

# 2017 Summer Internship

## Feedback Labs, Washington, D.C.

Research and Learning Intern

May - August, 2017

### *Background*

Feedback Labs (FBL) believes that listening to constituents isn't just the *right* thing to do; it's also the *smart* thing to do. Building relationships with constituents positions regular people as co-creators and inverts the traditional top-down, external "expert"-driven, one-size-fits-all approach that has largely failed the nonprofit sector. Feedback Labs' big bet is that when regular people are co-creators, and when their feedback fuels an iterative and responsive process, the desired social impact is amplified.

We are taking steps to help aid agencies, not-for-profits, foundations, and governments both listen and act. The following three questions drive the theory of change: What do regular people want to make their lives better? Are we helping them get it? If not, what should we do differently? Feedback Labs is a consortium of like-minded organizations that range from implementing agencies, research and policy groups, technology developers, and foundations and other funders. All are working to help regular people be in the driver's seat, with experts in a supporting role during the program selection, design, implementation, and evaluation processes.

### *Opportunity*

Feedback Labs is dynamic and growing. We are looking for an individual who feels passionately about our theory of change and has the drive and analytical prowess to help us rapidly shape this movement and our role within it.

This is a unique opportunity that requires a **graduate student** who is comfortable in ambiguity and change, takes initiative and can work independently, likes challenges and executes thoughtful, reasoned judgment. It also requires someone willing to roll-up their sleeves to get stuff done. This is an ideal fit for someone looking to work with a fun and exciting team, shape a new organization, and learn from some of the most creative types in the sector.

This opportunity is based at the OpenGov Hub in Washington, DC. The duration of this opportunity is a **minimum of ten weeks for the summer of 2017**. While unpaid, we can promise a chance to work with a fun and exciting team, shape a new organization, and learn from some of the most creative types in the sector.

*The ideal candidate will have:*

- A deep understanding of social movements, political economy, issues of power, citizenship and governance, or related fields
- Excellent ability to absorb academic and practical research
- Excellent synthesis skills and the ability to weave together strands of thought from different sources and disciplines
- Excellent writing skills and the ability to communicate complex concepts
- Exceptional and precise attention to detail
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work across teams
- The ability to work quickly and respond to feedback
- Willingness to run with a project or idea before it is fully formulated and iterate on it regularly
- A sense of ownership for one's own projects and responsibilities
- Value both the giving and receiving of honest and constructive feedback

### *Expected Activities*

1. Read and summarize books, academic papers, case studies, blogs and other written materials on social movements and/or the topic of power and how it relates to governance and citizenship.
2. Synthesize and communicate main messages and evidence, illustrative examples and major implications from those sources to Feedback Labs's Manager of Research and Learning.
3. Work with Feedback Labs's Manager of Research and Learning to identify implications of your findings on Feedback Labs's strategy and research agenda.
4. Identify thought and practice leaders in fields related to Feedback Labs's research agenda.
5. Write pieces based on the above research for publication on Feedback Labs's blog
6. Attend Feedback Labs team meetings, Summits and other meetings with external partners as needed.

### *To Apply:*

Please submit a resume and cover letter to: [jobs@feedbacklabs.org](mailto:jobs@feedbacklabs.org)

Any questions may be directed to [info@feedbacklabs.org](mailto:info@feedbacklabs.org)

*Feedback Labs encourages applications from people of all genders, orientations, ethnicities, and backgrounds.*

**Date:** March 2017