

2021 UM Summer Internship Opportunity

Topic: Promoting Sustainable Food Procurement among Universities

Deadline to Apply: February 10, 2021

Eligibility: U-M graduate student; U-M advanced undergraduate student (at least two years of completed college education); *Students graduating in Spring 2021 are not eligible*

About the Internship:

The Fair Labor Association (FLA) seeks to provide a current graduate or undergraduate student of the University of Michigan with an opportunity to learn about labor and human rights issues in food and apparel supply chains. The internship is supported jointly by U-M President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights (PACLSHR) and the Donia Human Rights Center (DHRC) at the University of Michigan.

The FLA brings together business, civil society and universities to learn, share, and collaborate in responsible supply chain practices. The challenges in food supply chains are complex and multi-faceted, and increasingly, investors, consumers, workers, governments, and civil society organizations demand that companies not only understand their supply chain but be accountable to workers. Universities have historically played a key role in moving the apparel supply chains toward responsible practices with the FLA.

As one of the FLA constituents, universities collectively represent a large food procurement power and have a role to play in encouraging food companies promote ethical business practices. To advance universities' sustainable food procurement practices and thereby encourage food companies to further improve their oversight of workers' human rights in the food supply chains, the intern will be guided by the FLA to conduct and analyze a survey on university food procurement practices to prepare a multi-university workshop in fall 2021. The intern will also explore and evaluate labor hiring practices and business implications in a local food supplier within the University of Michigan food supply chain.

Key Deliverables:

Development of summaries of various tasks and activities; a recommendation report and presentation to the FLA, PACLSHR, and DHRC.

Working Relationships:

The intern will work remotely in collaboration with the FLA staff, University of Michigan Procurement, Michigan Dining, and others as appropriate with the PACLSHR & DHRC.

Preferred Start Date: May 15, 2021 (negotiable)

Duration of Internship: 8-10 weeks; up to 40 hours per week.

Compensation: The PACLSHR and DHRC will provide funding for this internship and the intern will receive a stipend of up to \$6,000.

Desired Qualifications and Skills:

- Graduate student or Advanced Undergraduate student with at least two years of college education completed will be considered;
- Strong computer skills to include Microsoft Office, particularly Excel, with an ability to learn mapping software and others;

- Strong analytical and problem solving skills;
- Strong organizational and communication skills with an ability to obtain information through phone conversations;
- Ability to present the nuanced information and data, turning such information data into useful formats;
- Strong business acumen to include successful completion of fundamental business classes highly preferred; and
- Interest in social (labor and human rights) issues.

Application Process: Applicants are to submit materials by email to PACLSHRApplications@umich.edu. Enter “PACLSHR+DCHR FLA Internship: Sustainable Food Procurement” as the subject line and do not include any additional text in the email.

Include as attachments in PDF format:

- 1) A current CV/resume
- 2) A 150-300-word statement explaining your interest in this internship
- 3) Current transcripts. Wolverine Access (un)official copies are acceptable for this purpose

Applications will be reviewed by a subcommittee of the PACLSHR, DCHR, and the FLA. Applicants are encouraged to email questions to PACLSHRApplications@umich.edu.

About

[President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights \(PACLSHR\)](#)

The President’s Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights is appointed by the President to provide advice concerning University policies and procedures to address labor issues in the production of U of M goods (items sold with the University of Michigan’s name, logos, or other symbols). The Committee includes students, faculty, and staff and reports its recommendations to the President.

[Donia Human Rights Center \(DHRC\)](#)

The Donia Human Rights Center is a forum for intellectual exchange on issues around human rights among scholars, practitioners, students, and the broader public. Toward that end, we invite leading practitioners and scholars to share their insights and expertise on human rights gained through their experiences and research. We also offer internship and study-abroad opportunities to students that would enhance their understanding of contemporary human rights issues and equip them with the tools to tackle challenging human rights problems around the world.

[Fair Labor Association \(FLA\)](#)

FLA is a collaborative effort of universities, civil society organizations and socially responsible companies dedicated to protecting workers’ rights around the world. We are an international organization with a dedicated staff and board, headquartered in Washington, DC, with offices in China, and Switzerland. FLA places the onus on companies to voluntarily meet internationally recognized [labor standards](#) wherever their products are made. We offer:

- A [collaborative approach](#) allowing civil society organizations, universities and socially responsible companies to sit at the same table and find effective solutions to labor issues;
- [Innovative and sustainable strategies](#) and [resources](#) to help companies improve compliance systems;
- [Transparent](#) and independent assessments, the results of which are published online; and
- A mechanism to address the most serious labor rights violations through the [Third Party Complaint](#) process.