

Schneider Fellows 2024

The Schneider Fellows program provides Stanford students with opportunities to work at leading U.S. non- governmental organizations (NGOs) in the sustainable energy field.

Summer 2024 Fellows – Undergraduate Students

Josie Amoo, '25 (Environmental Systems Engineering and African and African American Studies); Environmental Defense Fund, New York, NY and Houston, TX

Josie interned at the Environmental Defense Fund, an environmental nonprofit and advocacy group. She worked under the Healthy Communities team to create communication and mapping resources for Houston communities impacted by poor air quality due to environmental racism and heavy industrial pollution.

Sebastian Andrews, '25 (Earth Systems); Environmental Defense Fund, Remote

Sebastian interned at Environmental Defense Fund with the Net Zero Action Accelerator, which provides resources and training for companies with net-zero emissions goals ambition. Sebastian created the NZAA's action guides for the cement and concrete industry while assisting the team with its work for New York Climate Week and furthering its integration of Environmental and Climate Justice (ECJ) principles on multiple fronts.

Miriam Awan, '26 (Earth Systems); Natural Resources Defense Council, New York, NY

Miriam assisted staff on the Bloomberg American Sustainable Cities Initiative, a program to aid 25 selected city governments in advancing racial wealth equity and decarbonization. Her work included drafting a white paper on workforce development in the clean energy industry and using GIS analysis to understand the socioeconomic conditions of partner cities.

Caroline Chen, '26 (Economics); Natural Resources Defense Council, New York, NY

Caroline worked with the Transportation and Dirty Fuels teams on circular economy and EV battery mineral supply chain research. She wrote reports about water use in mining and the impacts of Direct Lithium Extraction on the environment, communities, and the economy.

Kate Esbenschade, '25 (Earth Systems); Union of Concerned Scientists, Cambridge, MA

Kate completed a fellowship at the Union of Concerned Scientists, a nonprofit that engages in research and policy advocacy on a variety of topics include climate and energy issues. She contributed to a paper about reducing pollution from gas power plants, worked on a climate bill in the Massachusetts statehouse, and conducted research on electricity distribution in extreme weather.

Lena Hoover, '27 (Undeclared); Environmental Defense Fund, Boston, MA

Lena interned on the Environmental Defense Fund's Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) team as a Schneider fellow. She interviewed fishery stakeholders from the Philippines to write an article

on implementing sustainable fishing practices in the country, worked on social media strategy, and developed communications materials for the SSF team.

Ali Palm, '24 (Earth Systems); Environmental Defense Fund, Remote

Ali interned at the Environmental Defense Fund, a global nonprofit environmental advocacy group that works on tackling climate change and helping industries and communities adapt to a changing climate. She worked on a project working to further understand the management of various fisheries and how ecosystem sentinels (indicators) can be used to inform fisheries management.

Apurba Paudel, '25 (Civil Engineering); Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, CA

Apurba interned with the NRDC India Program for 12 weeks, working on projects to address the impacts of climate change and urban heating in India. She worked on assessing various cool surface solutions as well as the efficacy of zero emission vehicle mandates to apply to regions in India.

Sophia Qin, '27 (Economics and Mathematics); Environmental Defense Fund, Remote

Sophia worked with the Healthy Communities team at the Environmental Defense Fund to investigate the petrochemical industry's use and marketing of "advanced recycling" as a solution to the plastic crisis.

Dakota Riemersma, '24 (Earth Systems); Environmental Defense Fund, Remote

Dakota interned at the Environmental Defense Fund, working with the Fisheries and Oceans department to determine how and where EDF might most effectively engage with blue carbon projects. He wrote a report, created a presentation, and designed an Excel model all geared towards facilitating financial analysis of blue carbon ecosystems.

Alexis Rollings, '27 (Earth Systems); Natural Resources Defense Council, Washington, D.C.

During her internship, Alexis analyzed the public health effects of environmental contaminants like nitrate and PFAs, advocating for the consideration of soil health alongside human health by writing several comprehensive research memos.

Thomas Saito, '26 (Energy Science and Engineering); Environmental Defense Fund, San Francisco, CA

Thomas interned with the California Energy Team at the Environmental Defense Fund. He worked on advocacy related to creating a regional electricity market in the American West, offshore wind in California, and a proposed hydrogen pipeline.

Brydie Sigg, '25 (Earth Systems); Natural Resources Defense Council, Washington, D.C.

Brydie worked with the Climate Test team at the NRDC to generate a user interface for the biomass and petroleum components of the Committed Energy Model, which is used to estimate the predicted energy production and emission levels of current fossil fuel infrastructure.

Summer 2024 Fellows – Graduate Students

Jovan Aigbekaen, '25 (M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering), U.S. Green Building Council, Washington, D.C.

Jovan interned with the U.S. Green Building Council, a nonprofit organization that is a global leader in green building, and is dedicated to supporting sustainable, healthy, and resilient infrastructure and communities. Jovan supported the technical development of the upcoming LEED v5 rating system for green buildings by conducting outreach and interviews with various market players in the sustainability sector, with his work culminating with a comprehensive report that offered concrete recommendations to augment the LEED v5 refinement process.

Tanya Arora, '25 (M.S. in Environmental Engineering); Environmental Defense Fund, New York, NY

Tanya interned at the Environmental Defense Fund, an environmental advocacy not-for-profit in partnership with Safer Chemicals to evaluate the stance of EDF on pyrolysis of plastics in the US. She curated a holistic report that analyzed the process of pyrolysis of plastics from an environmental, economic, and policy perspective.

Aakanksha Chaudhary, '24 (M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering); U.S. Green Building Council, Washington, D.C.

Aakanksha was the LEED Technical Fellow at US Green Building Council, a nonprofit organization that promotes sustainability in building design, construction, and operation. She created a state of the art guide for resilience of buildings in flood, wildfire, and extreme heat, while recognizing the value of resilience work from the environmental justice context for marginalized communities.

Genevieve DiBari, '25 (M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering); U.S. Climate Alliance, Washington, D.C.

Genevieve worked with the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of 24 governors dedicated to achieving net-zero emissions through state-led climate initiatives. Her role involved providing research support for economy-wide policy development, with a particular focus on power sector policy, as well as assisting in the implementation of grant programs.

Noelle Eveland, '25 (MBA); Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, CA

Noelle interned at the Natural Resources Defense Council on their California Climate and Clean Energy team focusing on industrial decarbonization policy. She analyzed various aspects of the California Cap-and-Trade program and cement decarbonization approaches within the state and provided policy recommendations.

Kevin Galvin, '25 (M.S. in Environmental Engineering); Environmental Defense Fund, San Francisco, CA

Kevin interned with the Environmental Defense Fund, where he worked with oil and gas experts to validate industry-reported flared gas volumes utilizing satellite-based monitoring systems. He

assessed the accuracy of satellite detections across several Canadian provinces, including Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan.

Adeline Leung, '25 (M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering); RMI, Oakland, CA

Adeline interned at RMI, an environmental nonprofit organization that scales market-driven solutions to align with a 1.5°C future and secure a clean, prosperous, zero-carbon future for all. In her internship, she quantified the embodied carbon and storage potential of bio-based materials to help scale up the use of carbon sequestering and healthy materials in the future.

Swati Narasimhan, '25 (PhD in Materials Science and Engineering); Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, CA

Swati conducted a technical assessment of battery critical mineral demand predictions and compiled research related to transmission technologies.

Jack Ruzekowicz, '24 (M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering); Union of Concerned Scientists, Cambridge, MA

Jack was a fellow with the Union of Concerned Scientists, a member-supported nonprofit fighting for a safer, healthier, and more just world. Here they worked on understanding the impact of offshore wind energy on the New England winter grid.

Jessica Yan, '24 (M.S. in Management Science & Engineering); RMI, Washington, D.C.

Jessica interned at RMI, formerly known as Rocky Mountain Institute, a climate think tank focused on transforming the global energy system. She conducted a landscape analysis on power sector databases and mapped decision making points for community lenders eligible for support from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. She also completed a thought leadership piece on financial institutions' transition planning that will be published on RMI's blog.

Yearlong 2024 Fellows

David Lee, '24 (BS in Environmental Systems Engineering, minor in computer science)

Placement: Natural Resources Defense Council – Washington, DC

Title: Energy Policy Analysis Fellow

Ella Norman '24 (BA Human Biology)

Placement: Natural Resources Defense Council – San Francisco, CA

Title: Western Equitable Clean Energy and Climate Fellow

NRDC blog: <https://www.nrdc.org/bio/ella-norman>