Please encourage graduate students* to consider the following opportunity. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Graduate students are encouraged to apply to participate in a two-and-a-half-day program in Washington, DC to learn about Congress, the federal budget process, and effective science communication. Students will have an opportunity to meet with their Members of Congress or congressional staff.

A coalition of scientific societies and organizations, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the Association of American Universities (AAU), has created an exciting opportunity for graduate and upper-class undergraduate students in science, mathematics, and engineering disciplines to learn about science policy and advocacy. This entry-level workshop is organized to educate students who are interested in learning about the role of science in policy-making, to introduce them to the federal policy-making process, and to empower them with ways to become a voice for basic research throughout their career.

UW-Madison Graduate School will run a competitive process to select two graduates student to attend the workshop. The Graduate School will cover the cost of travel, accommodations, meals, and event registration for the selected graduate students.

The selected graduate students will participate in the workshop in Washington, DC, April 17-20, 2016. Participants will learn about the structure and organization of Congress, the federal budget and appropriations process, and tools for effective science communication. In addition, students will participate in interactive seminars for both policy-making and communication. By the end of the workshop students will have an opportunity to learn about ways to remain engaged and involved either through a relevant professional society or through on-campus activities. The day after the culmination of the workshop, students will form teams and conduct meetings with their elected Members of Congress and congressional staff members, putting into practice what they’ve learned.

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 2, 2016. Read more about the workshop and application instructions here: https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/scienceadvocacy

*Applicants must be enrolled in a graduate degree program (including double degrees) in one of the following fields: Biological, physical, or earth sciences; Computational sciences and mathematics; Engineering disciplines; Medical and health sciences; and Social and behavioral sciences.

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