state staff. In a recess week, things are a bit more relaxed with the Members gone and it's a good time to catch up on work you had to put off due to other priorities. That could be working with the Press Secretary on a release to highlight the work you did the previous week or scheduling a time to get to know colleagues in other offices better to try and work together. You get this ebb and flow between an intense legislative week to one where you can catch your breath and get ready for the next session. When the Congressman is in Alaska we provide him with memos for groups he's meeting with just to keep him up to date. You also get to go to Alaska, which is important to see first-hand, especially if you aren't from there. The size, scope, and challenges of the state make it incredibly unique. The "district" is about two and a half states of Texas with more coastline than the continental United States, 3 million lakes, and hundreds of communities disconnected from the road system. It's a lot to figure out and represent, but the challenge is part of the fun.

Office Culture

Life on the Hill is stressful, but it is also rewarding. Our office understands this and works to have a work-life balance than reflects that dynamic. We work together to achieve goals, but also give each other space and autonomy. We listen to any idea someone has and often adopt it. Our mission statement is "Putting Alaska First." This is the driving force behind every decision made by our office since 1973. If getting something done for Alaska means reaching across the aisle, working with the Senate, or forgoing credit in the media, then that's what we do. There is no pride in authorship; the only pride is in getting the job done. Our number one priority has been and continues to be, standing up for Alaska.

COVID Policies

Vaccination is mandatory for staff and the Congressman. He has done multiple PSAs encouraging people to get vaccinated and now boosted. When COVID came to DC last March the entire office switched to teleworking for three months and was given the proper tools to do so. At other times we would alternate half of the office in each day. We are generally back to full capacity given the 100% vaccination, but willing to talk about telework status for concerned individuals.

Able to host a Foreign National

Yes

Previous Experience Hosting a Knauss Fellow (Office/Mentor)

Yes/No