



Ryan Locicero PhD '15 Awarded AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowship

Ryan Locicero, a Ph.D. graduate in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been awarded a prestigious American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy Fellowship, that includes a placement within the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE).

The competitive Science & Technology Policy Fellowship program provides opportunities for scientists and engineers to contribute to federal policy making, while learning firsthand about the intersection of science and policy. As a 2016-2017 fellow, Locicero is one of 266 scientists and engineers from a broad range of disciplines and career stages who will engage in evidence-based policy development. Fellows serve for one year in federal agencies including overseas missions and congressional offices.

Locicero's dissertation research developed the Green Space Based Learning (GSBL) approach to manage stormwater runoff and nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorous), and mainstream green infrastructure in K-12 education and outreach activities for students and teachers in the community of East Tampa. He was advised by Maya Trotz, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Thomas Crisman, professor in the Department of Integrative Biology. His research was supported by the U.S. Department of Education's Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) Fellowship, NSF Research Experiences for Teachers Water Awareness Research and Education (WARE) site award, Tampa Bay Estuary Program, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, and the Water Environment Federation (WEF) Canham Graduate Studies Scholarship.

Since its inception in 1973, over 3,300 AAAS Science & Technology Policy fellows have supported congressional offices, executive branch agencies and departments, and the judicial branch seeding virtually every corner of Washington D.C., and beyond with a high caliber of scientific know-how. After their fellowship tenure, many return to their previous positions or institutions. Others remain engaged in public policy at the federal, state, regional, or international levels. Also, fellows often pursue multidisciplinary careers in industry and nonprofit organizations. Those who return to academia teach and mentor new generations to understand the policy context for research and the importance of science communication.

AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowship

<https://www.aaas.org/page/stpf/become-st-policy-fellow>

Green Space Based Learning (GSBL) Framework

<http://raingardens.us/>

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The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is a Top 25 research university among public institutions nationwide in total research expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation. Serving over 48,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of \$1.6 billion and an annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion.