



Promoting Cooperative Solutions for Space Sustainability

525 Zang Street, Suite D
Broomfield, CO 80021 USA
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www.swfound.org

Secure World Foundation Spring 2020 Internship Position Description

The Secure World Foundation (SWF) is a private operating foundation that promotes cooperative solutions for space sustainability and the peaceful uses of outer space. The Foundation acts as a research body, convener, and facilitator to promote key space security and other space-related topics and to examine their influence on governance and international development.

SWF, in cooperation with our partner Caelus Foundation, is looking for a motivated candidate to support a May – August 2020 research project on misperceptions between U.S. and Chinese commercial space industry stakeholders. Specific research topics to be explored include:

- Identifying current prevailing U.S. private sector perceptions about Chinese commercial space realities, as well as the counter perceptions from Chinese private stakeholders;
- Understanding if and how these perceptions are misaligned with reality, and what information can help alleviate these misperceptions;
- The potential role non-governmental dialogue (e.g. a “Track II” dialogue) might play in promoting increased communication and reducing potential miscommunication stemming from information gaps.

The candidate will perform the below duties as a key member of the research team including external partners at the Caelus Foundation. This position reports to Ian Christensen, Director of Private Sector Programs, with frequent coordination with Caelus Foundation Executive Director Rob Ronci, and will be organized out of SWF’s Headquarters in Broomfield, Colorado. The work will be conducted remotely at this time.

Project outcomes are expected to, at a minimum, contribute to one or more conference papers and to provide input into an ongoing bilateral workshop series on the topic of commercial space development in the U.S. and China.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Perform research tasks (e.g. literature review, structured interviews) for a white paper on misperceptions between U.S. and Chinese commercial space stakeholders ;
- Compile data and other research inputs;
- Conduct background research;
- Assist in drafting white paper content & material;
- Assist in proofreading of the report; and
- Manage and respond to project-related email.



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QUALIFICATIONS:

- Currently enrolled in graduate degree program or possess commensurate experience (exceptionally qualified undergraduates may be considered);
- Knowledge of, or interest in, commercial space activities, U.S. – China relations, or related discipline; academic background in international relations preferred;
- Experience in conducting open-ended research interviews preferred;
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail;
- Strong interpersonal skills, a flexible attitude, and experience working as a member of a diverse, geographically distributed team;
- Outstanding written and verbal communication skills and ability to perform professionally in English, familiarity with Mandarin beneficial;
- Authorized to work in the United States; and,
- Good computer skills, proficiency in Google Suite and experience with collaboration platforms such as Basecamp preferred.

The successful candidate will be offered this internship as a \$5,000 contract for a 3-month research project with an anticipated workload of 24 hours per week. Qualified candidates, please send a cover letter and your resume outlining your work experience, education, and other skills to jobs@swfound.org. Title the subject line of your email: Spring Intern. No phone calls, please. Deadline for applications is April 17, 2020, but earlier submission is encouraged. Start date is negotiable but ideally would be in early to mid May 2020.