ANNOUNCEMENT OF
CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY WESTSIDE FELLOWS PROGRAM
SUMMER 2021

Application for $9000 Summer Grants
Deadline: March 12, 2021

Purpose:
The Candler School of Theology will sponsor a Summer 2021 fellowship opportunity for students to engage in internship sites in Atlanta’s Westside neighborhoods focused on issues of urban justice and flourishing. Westside Fellows will receive 3 academic credits and a $9,000 stipend for participation in the program, including full-time (40h/wk) internship work, weekly reflection group meetings, and a final project.

Why the Westside?
Atlanta’s Westside has a rich legacy of civic, political, religious, and intellectual leadership that has fundamentally shaped the way America wrestles with race, inequality, and social change. Today in the Westside, income inequality and persistent poverty coexist alongside feverish development and investment — a dynamic shared to some degree by neighborhoods in every large city in the country. In this shifting context, already existing conditions of racism, economic inequality, and health disparities are exacerbated by displacement, social dislocation, and rapid change. The Westside Fellows program is an opportunity to learn from religious and community leaders working in this dynamic context, and to be part of a place-based learning cohort focused on challenging questions of urban justice, social change, and moral leadership in Atlanta.

How neighborhoods are defined is necessarily political and constantly shifting; these processes will be among the things we explore this summer. For the purposes of this fellowship, the Westside is understood expansively to include, for instance, the neighborhoods of Bankhead, English Avenue, Vine City, Ashview Heights, Washington Park, and the West End. If the organization you want to work with is located or works outside of these neighborhoods, but you believe it is a good fit for this fellowship, please contact the Con Ed Office to discuss.

Site placements:
Students may apply to work with any organization that engages pressing concerns of urban justice and flourishing. This could include churches, community or civic groups, advocacy organizations or grassroots political groups, educational institutions, government agencies, and so on. The Office of Contextual Education has a list of possible internships in this part of Atlanta, but students are encouraged to draw on their own networks to develop internships that reflect their passions and vocational goals, as well.

A wide range of congregations, organizations, and programs would be appropriate settings for this internship. Non-Profits and civic organizations might include organizations such as the Westside Future Fund or Project South; urban agriculture organizations such as Truly Living Well or the Historic Westside Gardens; or organizations working to address healthcare and educational disparities exacerbated by the pandemic. Internships connected to academic or cultural institutions might be suitable, as well. The key thing for any of these settings will be to
identify a project or program that addresses issues of urban justice and flourishing, and which allows you to explore these issues.

Students should discuss their interests and plans with proposed internship sites before completing the application. Your application essay should demonstrate that you are familiar with the organization, that you have a clear plan for how your work this summer will connect to both your interests and the organization’s mission, and that your plan is feasible!

**Eligibility**

Students who have successfully completed Contextual Education I and are returning to Candler are eligible to participate. Students on academic probation or who have a hold on their Candler financial account are not eligible. Students participating in other summer programs at Candler or other outside settings are not eligible. Participants’ full time and attention must be given to the forty hours per week for ten weeks.

**Participation Requirements:**

1. Serve 40 hours a week in a supervised internship site for ten weeks during the summer.
2. Participate in a two-day orientation seminar to be held May 18-19, 2021.
3. Participate in a final reflection seminar to be held August 9-13, 2021.
4. Participate in an in-person reflection group meetings throughout the summer. Complete readings and written assignments as directed by the Faculty Internship Supervisor.
5. Participate in weekly meetings with an Internship Supervisor at your site.
6. Collaborate on a final project that engages the broader Candler community in conversations about urban justice and social change through an event in Fall 2021.

**Participating Students will receive:**

1. An $9000 grant, to be applied to the student’s account ($3000 living stipend applied following the May orientation and $6000 split between the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters.)

   Please Note: (If a student is within $2,999 of the maximum threshold for scholarships and loans for the 2020-2021 academic year ($51,762) their summer stipend will be processed as a taxable payroll check which will require the submission of a W-9 and direct deposit request form.

2. Three academic credit hours that will count towards the Fall 2021 semester. This will be registered as an August Term class. (Students may not enroll in another A-Term course.)
3. The opportunity for deeper formation in the practice of ministry and public leadership.
4. On-site supervision and mentoring.
5. An opportunity for intentional reflection and discussion with faculty and student colleagues and community leaders, focused on issues of social justice, urban policy, and moral leadership in urban settings.

**Application Instructions:**

1. Write a 2-3 page essay on why you have chosen to apply for this internship, your vocational goals, your particular skills for ministry, and the things you would like to practice, experience, and learn through the internship; the specific issues of urban justice and flourishing you intend to explore; and how this will deepen your leadership ability. Please include a paragraph describing your site, as well as name and contact information for the supervisor at your site. Your essay should also include your written agreement to participate in the two-day...
orientation seminar in May and the final August reflection seminar. Essays should be written in 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1” margins on all four sides.

2. Current resume/cv (Note: Your resume to include your Con Ed I experience!)
3. Name of one Candler faculty member who can serve as a reference.
4. Submit these materials no later than 5 p.m. on March 12, 2021 to: carmen.toussaint@emory.edu and letitia.campbell@emory.edu. Late or incomplete applications may not be considered.
5. A faculty committee will read proposals and select fellows by March 31, 2021.

Questions may be directed to Dr. Letitia M. Campbell, at letitia.campbell@emory.edu.

Application deadline is Friday, March 12, 2021
Please contact Dr. Campbell if you have any questions.