

Internship with Environmental Literacy, ALL Careers Initiative

Connecting Environmental Literacy/Concern to ALL Careers

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Goals: The purpose of the ALL Careers initiative is to make explicit connections between environmental knowledge/concern and ALL careers . . . not just those currently thought of as “environmental careers” (a narrow part of the economy). Ultimately, the most important product of this initiative will be curriculum and resources for high school students. To launch this initiative, we are working with teachers, administrators, career counselors, parents as well as student leaders.

Duties. Student interns will work on projects such as the following:

- Develop communication materials about the ALL careers initiative to advocate for the ALL Careers approach.
- Help organize and be a part of meetings and programs to advocate for the ALL Careers approach.
- Help develop curriculum materials for programs and the concept itself (especially at the high school level, but also at middle school and elementary levels).
- Other duties that help advance the ALL Careers initiative.

Statement of challenge: Many young people want to help address environmental (and social) challenges – i.e., make the world a better place. Presently, this is usually equated with attaining an “environmental career” that is often narrowly interpreted as a career in environmental science, forestry, environmental educator, etc. (although the fields of energy and water management are increasingly also seen as “environmental careers”). How can we help students envision **any** career they are interested in – and have aptitude for – as part of a green economy in balance with Earth’s living systems? See this blog: [Environmental Literacy and ALL Careers](#).

Selected projects / partners

- **The Environmental Leadership Summit**, developed by students at Fossil Ridge High School in Ft. Collins has been promoting the ALL Careers approach. It has been held for 3 years and is expected to be expanded in 2020.
- **Lafayette Open Space** (with whom Martin Ogle (founder of Entrepreneurial Earth) has been working for 5 years) has been a supporter of this initiative, sponsoring programs in schools, for the public and at a professional conference.
- **Making a Living and a Life** – this phrase, a subtitle of **Richard Louv’s** book “[The Nature Principle](#)” (and used by permission) has been used to promote connections between youth, business/entrepreneurship and sustainability in Lafayette, CO and as the title for about a dozen programs on this ALL Careers initiative.