SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES / THE OHIO STATTE UNIVERSITY / EEDS

Change the Chamber internship

Olivia Kirven

INTRODUCTION

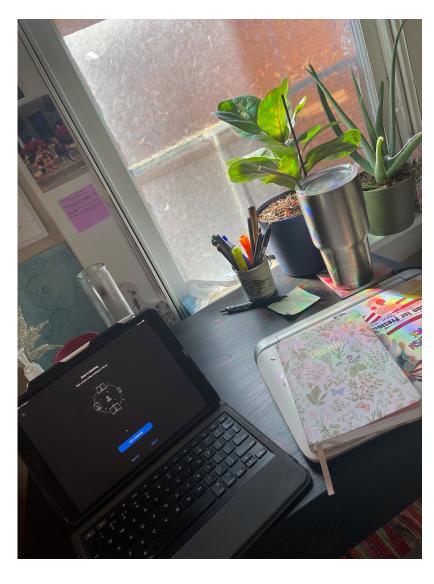
For my summer internship I worked with change the chamber from May 2021to August 2021.

BACKGROUND

- Change the Chamber is a student led coalition taking on the dark money, pro fossil fuel group that is the US chamber of commerce
- Change the Chamber works directly with large corporations to educate them on their power to fluency the Chamber, as well as steps to improve their climate action
- They use public exposure as a key of holding accountability to the camber, corporations and US senators/ representatives
- Change the Chamber lobby's for climate solutions, going directly to senators and representatives.

Change the Chamber logo





My remote set up for meetings and work

INTERNSHIPS DURING A PANDEMIC

Finding an internship during a pandemic was quite difficult, many places were not hiring interns due to covid. Many places where all online, and when you want to work with the environment that's difficult.

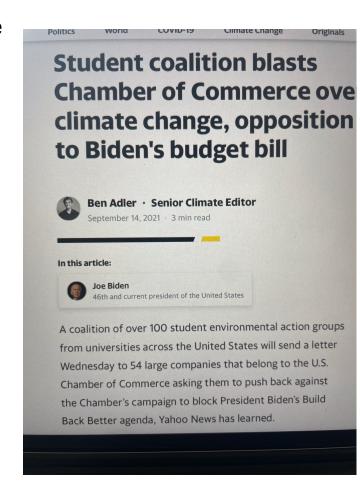
I found my internship through indeed, I thought the next best thing than working with the environments advocating for it. Working remotely actually benefitted my work. We connected with people from all over the world. We got the opportunity to meet with over 30 senators offices all online, something we wouldn't be able to do had it been in person.

while interning during a pandemic and remotely was not my ideal situation, it all worked out better than I could've imaged. My experience is one I would not trade.

ON THE JOB

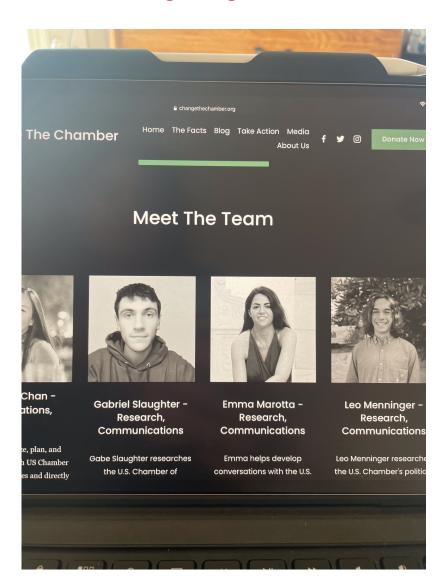
I did not have on specific job title while interning, I did a little bit of everything.

- I worked most with the senator outreach team.
 I started when the initiative was just starting. I outreached to people to join the team and call their senator.
- I mad many senator phone calls and emails.
 The calls urging them to consider climate solutions.
- I attended over 30 senator meetings. These meeting where to get senators to advocate for climate solutions in the infrastructure bill.
- I helped with social media to call out and hold corporations accountable online.
- I worked with advertising to get our message out and get more people to join our coalition.
- I was on the team to hire and interview new people. I helped interview many people. As well as help in making a decision on new hires.



This was one of our first articles recognizing us and our work. This was huge for us and definitely a great feeling.

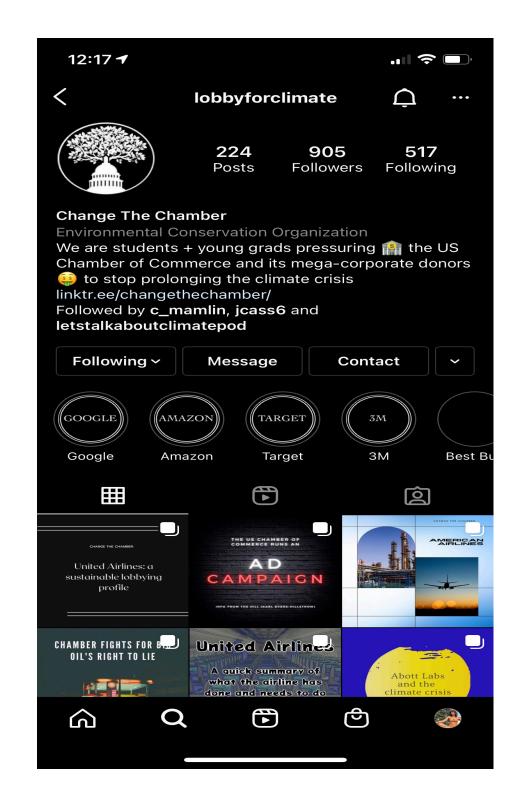
The site recognizing our team



REFLECTIONS

Looking back at my time as an intern, I feel I have learned a great deal. At times I would get very discouraged looking at or climate future and the lack of climate policy in place, it can be daunting. My team was very encouraging and it felt like a family. My boss was all for advocating for self care while doing the hard work.

I think lobbying for change really helped me show why I'm so passionate about EEDS. If I had more time in my schedule I'd love to continue working with them. I had an unforgettable experience.



The coalition's Instagram, I highly recommend following them they have great information.

And check out their link tree if you want to get involved.