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The Science Communication Fellowship invites formal and informal educators to participate in the Nautilus Exploration Program as communicators for ocean exploration sharing the excitement of exploration and research with students and public audiences in their communities and around the world. SCFs serve a key role while experiencing an authentic scientific exploration mission.

Science Communication Fellows (or SCFs) gain exposure to and experience in the applications of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in the field of ocean exploration by participating in the Nautilus Exploration Program. The Nautilus Exploration Program is run by the non-profit Ocean Exploration Trust. The Ocean Exploration Trust was founded in 2008 by Dr. Robert Ballard and continues to lead the field in telepresence-enabled exploration of our deep oceans. Our international program centers on scientific exploration of the ocean launched from aboard Exploration Vessel (E/V) Nautilus, a 64-meter research vessel.

The Science Communication Fellowship includes: participation in a science communication training workshop at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography in April 2020; experience sailing 1-3 weeks as part of the exploration team on board an oceanographic expedition in the Eastern Pacific Ocean between June - November 2020; a one-year commitment to collaborate with STEM professionals, educators and research scientists; development of a STEM-lesson or outreach material deliverable for your education audience; and the agreement to serve as a role model for learners based on your Nautilus experience. During and after their experience at sea, SCFs will work with members of the Nautilus Exploration Program to continue to engage their students, organizations and communities in the excitement of ocean exploration and STEM.

The Ocean Exploration Trust's Science Communication Fellowship aims to provide educators with training and immersive at-sea experiences in science communication and ocean exploration. Sailing with Ocean Exploration Trust offers participants the opportunity to deepen their understanding of how science, technology, engineering, and mathematics apply to real-world situations and to engage their classrooms, organizations, and local communities in ocean exploration.
Three Key Parts of the Science Communication Fellowship

1. The Science Communication Workshop
In April 2020, SCFs will attend a workshop at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography where they will be trained in science communication skills and telepresence technologies. The 2020 cohort will learn about the scientific objectives of the upcoming season from lead scientists and expedition team members. Additionally, SCFs will:

➢ Receive training and materials to support their growth to become well-informed ambassadors of the ocean exploration mission, program goals, and educational outreach of the Nautilus Exploration Program throughout their Fellowship.
➢ Gain exposure to the suite of STEM education materials built by Ocean Exploration Trust to engage classrooms, after school programs, and everyday learners.
➢ Meet expedition scientists, engineers, OET staff, and members of the expedition team to participate in discussions about the expedition research missions.
➢ Become familiar with Ocean Exploration Trust’s digital outreach platforms. Training will include general navigation of the Nautilus Live website, social media storytelling training, best practices in facilitating on-air scientific broadcasts, and experience accessing live incoming questions from the global audience. Participate in training sessions designed to model the roles of SCFs at sea.
➢ Receive presenting training on how to facilitate and participate in live ship-to-shore studio interactions and media interviews.
➢ Tour the Inner Space Center, a facility at the URI Graduate School of Oceanography that utilizes telepresence technologies to connect the world to exploration projects in real-time.
➢ Network with the 2020 SCF cohort including the Lead Science Communication Fellows, returning participants and mentors for new SCFs.
➢ Brainstorm deliverable plans and products. Fellows will also draft plans to engage students, organizations, and communities in the excitement of ocean exploration.
2. Sea-going Exploration Expedition

SCFs will spend 1-3 weeks during the months between June - November 2020 working on board E/V Nautilus as important expedition team members. Fellows’ primary role is to serve as communicators of the expeditions’ discoveries and importance to many audiences including the public through the Nautilus Live website and live interactive ship-to-shore broadcast presentations to onshore students and public community audiences.

SCFs stand watches in the control room alongside scientists, engineers, and interns to conduct exploration operations which may include dives with the remotely operated vehicles Hercules and Argus or seafloor mapping operations with the ship’s multibeam sonar. Expedition objectives, locations, and specific technologies vary depending on the expedition the Fellow is scheduled to join. All Nautilus Exploration Program expeditions focus on a wide range of oceanographic disciplines including archaeology, geology, biology, and seafloor mapping.

3. Engaging Students, Organizations, and Communities

An equally important aspect of the fellowship is the work ashore before and after the at sea expedition - bringing the excitement and STEM storylines of ocean exploration home to local schools and communities sharing your experience in the year-long program. SCFs are responsible for a deliverable product during the fellowship. Participants network with other peers to create STEM-oriented lesson plans to share with a growing international network of educators. Deliverables may be included in part or entirely in OET’s STEM Learning Modules or Digital Resource Library. Informal educators will create an artifact appropriate to bring the expedition experience to their community (interpretation guides for museums, plans for camp programs, children’s books, writing, art, public media, etc).

SCFs are empowered and expected to serve as role-models for STEM and ocean exploration by giving presentations to share their experiences with hometown schools and local networks and helping to raise awareness about Nautilus programs in their community. The mentoring and role modeling of past fellows contributes immensely to the growth of the Nautilus Exploration Program and the Science Communication Fellowship. SCFs participate in program evaluation to continue to improve our education programs.
**Fellowship Requirements**

Participants are expected to fulfill these requirements during their year (April 2020 – April 2021) as a Science Communication Fellow:

- Attend the Science Communication Workshop at the University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of Oceanography April 27-30, 2020 with travel on April 27th and 30th. Note: Fellows **MUST** be available to attend all portions of this training to be considered for this program.
- Join the Corps of Exploration aboard E/V *Nautilus* for 1 - 3 weeks during the 2020 field season. Expedition dates will fall between June - November. You can provide your availability around school year or existing schedule constraints on applying. Fellows should understand sailing dates will not be assigned until after acceptance into the program. Sailing dates are determined by OET and are determined by coordinating the SCF cohort’s availability as well as the ship’s port stop and expedition schedule.
- Submit an original STEM-oriented deliverable (these can take the form of lesson plans, museum facilitation guide, digital media pieces, art work, or other alternatives as approved by OET Education staff) to share with the fellowship cohort and educators around the world. Some deliverables may be integrated with credit partially or completely into the OET STEM Learning Modules or Digital Resource Library.
- Lead at least one presentation during the fellowship year to share their experience as part of the Nautilus Exploration Program and to generate enthusiasm and engagement within their home community of students, organizations and/or community members. Document this presentation for OET’s impact and outreach tracking.
- Participate in all program assessments in a timely manner which may include verbal and written feedback, phone calls, email questionnaires, or comprehensive evaluations completed online.
- Work with Ocean Exploration Trust employees to disseminate information related to their participation in the program. Track all the media coverage generated by their efforts throughout the fellowship year. Generate enthusiasm and participation in STEM and exploration-related programming within my school, district, community or organization to the best of my ability.
- Conduct themselves in a professional manner as a representative of the Nautilus Exploration Program and serve as an exemplary role model for future explorers.
About Ocean Exploration Trust
The Nautilus Exploration Program was founded in 2008 by Dr. Robert Ballard and is conducted by the Ocean Exploration Trust. Our international program centers on scientific exploration of the seafloor launched from aboard the Exploration Vessel (E/V) Nautilus, a 64-meter research vessel. In addition to conducting scientific research, the Nautilus Exploration Program offers its expeditions to explorers on shore via live video, audio, and data feeds from the ship. Ocean Exploration Trust brings educators and students aboard E/V Nautilus during expeditions, offering them hands-on experience in ocean exploration, research, and communications. The international Corps of Exploration consists of scientists, engineers, educators, communicators, and students. The Corps of Exploration aim to share their stories and their science with the world and believe in serving as STEM role models to future generations of explorers.

Our Goals
➢ To explore the unknown parts of the world’s ocean, seeking out new discoveries in the fields of geology, biology, maritime history, archaeology, and chemistry;
➢ To develop the technology needed to enable exploration and education;
➢ To use the excitement generated by our expeditions to motivate and inspire young minds to pursue careers in STEM.

Our Education Mission
Learn more about Ocean Exploration Trust’s education programs and impacts in sharing ocean inspiration and education with learners around the world, here.

Our Previous Expeditions
Learn about more than 110 deep ocean exploration expeditions conducted by OET since 2008. Expedition Map
E/V Nautilus is a 64-meter exploration vessel with 17 crew members and berthing for a 31-member rotating Corps of Exploration. The ship carries two Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) named Hercules and Argus that explore the seafloor in real-time online via our telepresence technology. A hull-mounted multibeam system collects water column, bathymetry, and backscatter data for full-ocean depth seafloor mapping. The ship also has a Data Lab and Wet Lab for processing digital data and physical samples like water, biological or geological seafloor samples. A key component of our exploration is to share our expeditions with students and colleagues globally. We stream live video from our ROVs and various locations on the ship online to the website www.nautiluslive.org. We encourage explorers of all ages to join our expeditions live by participating through the interactive portions of the website.

For more information about the Nautilus Exploration Program, E/V Nautilus, our exploration vehicles and previous expeditions, please visit www.NautilusLive.org or our social media.

The 2020 Nautilus Exploration Program
The 2020 Nautilus Exploration Program season will be up to six months in the field exploring the eastern Pacific Ocean along the western coast and offshore features of Canada and the United States. Ocean Exploration Trust conducts exploration using a multibeam mapping system, remotely operated vehicles, and telepresence technology. We expect the season to run from June through November 2020. Ocean Exploration Trust announces specific expedition objectives and ports of call in April 2020 at the Science Communication Workshop, and publicly soon after.

Estimated Number of Fellowships
The Ocean Exploration Trust anticipates offering 12-15 Science Communication Fellowships for the 2020 expedition season. The Science Communication Fellowship is made possible through sponsorship by the Office of Naval Research, CITGO, and private sponsors.
Who Should Apply?

Formal or informal educators, communicators of all levels— including public and private school K-12 teachers, community/youth service educators, non-profit, museum, aquarium, or science center interpreters, professors, writers, etc. Educators of any discipline may apply. Note: OET programs focus on interdisciplinary ocean exploration and STEM career role modeling with target audiences across K-12 levels primarily in the United States, while expeditions are showcased with global reach. No specific training in marine science is needed, but an interest in ocean exploration and a passion for the connections in STEM are essential. Ideal candidates are:

- Committed to actively sharing their experiences as a Fellow with their communities including but not limited to students, colleagues, public audiences, or local groups.
- Collaborative with other educators and interested in creating year-long (and beyond) connections among the cohort.
- Responsive to working with Ocean Exploration Trust’s team on local outreach programming and deliverable resource development.
- Interested in being a role model for exploration and STEM for learners in their community and around the world.

Ocean Exploration Trust encourages applications from underrepresented minority educators in STEM and those who serve schools and communities of students traditionally underrepresented in STEM. We emphasize role modeling across the array of professions on the ship and seek for a wide diversity of children to see themselves as capable of following career paths in STEM.

The Science Communication Fellowship is open to educators who hold or are eligible for a United States or Canadian passport. Applicants must plan to live in the United States or Canada for the duration of the fellowship (April 2020 - April 2021).

Selection Consideration

- **Community Impact**
  Consider when applying how you would use participation in this program to share STEM, career role modeling, and ocean exploration with students, audiences and the broader community. OET looks for Fellows who will be enthusiastic role models for innovative STEM storytelling and make the most of the professional development opportunity within their networks.

- **Communication & Technology Skills**
  Applicants should have strong written and verbal communication skills for describing STEM subjects and have confident conversational skills. They should be comfortable speaking in front of a camera or enthusiastic about gaining the training and experience. Applicants should be comfortable with computers and willing to learn new technologies.
• **Prior Ocean Exploration Knowledge**

• **Teamwork**
  Applicants need strong interpersonal-relationship skills and conversational ability to discuss topics with diverse team members. Applicants should have ease moderating a conversation or conducting a Q&A session with their peers. They should enjoy working in team settings and be open to new collaborations, ideas, and activities. They should be able to work independently, and able to adapt to ever-changing conditions while at sea.

• **Field Experience**
  Prior sea-going and/or expedition experience is not a requirement. We encourage applications from those looking to experience their first field program or at-sea professional development. If you do have previous at-sea experience, you are still eligible, but please indicate what you hope to gain from this program.

• **Travel**
  Applicants must be comfortable with air travel and be willing to travel independently. Applicants must either hold a United States or Canadian passport valid until April 2021 or be eligible and willing to obtain one immediately after acceptance.

• **Language**
  Applicants must be fluent in verbal and written English. Fluency or familiarity in a second language is helpful, but not required.

• **Health**
  Applicants must be physically and mentally capable of meeting the demands of living and operating aboard a working exploration vessel. Constructed in 1967, E/V Nautilus is not ADA-accessible ship. It is important to understand the risks and rigors of life at sea, such as adverse weather, seasickness, and long work hours. E/V Nautilus has a limited medical facility available on board. The captain, chief officer, chief engineer, and 2nd engineer hold Medical Care certificates. E/V Nautilus has 24/7 access to on-call medical advice during emergencies while at sea. OET welcomes pregnant women on board under the following conditions: (1) they are within the first 24 weeks of their pregnancy, and (2) they are medically fit (requires a note from their doctor).
  Vessels operated by the Ocean Exploration Trust are working vessels with operations that involve heavy equipment and machinery. Safety rules and guidelines should always be heeded and taken seriously. You will be briefed shortly after arriving on board about the safety guidelines and emergency procedures of the vessel on which you are sailing. Applicants must be comfortable moving up and down stairs, walking on unstable surfaces, and living in close quarters with other expedition team members. There is no swimming or SCUBA diving requirement or component to the fellowship or working aboard E/V Nautilus.
Costs Associated with Science Communication Fellowship

Covered - Workshop Travel & Board
Those selected as 2020 SCFs will be provided travel to/from Rhode Island including per diem, transfers within workshop locations, meals, and accommodation for the Science Communication Workshop in April.

Covered - Expedition Travel & Board
Those selected as 2020 SCFs will be provided travel to/from their closest major airport to the ship in port for their assigned at-sea expedition. During expeditions at sea, SCFs are provided full room and board in the form of shared cabins and three full meals per day. Fellows are eligible for per diem on travel days.

Covered - Reimbursements for Classroom Substitutes while at April Workshop
If needed, substitute fees for the dates of the Science Communication Workshop and the travel days to/from the expedition can be provided. Fees are reimbursed at the substitute pay rate in the school district, up to a maximum of $200/day. Proof of payment must be submitted with a reimbursement form before June 30, 2020. OET will not and cannot reimburse for substitute fees during all the days of an expedition sailing.

Not Covered - Reimbursements for Classroom Substitutes while at-sea
If you’re selected to sail for an expedition during the school year, OET cannot provide substitute support for the duration of school days missed. Staff work closely with finalists to discuss availability for expeditions and staff according to these conversations.

Not Covered - Required - Valid current passport until 2021.
Because E/V Nautilus is a foreign-flagged vessel which often travels through international waters, all program participants must have a United States or Canadian passport valid until April 2021. If you do not have a passport currently and are accepted, you must apply for one immediately after acceptance. Passport application or renewal fees are the responsibility of the participant.

Not Covered - Optional - Professional Development Credits
Professional development credits for the Fellowship may be obtained in the form of graduate study credits through the University of Rhode Island at the expense of the Fellow. Continuing education hours can be provided without charge. Details on both options are available upon acceptance.
Selection Process & Fellowship Important Dates

- September – Jan 10, 2020: SCF applications accepted
- January 10, 2020: SCF applications and supporting documents due
- January 29, 2020: Applicants selected for interview round notified
- Feb 3 - 14, 2020: Online interview period for program finalists
- Feb 19, 2020: Fellowship recipients notified
- April 27, 2020: Fellows travel to Rhode Island for workshop training
- April 27 - 30, 2020: 2020 Science Communication Workshop
- June - November 2020: Expedition dates: TBD 1-3 weeks

Fellows are selected by an OET staff and contractor committee. Decisions to shape the cohort are made by the committee as a whole, not by individuals. All applications will be reviewed after the January 10, 2020 deadline. Finalist interviews using Google Hangouts/Meet will be scheduled on a weekday between February 3 - 14, 2020. The committee aims to make all program selections and notify all applicants of their status for the season by February 19, 2020. Due to the number of applications we receive, we regrettably cannot offer individual feedback on individual applications.

How to Apply

**Complete these steps by the January 10, 2020 deadline before midnight EST.** Applications must be received fully (including letters of recommendation) by the deadline to be considered.

All application materials are uploaded to an online form. If you have difficulty with online forms, please contact education@oet.org. The Science Communication Fellowship application requires the following documents:

- Online Application Form
- Includes dates matrix for UNAVAILABILITY to go to sea June - November 2020
- Cover Letter
- Sample Lesson or Representative Work
- Resume
- Signed Statement of Understanding
- 2 Letters of Recommendation *(submitted by references)*
- Optional Video introduction

Apply Online: [https://nautl.us/SCFAplication2020](https://nautl.us/SCFAplication2020)
Application Checklist:

- **Online Application Form**
  - Use the online form to submit all of your application materials. **This form is not editable**; make sure you enter all required information correctly. Includes:
    - Your availability in 2020 to join an expedition at sea (**Indicate specific dates you are NOT available** June - November 2020.)

- **Cover Letter (UPLOAD)**
  - Address why you want to be a Science Communication Fellow, who you educate and how, what unique qualities you bring to the Corps of Exploration, and how you envision incorporating the experience you gain into your teaching, and how you plan to share your experience with your learners, organization or community.
  - Save as a PDF named: `SCF2020_Lastname_Firstname_CoverLetter.pdf`
    - i.e. `SCF2020_Cook_Megan_CoverLetter.pdf`

- **Resume (UPLOAD)**
  - Use minimum 11-point font, length maximum 2 pages
  - Save as a PDF named: `SCF2020_Lastname_Firstname_Resume.pdf`

- **Sample Lesson Plan, Activity, or Sample of Work (UPLOAD)**
  - **Classroom educators:** Share a sample lesson plan or activity you feel best represents your teaching style and how you engage students in learning.
  - **Informal (non-classroom) educators and interpreters:** Share an activity or sample of your work you feel best represents how you engage students and/or audiences (e.g., collection of online resources you’ve authored, description of an activity you facilitate with learners, articles which share your writing voice, media pieces highlighting your style of science communication, illustration portfolio, etc.)
  - Save as a PDF named: `SCF2020_Lastname_Firstname_Sample.pdf`
  - Questions about a lesson submission? Your materials can not be made into a PDF? Please contact education@oet.org

- **2 Letters of Recommendation**
  - **Two letters of recommendation are required:** one from a supervisor and one from a student/learner or colleague. Recommenders should be familiar with your qualities as an educator / communicator so they can comment specifically on how you would contribute to the Nautilus Exploration Program.
    - If you are self-employed, please submit a second letter from a former supervisor or another colleague.
    - Letters should be submitted by the recommender. Please provide your recommenders with page 16 for upload instructions.
  - **OET will not contact your recommenders. Letters must be submitted online by January 10, 2020.** It is your responsibility to ensure OET receives your letters on time. Applications missing letters of recommendation are incomplete.
Signed Statement of Understanding (UPLOAD)

- Fill out and sign the Statement of Understanding with your administrator or supervisor indicating commitment from your organization. Note, the substitute support policy outlined here.
- Scan and save as a PDF named: SCF2020_Lastname_Firstname_SOU.pdf

Optional Video introduction

- You may submit a video introduction, under 4 minutes in length, to help the committee get to know you as an educator and understand your interest in the Science Communication Fellowship.
- Videos may be uploaded to YouTube, Vimeo or a personal website. When completing the Online Application Form, add the video introduction URL and any associated passwords needed for viewing.
- Applicants choosing not to submit an optional video introduction will not be at a disadvantage in the review process.
If I am selected for the 2020 Science Communication Fellowship, I understand and agree that I will:

➢ Commit one year of participation (April 2020 – April 2021) to engage with, improve, and assess the Science Communication Fellowship Program. This may include conference calls, webinars, and e-mails and will require me to provide feedback and input when needed on various program aspects.

➢ Be available between June - November 2020 during agreed upon dates to join the Corps of Exploration at sea for 1 - 3 weeks aboard E/V Nautilus. Will be available to participate in the Science Communication Workshop, April 20 - 23, 2020 with travel days on April 20 and 23rd.

➢ Lead at least one presentation throughout the fellowship year in my school, organization or community to share my experience with the Nautilus Exploration Program and generate enthusiasm and participation in STEM programs. I will document this presentation for OET's impact and outreach tracking.

➢ Participate in pre-expedition conference calls and/or webinars (dates TBD) and a post-expedition debriefing conference call following my expedition.

➢ Be an active contributor at sea on E/V Nautilus supporting Ocean Exploration Trust’s education and outreach mission including facilitating broadcast conversations on the NautilusLive livestream and hosting interactive ship-to-shore connections. Additional activities may include: creating digital photo albums, participating in online Q&A and STEM discussion, and contributing to social media.

➢ Participate in all program assessments which may include verbal and written feedback in phone calls, email questionnaires, or comprehensive evaluations completed online.

➢ Develop and submit a deliverable (STEM lesson plan, activity, or approved alternative) based on my experience in the Fellowship. I acknowledge some or all of my deliverable may be integrated into the OET STEM Learning Modules and/or Digital Resource Library.

➢ Work with OET to disseminate information related to my participation in the program. I will track all media coverage generated by my efforts throughout the fellowship year and generate enthusiasm and participation in STEM and exploration-related programming within my school, district, community or organization to the best of my ability.

➢ Maintain physical and mental capability of meeting the demands of living and operating aboard a working exploration vessel and am able to live in close quarters with other expedition team members.

➢ Conduct myself in a professional manner and serve as a role model for future ocean explorers.
Applicant Agreement

I, ________________________________________, understand the above commitments outlined in the Statement of Understanding and will fully comply if selected.

Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: ________________

Principal/Supervisor Agreement**

I, _____________________________________________________, have fully read and understand the Statement of Understanding signed by the applicant and give full consent for the applicant to participate in the Science Communication Fellowship, if selected. I further agree that:

➢ I will support the applicant in all aspects of the program as outlined in this statement.

➢ I will allow release time (if applicable) for the applicant to participate in the Science Communication Workshop in Rhode Island, traveling April 27 - 30, 2020 with mandatory travel on April 27 and 30.

➢ If the applicant is a classroom educator who requires a substitute teacher during the April Science Communication Workshop, I recognize my ability to request OET pay substitute reimbursements for the days of the workshop. However, if the applicant’s at-sea expedition dates fall within the school year, I recognize I may only request substitute reimbursement on travel days to and from the expedition, but not the remaining at-sea dates.*

Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: ________________

E-mail: _____________________________________ Phone: ________________________

*Substitute reimbursements will be made at the rate paid by the school/district up to a maximum of $200/day. Proof of payment will be required for reimbursement, by June 30, 2020.

**It is recommended that the principal or administrator retain a copy of the information packet and a copy of this Statement of Understanding for their records.
Supervisor Recommendation Letter Instructions

Provide these instructions to an administrator or supervisor familiar with your qualities as an educator, interpreter and/or communicator so they may comment specifically on how you will fit into the role of a Science Communication Fellow.

Dear Recommender:
This educator is applying for a Science Communication Fellowship with Ocean Exploration Trust and has asked that you provide a letter of reference to support their consideration. Recommendation letters are an important component in helping our committee get to know and understand the applicant’s skills, aptitude for sharing the experience they will have into their STEM education / audience communication, and their potential impact within their home community. We appreciate your time and effort in supplying your perspective and background information!

Instructions
● Write a personal, original letter of recommendation describing:
  ○ the length of time you have known the applicant and in what capacity,
  ○ their specific and/or overall qualifications for this opportunity working with a deep ocean exploration team of diverse STEM professionals,
  ○ the applicant’s communication and interpersonal skills, and
  ○ your recommendation for their participation in the Science Communication Fellowship.
● Save as a PDF named:
  SCF2020_ApplicantsLastName_ApplicantsFirstName_Reference_Supervisor.pdf
● Upload of PDF of your letter here: https://nautl.us/SCFRecommendation2020

If you have any questions about the recommendation or application process, feel free to contact the OET Team at education@oet.org.

Submit application online at: http://www.oceanexplorationtrust.org/communication-fellowship
Student / Colleague Recommendation Letter Instructions

Provide these instructions to a student (and guardian if applicable) or teammate/ individual who is familiar with your qualities as an educator and/or communicator from a learner’s perspective so they may comment specifically on how you will bring your skills to the education and interpretation role of a Science Communication Fellow.

Dear Recommender:

This educator is applying for a Science Communication Fellowship with Ocean Exploration Trust and has asked that you provide a letter of reference to support their consideration. Recommendation letters are an important component in helping our committee get to know and understand the applicant’s skills and potential for impact after sailing on E/V Nautilus. We appreciate your time and effort in supplying your perspective and background information!

Instructions

- Write a personal, original letter of recommendation describing:
  - how long you have known the applicant and how you know them,
  - how they have served as a great teacher or role model for you in learning,
  - how they have influenced your perspective on science, technology, engineering or mathematics, and anything else you would like to include.

- Save as a PDF named:
  SCF2020_ApplicantsLastName_ApplicantsFirstName_Reference_Student.pdf

- Upload of PDF of your letter here: https://nautl.us/SCFRecommendation2020

If you have any questions about the recommendation or application process, feel free to contact the OET Team at education@oet.org.
Frequently Asked Questions

Do you accept applications from those living outside the US, Canada, or Mexico?
Due to restrictions as a foreign-flagged vessel and program sponsorship, the Science & Engineering Internship Program is only open to individuals who hold or are eligible for a United States or Canadian passport. Applicants must plan to live in the United States or Canada for the duration of the expedition season (June - December 2020).

I am a museum/ non-profit/ public speaker/ artist/ writer/ web-host educator. Is it ok to submit something other than a classroom lesson plan?
As informal educators, we know you may not have a lesson plan created or you may not know how to create one. You do not need to submit a lesson plan as part of your application. Our team wants to see what you do use in your educational space, or what you teach your audience. You can submit artwork if you are an artist, field trip activities, a powerpoint you present, a sample of a talk you give to an audience, etc. We want these to represent you and your teaching or outreach style.

I’ve applied before, can you tell me how to improve my application from a previous year?
If you were not previously selected for a fellowship with OET, we strongly encourage you to keep applying! This is a very competitive program with only a limited number of selections per year due to ship berth space. One way to improve your application is to consider your goals for student and community impact through the fellowship and clearly communicate that in your cover letter. Write specifically to tell reviewers why you want this opportunity, what about an experience with OET stands out for your interests, and what you bring to the cohort (be it work experiences, life experiences, research experience, or other qualities) if accepted. We select a cohort of Fellows each year with varied levels of experience and expertise. Consider how participating in this program would expand your impact as an educator and how you could impact your community through the opportunity.

Do I have to swim?
You do not need to know how to swim if you want to sail on E/V Nautilus. The ship does not have swim calls or allow participants to swim while at sea exploring. The ship is equipped with US Coast Guard and SOLAS certified safety equipment and a professional crew to manage any emergency situations. You may have a chance to go swimming before or after an expedition on your own personal time.

What if I can’t go on the ship during the school year?
Our expedition season spans 5-6 months of the year so Fellows do not have to go on expedition during the school year if they are not able to. When filling out the online application, indicate all dates you are NOT available to go to sea. If you indicate you are not available during the school year, our team will try to place you on a summer expedition.
When applying, how do I know what expedition I would be placed on? How do I know how long I would be at sea?

When completing the online application form, please indicate all dates you are NOT available to go to sea. If your availability changes after submitting the application, please send updated information to education@oet.org. As the 2020 expedition schedule is set by our Leadership Team, the education team will consider selected Fellows’ availability against the expedition schedule to determine cruise assignments. Most expeditions last 1-3 weeks, but in some cases Fellows may sail on back-to-back expedition legs for a total fellowship duration.

What is it like living on the ship?

Living conditions on E/V Nautilus consist of shared rooms with bunk beds and bathrooms. We share three meals a day in a group dining room. Nautilus also has an outdoor lounge area and a state-of-the-art indoor lounge with exploration viewing monitors. WiFi internet is available in common areas for personal use and a few landline telephones are provided in public spaces.