

## NOBLETT – WITTER FAMILY INTERNSHIPS IN EARTH/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE Information for hosting organizations and potential sponsors

The Colorado College Geology Dept announces an internship program that provides funding for CC Geology majors to explore and experience hands-on work in professional settings. Sponsoring companies and organizations receive a willing, motivated undergraduate who is capable of learning new skills rapidly and motivated to contribute to the important work of the organization.

Bill Witter '87 generously supports the Noblett - Witter Family Internship program, providing opportunities for 8 to 12 current students annually. For the first six years of the program, and continuing this year, Geology majors were / are eligible to apply. Beginning in 2022, CC students who are undecided about their academic major may apply for two '2<sup>nd</sup>-year' opportunities that illuminate varied geology professions. This financial support enables students, who generally need to find summer employment to support their College education, to pursue opportunities that provide practical experience with Geology careers, over other positions that do not.

The Geology Department seeks opportunities from county, state, and federal agencies; non profit organizations; consulting firms and private businesses; the environmental sector; minerals and exploration companies; the energy sector, and more, as our partners in the Noblett - Witter Family Intern program. The aim is to provide practical experience in earth-science careers (writ large). Over the span of a CC Geology degree, the internship experiences provide counterpoint to CC Geology's exceptional academic coursework and original research projects, which involve students in field, laboratory, and modeling investigations mentored by CC faculty, or to Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) through national programs.

For hosting organizations, a CC Geology intern may be put to work on current projects that need people-power and inquisitive problem solvers – at no cost to the organization. Internship hosts are invited to 1) acquaint interns with careers / practical aspects of geology within government, industry, non-profits, or research universities; 2) provide meaningful projects and intern activities that draw upon the skills and earth science foundations that interns bring, from their CC education; and 3) be positive role models and mentors for interns as they gain agency and decision-making ability about their future careers.

Organizations may propose projects to the Department, in response to the annual call for positions, or CC Geology students may identify a specific sponsor and work together with the sponsor and organization to develop an internship that will utilize geology training and an avenue into an employment area that the student would like to explore.

For each intern that lands a position, the Geology Department will provide funds in support of the intern(s) from the Witter Family Fund, provided by CC alumnus Bill Witter ('76 graduate). The Fund provides a weekly stipend and one-time RT transportation to the place of work. The stipend amount is sufficient to cover accommodation\*, food and local transportation (e.g. fuel for own vehicle or

public transit fares). Interns' work period may range from four to 10 weeks. Internships are usually scheduled during the summer, but academic-year internships also may be arranged (provided that the intern is not simultaneously enrolled and earning academic credit).

[\*Guidance from intern hosts about leads for / location of safe accommodation are greatly appreciated.]

## College policy on health/medical coverage:

For summer internships in USA or abroad that do not involve enrollment for academic credit, Colorado College's policy is that student interns must rely upon their own primary insurance to cover health care and/or emergency medical treatment, whether this be family health insurance or the CCSHIP program that CC makes available to students who do not have family insurance.

For further information, please contact Christine Siddoway, Director of Noblett-Witter Intern program, <u>csiddoway@coloradocollege.edu</u>, or Mandy Sulfrian, Lead Adminstrative Assistant, <u>msulfrian@coloradocollege.edu</u>. Contact Telephone: 719 389 6621.

## Acknowledgements:

Sincere thanks to Bill Witter and the Witter Family Fund for the generous support of the CC Geology interns. And we are grateful for the joint work of CC alumnus Bill Witter and Emeritus Professor Jeff Noblett, who conceived and developed the Noblett-Witter Family Internship Program.

Sincere thanks to the organizations and CC alumni who have hosted interns, since inception of the program in 2016. Your professional generosity and individual commitments have an enormous positive impact on current CC students, through the experiences that become part of their career trajectory. Thank you!