

ACCM/EPA Internship Program

Media Site Expectations and Student Requirements

Overview

Evangelical Press Association and Advisers of Christian Collegiate Media share a common interest in raising up the next generation of young professionals to take the lead in publications of the 21st century. Internships are a crucial stepping stone from campus media experience into the rigors and challenges of professional publishing and media careers. Where they are conducted with a mind to student preparation as well as strategic on-site management, intern programs bring variety and fresh ideas to a publication or media site while inspiring young pre-professionals toward best practices.

With this in mind, an internship program has been established that provides mutual benefit to EPA and ACCM.

Logistics

- ACCM will provide, by means of competitive application, a pool of well-prepared, eager and visionary students to serve as interns in EPA media locations across the U.S.
- EPA media locations will provide a mentoring and life-shaping experience for these interns — one that they enter with strong academic and pre-professional knowledge, but that they leave with greater confidence, insight and preparedness for careers in Christian publishing and media.
- Interns will be selected by ACCM through recommendation by their media adviser and/or lead faculty member responsible for training them in skills for publication and media. Students will apply to ACCM, whose board will choose a number of interns to meet the openings indicated by EPA, from year to year, as being available.
- Those applying for and approved for ACCM/EPA internships must be full-time students at colleges or universities in membership of the Advisers of Christian Collegiate Media with the student-produced publication a member in good standing with the Evangelical Press Association. Students will be selected based on demonstrated prior media experience in their campus media, prior internships and/or work in professional media. Resume, cover letter, a portfolio of completed

work and a letter of recommendation from a working media professional or campus media adviser will be crucial to the selection process. An interview with leadership of the EPA publication — in person or at a distance (Skype, Facetime, phone, etc.) — will also be required and will figure into the selection.

- Internships offered by member publications or media groups in the Evangelical Press Association will be mentoring experiences.
- Depending on circumstances of the internship, students might be expected to provide reliable transportation to reach the internship site as well as locations to which they are assigned for writing/reporting or media projects. Details regarding transportation will be coordinated between the intern applicant and publication or media location.
- Internships will be six weeks (minimum) in duration, with work on-site in the EPA-member publication or media location. Internships during summer months (May-August) will be preferred, though internships at other times in the year can be approved if the student lives within reasonable driving distance of the EPA-member mediation location.
- Students accepted by competitive application for ACCM/EPA internships will be paired with a mentor (or mentors, rotated within the staff) from the publication who will take an active interest in the student's progress and development in professional skills and in participation in the media culture of the publication or media location.
- Students will be provided opportunities to shadow/observe in multiple areas of the publication to gain insights into as many aspects of the publication or media location as possible during the internship.
- Students will be expected to work within the publication or media location showing best practices of professional demeanor, working within designated hours, meeting deadlines, attending meetings, conforming to standards of the publication or media location.
- Students working in the ACCM/EPA internship will be expected to come into the experience with a set of learning objectives crafted to the EPA publication or media location. (These objectives will be generated by the student, perhaps with guidance from their media adviser or the faculty or staff member directing their department's internship program.) Those objectives, ideally, will include

published work (print or online) that is identifiably the students — with a byline, photo credit, etc. — preferably work that is wholly or in part from the student's initiative.

- EPA member publications or media locations will provide the student with working materials necessary to produce media work (computer, software, camera equipment, etc.) as would be provided to any staff member. Students who can bring their own computer with necessary publication software or camera equipment are encouraged to do so.
- EPA member publication or media locations will provide the student with housing (or a list of housing options) that will provide the intern a place to live for the duration of the internship.
- EPA interns and their publication/media locations will be announced at the annual convention to promote the internship program and help it become a self-sustained element of the EPA-ACCM partnership.

For more information:

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