

HELP MAKE CALIFORNIA'S POLICIES STRONGER WITH SCIENCE



CCST
CALIFORNIA COUNCIL ON
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The CCST Science & Technology Policy Fellowship

A Year of Public Service and Government Leadership
Training for Scientists and Engineers

SCIENCE + POLICY = IMPACT

Bridging the Science/Policy Gap

The CCST Science Fellows program **ensures that there are staff close to the seats of power** with experience evaluating complex scientific issues and interpreting data.

More Than Just Science

By applying the lens of scientific thinking, CCST Science Fellows bring **unique rigor to legislative analysis in any area of public policy**, not just science.

Lasting Legacy

Fifty-percent of CCST Science Fellows have been hired by the State Legislature or state agencies at the end of their Fellowship, proof of **CCST's success in recruiting and mentoring talented minds** — who will help craft smart policies for years to come.



National Leadership

Modeled in part after the **American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)** Federal policy fellowship, the CCST Science Fellows program itself has become a **model for other states who want to establish science policy fellowships** in their own legislature.

Innovative Social Impact

The CCST Science Fellows program offers an **innovative approach for making an impact on California's leadership, economy, and environment**. By placing scientists in the State Legislature, we can encourage fact-based legislation, **leading to well-designed policies that can benefit society for generations** — in the Golden State and beyond.



LEGISLATORS SAY



"Legislation should be based on **facts and data**.
CCST Science Fellows bring **science and truth** to legislation."

– Assemblymember Bill Quirk
(D-Hayward)

"The demand for these **highly trained Fellows** continues to grow. **You can impact policy** by supporting CCST and placing a Science Fellow in the Capitol."

– Assemblymember Susan Bonilla
(D-Concord)



"CCST Science Fellows **bridge the gap** between science and politics,
and are helping to increase the opportunity **for policy to be informed by science** in California."

– Sam Blakeslee (R)
Former State Senator and Former Assembly Minority Leader

POLICIES AFFECTING ALL CALIFORNIANS

CCST Science Fellows have contributed to bills, hearings,
and laws on far-reaching issues, including:



Energy & Environment

- Clean energy technologies
- Climate change and adaptation
- Earthquake early-warning
- Electric vehicles
- Habitat restoration
- Oil and gas technologies
- Waste management
- Water quality and supply



Human Services

- Adoption and foster care
- Affordable housing
- Aging and long-term care
- Autism services
- Homelessness
- Medicaid and Social Security
- Reentry and job training
- Veterans issues



Education

- Community colleges
- Digitally enhanced education
- Education funding
- Higher education
- School nutrition
- Standardized testing
- STEM-ready workforce
- Innovations in teaching



Health Care

- Alzheimer's disease
- Genetic testing
- Healthcare disparities
- New medical devices
- Medical professions
- Organ donation and transplant
- Smoking and e-cigarettes
- Vaccinations

SCIENCE FELLOWS BY THE NUMBERS



69

SCIENCE FELLOWS
TRAINED TO-DATE

100%

OF SCIENCE FELLOWS
HOLD PHDs OR
EQUIVALENT DEGREES
IN SCIENCE, MEDICINE,
OR ENGINEERING



50%

OF SCIENCE FELLOWS
HAVE BEEN HIRED BY
THE CALIFORNIA
STATE LEGISLATURE
OR STATE AGENCIES
SINCE COMPLETING
THEIR FELLOWSHIP



30+

DOCTORAL DEGREE
INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED
FROM ACROSS THE U.S.

800+

BILLS, HEARINGS, AND
ACTIONS IMPACTED
BY SCIENCE FELLOWS



SCIENCE FELLOWS SAY



"CCST had done a fantastic and thorough job of preparing us for our first week of work in the Capitol."

– John Thompson, 2016 CCST Science Fellow

PhD in Materials Science and Engineering, Northwestern University
Placement: Office of Assemblymember Jay Obermole (R-Hesperia)

"In addition to my mentors at CCST, I gained mentors in my assigned office. There was something valuable to learn from every staff member, and these relationships have helped my personal and professional growth."

– Christine Hochmuth Casey, 2015 CCST Science Fellow

PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Rochester
Placement: California State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee



"CCST provides the opportunities and support necessary for Fellows to have a rewarding and fun experience. The question I ask myself is, 'would I do it again?' The answer is yes...100 percent."

– Mark Elsesser, 2013 CCST Science Fellow

PhD in Chemical Engineering, University of California, Santa Barbara
Placement: Office of Assemblymember Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova)

FUNDERS SAY



"By applying the critical lens of a scientifically-trained mind, **CCST Science Fellows help take the heat out of arguments** and replace it with facts."

– Bernadette Glenn, Executive Director
WHH Foundation

"Having a CCST Science Fellow on their staff ensures that **when State lawmakers vote** on a piece of legislation, they are doing it from a place of abundant and objective information."

– Cyndi Atherton, Program Director for Science
Heising-Simons Foundation



"**For funders**, there's an advantage to supporting smarter policies in California since the state is a national leader in energy, climate, environmental, and other issues. **The CCST Science Fellows program gives us a huge bang for the buck.**"

– Jon Kaye, Program Director
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

WE GIVE SCIENCE A SEAT AT THE TABLE

Help us train scientists to be policy-savvy – and help equip California's lawmakers with science-savvy staff.

Our **CCST Science Fellows** play a unique, vital role in **Sacramento**, and their benefit and impact to the California State Legislature is immeasurable.

California's policies are stronger with science. Join us to ensure that **public health, energy, technology innovation, environmental quality, and other critical issues** are decided with the best available advice and analysis.

CCST relies on a passionate circle of **philanthropic foundations** and **individual donors** to support its operations. Talk to us or visit our website to learn how you can give to our Science Fellows program — and make your lasting impact on California's future.



Dharia
has a PhD in
**Molecular and
Cell Biology**
and is now a
**Senior Policy
Analyst** for the
**California Dental
Association.**



'12

Debra
has a PhD in
Neuroscience
from Emory
University. She is
now a **Principal
Consultant** for
the **California
State Senate
Appropriations
Committee.**



'15

Nathan
took a year
off from his
professorship at
Boston University
to work for
the **California
State Senate
Transportation
and Housing
Committee.**



'14

Byron
received his
MPH and PhD in
chronic disease
epidemiology and
his **MD** from **Yale
University**. He is
now **Director of
Health for the City
of New Haven.**



'10

Angee
is an officer in
the **U.S. Navy
Reserves** and
holds a PhD in
Ecology. She is
now a **Research
Associate** with the
**Center for Ocean
Solutions.**



'15

JOIN US FOR A STRONGER CALIFORNIA

Our **CCST Science Fellows** program is a win-win. Talented scientists and engineers gain valuable career training in public policy – and lawmakers gain access to science-savvy staff to help them make critical decisions for California's future.

Thank You

The CCST Science Fellows program was established in 2009 with funds from the **Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation** and other generous friends.

CCST relies on private foundations and individuals to support our Science Fellows program. We are tremendously grateful to these **Major Donors**, whose recent gifts make the Fellowship possible.

Foundations

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation
Heising-Simons Foundation
Bill Rutter Foundation
TOSA Family Foundation
WHH Foundation

Individuals

Irwin and Joan Jacobs
Bruce Alberts
Charlie Kennel
Dave Martin
Corey Goodman and Marcia Barinaga
Robert Byer
Edward and Camille Penhoet
Robert and Ann Dynes
Burton and Deedee McMurtry

Invest in CCST

Whether you're a prospective applicant, an inspired funder, an interested staff member, legislator, or partner — if you believe in our mission, then connect with us!

California Council on Science and Technology

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