

“... be part of a great work”

YOUNG STROKE PROJECT

MULTIDISCIPLINARY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Contents

An open letter to students	3
Who is Young Stroke, Inc.	4
What the Young Stroke Project is about	4
Why the Young Stroke Project is important	4
Why we need your help	4
Read this before you apply	5-7

Appendix: CCU Documents

- a. Internship Application
- b. Internship Job Description(s)
- c. Internship Learning Contract
- d. Work Hours Log
- e. Student Evaluation of Internship Form
- f. Code of Professional & Ethical Conduct for Student Interns



*An open
letter to
Coastal
Carolina
University
students*

Thank you for your interest in an intern opportunity with the Young Stroke Project! We encourage you to thoroughly review this document to better understand why your commitment to assist us truly contributes to an unprecedented “great work.”

We seek an opportunity to work with highly motivated, self-directed students who clearly exhibit academic excellence. We also highly value those who have directly, or indirectly, experienced the impact of stroke upon significant others. Intercultural experiences, either with domestic or foreign populations, are encouraged to apply.

Our selection process is exhaustive. Positions are available to full and part time students of Coastal Carolina University (CCU). We require completion of the internship requirements defined by CCU’s Career Services. Additionally, we require a customized resume, personal statement, and two letters of recommendation.

Why so much? Because your work with us affects real life! Your work with us is not merely completing another classroom assignment. Your work will impact lives... intimately. Consequently, we expect you to give your best effort each day you work with us.

Do you have what it takes to “...be part of a great work?” Apply today! We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy L. Edmunds".

Amy L. Edmunds
Executive Director, Young Stroke, Inc.

Who is Young Stroke, Inc.

Young Stroke, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization authorized in South Carolina. Its mission is to advocate the needs of those who experienced their first stroke between the ages of 18 and 65. Young Stroke, Inc. accomplishes this mission through collaborative research and public education initiatives.

What the Young Stroke Project is about

The purpose of the Young Stroke Project is to document the experience of young stroke survivors between the ages of 18 and 65 within the twenty-eight coastal counties of South Carolina. It is scheduled for implementation beginning January, 2011 thru May, 2015. This five-year long initiative will result in a multi-media report.

Why the Young Stroke Project is important

According to 2009 DHEC statistics, half of all stroke incidences in South Carolina affect those under the age of 65. The coastal plain region, which includes CCU's home Horry County, is infamously distinguished as part of the nation's "Stroke Buckle," where stroke mortality more than twice exceeds the national average. Prior to 2005, South Carolina was ranked first or second nationally in stroke mortality for three decades. In 2006, the ranking dropped to eighth.

Despite the increasing global prevalence of stroke among young adults, there is little empirical literature on this topic based upon research in the United States. There is even less data pertaining to the "Stroke Buckle" itself. The opportunity exists to capture the experience of young stroke survivors, engaging CCU students, staff and faculty, as well as collaborative community partners.

Upon completion, the Young Stroke Project will yield a multi-media report to serve as a resource for policy makers and healthcare providers. And, perhaps more importantly, it will validate the experience of an underserved patient population which lacks voice in current healthcare discussions. This work may also potentially serve as an implementation model for North Carolina and Georgia, the other two states comprising the "Stroke Buckle."

Why we need your help

We have established an ambitious timeline to complete this project. As a small, non-profit organization with limited staff, we must rely upon you, and those who share similar objectives, to complete this task.

Read This Before You Apply

What are the eligibility requirements for an internship with Young Stroke, Inc.?

Applicants must attend Coastal Carolina University as a full-time or part-time student in good academic standing with a GPA of 3.0 or better and:

- Have completed at least three semesters and have at least one semester remaining of their undergraduate education
- Must be committed to completing a consecutive twelve week, unpaid internship
- Be a documented U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, permanent resident in possession of an alien registration receipt card (I-551), or other legal document of such status. International citizens studying in the United States with an F-1 Visa are not eligible. Individuals seeking asylum or refugees are not eligible.

Young Stroke, Inc. encourages applications from:

- Students who lives have been impacted by stroke, directly or indirectly
- Students who have previously interned with us (automatically qualify to earn compensation during their second internship)
- Students who have logged more than ten volunteer hours with us
- Undergraduates who bring diversity to academic study by reason of their culture, class, race, ethnicity, background, work and life experiences, skills and interests.
- Individuals with disabilities, defined as those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities
- Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, defined by the Department of Health & Human Services as those who come from a family with an annual income below established low-income thresholds as defined at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty.index.shtml>

What if my GPA is less than 3.0?

Exceptions may be made for students who describe exceptional circumstances in their personal statement, or who demonstrate a marked progression of improving grades.

What is a complete application?

A complete application is comprised of four sections, including:

- CCU Internship Application
- Customized Resume (not to include photographs)
- Personal Statement (not to exceed 1,000 words)
- Letters of Recommendation (2)

What should I include within my customized resume?

Your customized resume is comprised of three sections, including:

- summary of work experiences
- description of experiences from your work, extra-curricular activities, honors or publications relevant to this project in no more than 100 words
- description of your educational and research experiences in no more than 100 words

NOTE: Previous research experience is not a requirement for participation in this internship. If applicable, you may provide a statement of the problem or question that was the subject of your research. List your primary tasks and responsibilities, and methodologies employed. Limit your description to no more than 100 words.

What should I include within my personal statement?

This is an essay crafted to convey your academic and career goals, including:

- What are your current academic interests? How did your interests develop? Describe previous projects, coursework, or other experiences that have influenced your goals.
- What are your career goals?
- What are your reasons for wishing to participate in the Young Stroke, Inc. intern program? Which job description is most appealing to you? Why?
- What experiences have best prepared you for this project?
- What motivates you? What is most important to you?
- *If you have had a previous research experience, describe it in detail, answering the following questions: What was the purpose of the project? Why was it an interesting project? What impact did it have on your scholarly goals? NOTE: Previous research experience is not a requirement for participation in this internship.*

Successful applicants are those who can write effectively to describe their discipline and confidence not only to complete assigned tasks but also to establish social rapport among a broad range of constituents, including healthcare professionals, academics, community service providers, and the general public. We recommend that you take time to compose your statement thoughtfully. Be sure to spell check and proofread your essay. You are limited to 1,000 words.

How do I obtain two letters of recommendation?

For recommendations, ask professors or instructors who know your work and are able to comment specifically on your character, interpersonal skills, and academic performance, particularly in the field of study related to your interest. Advisors or program directors can comment on your overall achievement, but at least one recommender should be able to comment on your abilities and potential in your chosen field of study. You may not submit more than two recommendations with your application.

TIP: Contact your professors or instructors early to give them ample time to complete their recommendations. We suggest you visit your professor or instructor during office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss your plans and long-term goals. Provide each with a resume.

Where may I find current job descriptions for interns?

Intern job descriptions are available for review at CCU Career Services. They are also posted online at www.youngstroke.org

When is the application due?

Your complete application must be received no later than noon on Friday, August 27, 2010 for the fall semester and January 28, 2011 for the spring semester. No exceptions are extended, regardless of circumstances.

Will my application be considered if it is incomplete?

Your application will not be considered unless it is complete.

When is notification of selection sent?

Successful interns are notified via CCU email accounts no later than noon on Monday, August 30, 2010 and Monday, January 31, 2011. Selection decisions are non-negotiable and final.

Where should I direct questions?

Please direct questions to CCU Career Services or email Camisha Duffy at cd.youngstroke@gmail.com

Appendix: CCU Documents

For Students:

[Internship Application](#)
[Internship Job Description](#)
[Internship Learning Contract](#)
[Student Learning Goals](#)

[Work Hours Log](#)
[Student Evaluation of Internship Form](#)
[Code of Professional & Ethical Conduct for Student Interns](#)

For Site Supervisors:

[Internship Job Description](#)
[Memorandum of Understanding](#)
[Internship Learning Contract](#)
[Student Learning Goals](#)
[Employee Evaluation](#)
[Work Hours Log](#)

Questions?

Please contact Mr. Robert Bulsza, Career Services Internship Coordinator, for any additional information regarding internships with Young Stroke, Inc. at Coastal Carolina University.

Office: (843) 234-3450 Fax: (843) 349-2718 rbulsza@coastal.edu