

Urban Fellows Program

The Urban Fellows Program is an initiative of the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth in the College of Law. Top graduate students are selected from across Georgia State University and Georgia Tech's School of City and Regional Planning to study and discuss issues related to urban growth with top decision makers.

Benefits of Participating in the Program:

- Broaden your awareness about urban and environmental issues by attending the exclusive speaker's series
- Build your network of professionals with similar interests
- Develop cross disciplinary contacts at GSU and other universities in Atlanta
- Receive guidance and direction to write a paper of publishable quality and earn course credit
- Make connections in the community through volunteer opportunities
- Become privy to job opportunities
- Boost your resume

Program Requirements:

- **Lecture Series:** Distinguished speakers from academics, government, and the private sector talk about a variety of urban and environmental issues. Student interest helps direct the types of speakers we select.
 - Lectures will be held once per month on a Wednesday from 4:10-5:50 p.m. Lunch lectures are also scheduled throughout the semester and run from 12-1 p.m.
 - As an example of the types of lectures we schedule, the 2013-2014 program included: Heir Property in Georgia; History of Atlanta; Updating Zoning Regulations in the Historic Sweet Auburn Neighborhood; Atlanta Public Housing Study; Energy Efficiency in Georgia; Sexually Oriented Businesses and Land Use Law; City of Brookhaven; Growth Management; Housing Vouchers; College Completion and Economic Development; Urbanization and Climate Change.
- **Community Service** – Urban Fellows must perform 5 hours of community service per semester on a project of their choice.
- **Social Media Posting** – New for 2014-2015: Each Urban Fellow will be asked to develop a short social media posting that will be used on the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth's social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, or Blog). Students must post once per semester.
- **Research Paper** –All Urban Fellows must write a research paper of publishable quality on any urban, growth management, or environmental law and policy issue. Students must participate in a full semester of the lecture series before starting their paper. Students will register for the course LAW 7494 the semester that they intend to write their paper, and will receive 2 credit hours. This course satisfies the COL's writing requirement.

Key Dates:

- Application period will open on Thursday, March 20, 2014. Check the Metro Growth website: www.law.gsu.edu/metrogrowth
- Information session Wednesday, March 26 from 12-1 p.m. in Room 652 Urban Life Building (College of Law) – brown bag lunch (bring your own lunch).
- All applicants are invited to attend an Urban Fellows lecture to see what the program is like. Please join us on Wednesday, April 2 from 4:10-5:50 p.m. for a lecture by Erin Hames, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Office of Governor Nathan Deal. Ms. Hames will speak about college completion and the effects on economic development in Georgia. This lecture will be held in the 4th floor faculty conference room in the Urban Life building (College of Law).
- Applications due Friday, April 4, 2014.
- Decisions will be made by Wednesday, April 9, 2014.