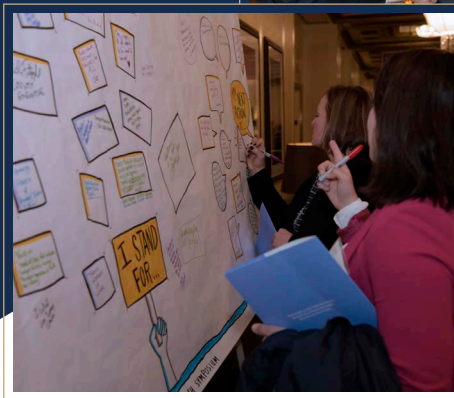


EFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE — GET INVOLVED WITH
Elsie Hillman Civic Forum
Student Programs



“
DON'T BE A SPECTATOR.
YOU ARE NEEDED IN
EVERY CORNER OF
THE COMMUNITY.
ELSIE HILLMAN

”

Students who value service to their community will feel at home with the Elsie Hillman Civic Forum.

Developed to continue the legacy and values of Elsie Hillman, one of the region's most influential and inspiring social actors, the Elsie Forum exposes students to the Southwestern Pennsylvania civic process. It provides the opportunity to contribute to the resurgence of Pittsburgh as one of America's premier cities, while preserving and improving its communities as a home for all.

Explore the various avenues of civic engagement and build upon your academic experience by getting involved with the community. Whether you choose to engage in community work with a nonprofit, policy work with a public official, or want to learn more about the civic process, you have a variety of ways to jumpstart your civic engagement at Pitt.

If you are eager to get started with your own civic engagement path and learn from the incredible legacy of Elsie Hillman, read more about our available programs and how you can get involved.

**INSTITUTE
OF POLITICS
INTERNSHIP
AND SEMINAR**

**ELSIE HILLMAN
HONORS
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM**

**AMBASSADORS
FOR CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT
FELLOWSHIP**

**NEVER A
SPECTATOR
CAMPUS
EVENT**

**LEGISLATOR
FOR A DAY**

Why engage with the Elsie Forum?

Develop and advance leadership skills

Students learn about what it means to be a servant leader from one of the best models: Elsie Hillman.



Connect with regional community leaders

As a member of the Elsie family, you will gain access to and work with some of Pittsburgh's most influential people from the nonprofit and government sectors.

Practice social entrepreneurship

Many students have identified pressing social issues, but few create innovative solutions to address them. The Elsie Forum provides students with the opportunities to confront issues they care about.



Positively impact the Southwestern Pennsylvania region

Students engaged in the Elsie Forum's long-term programs, the Institute of Politics Internship, Honors Scholars Program, and Ambassadors for Civic Engagement Fellowship, partner with community organizations and/or public officials to create lasting change and empower communities.

Engage in civic learning

The Elsie Forum gives students the opportunities, tools, and education they need to lead lives as engaged and contributing citizens.



Gain transferable skills

Students learn and apply skills in networking, leadership, project development and management, communication, and writing in ways not found in the traditional classroom setting.



INSTITUTE OF POLITICS INTERNSHIP AND SEMINAR

Since 1990, the Institute of Politics Internship and Seminar has provided students with hands-on experience working with local, state, and federal elected officials involved in policy-making in the Pittsburgh region. The accompanying weekly seminar teaches students the historical, economic, and social background of Western Pennsylvania, so they can analyze the policy-making process and consider the various political and non-political factors that influence decision makers.

If you are interested in strengthening your political skills and learning more about the civic process, apply to the Institute of Politics Internship and Seminar, offered every fall and spring semester.

Benefits

- Earn **four credits** from the Political Science or Public Service departments (PS 1910/PUBSRV 1910)
- Gain firsthand experience in an elected official's office and deepen your understanding of the political, economic, and social issues affecting the Western PA region
- Connect with local, state, and federal elected officials and the communities they serve

Program Commitments

- Nine hours per week at internship site for one semester
- Weekly two-hour seminar, Thursdays 4:00 – 5:50 p.m.

Eligibility

- Any undergraduate student pursuing any major
- Preference is given to juniors and seniors

Application Requirements

- Unofficial transcript
- Resume
- Personal statement


Apply

- **Fall Term Application Deadline: March 1**
- **Spring Term Application Deadline: November 1**



For more information and to apply online, visit:

www.elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu/student-programs/institute-politics-internship-and-seminar.



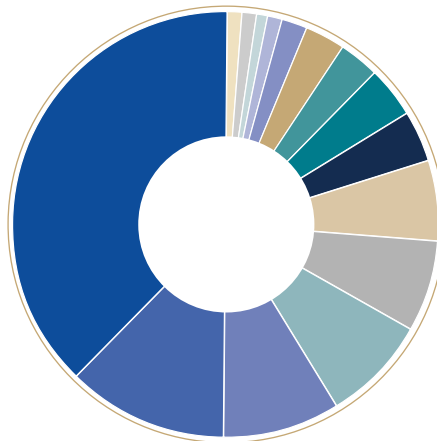
723
TOTAL
STUDENTS
SINCE 1990



18
AVERAGE
COHORT
SIZE PER
SEMESTER



45 MAJORS REPRESENTED FROM ALMOST ALL UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOLS AT PITT



- 38% Political Science
- 12% History
- 9% Economics
- 8% Social Science
- 7% Philosophy
- 6% Foreign Language
- 4% Urban Studies
- 4% Natural Sciences
- 3% Communication
- 3% English Literature and Writing
- 2% Health Science
- 1% Education
- 1% Arts
- 1% Business
- 1% Computer Science

PLACEMENT OFFICES INCLUDE:

- U.S. Senators and Representatives
- The Speaker of the PA House
- The Minority Leaders from the PA House and Senate
- The Democratic Caucus Chair
- The Allegheny County Caucus Chair
- PA House and Senate Committee Chairs
- City Council members
- The Mayor's Office
- Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce
- Lobbying or law firms



“

The internship made me realize how it was possible to make an impact in a major city like Pittsburgh, and that you are only one name away from meeting the person you want to meet to enable that impact. The Institute of Politics Internship Program was a great way to break out of the classroom and interact in the 'real world.'

Elected Official Internship and Seminar Alum

”



ELSIE HILLMAN HONORS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Elsie Hillman Honors Scholars Program connects entrepreneurial and creative students with regional community partners to develop original projects that explore and address community needs and reflect the social commitment of Elsie Hillman. Through a collaborative process, each student works closely with their community partner to develop a project, product, or conduct research that addresses an issue they care about.

Benefits

- Earn \$10 per hour for 10 hours per week
- Earn one credit from the Honors College (HONORS 1010) per semester
- Work with community partners to help solve critical community issues you care about
- Develop mindful leadership skills
- Learn and apply basic project development, implementation, and management skills

Program Commitments

- Eight-month program (September – April)
- Ten hours per week at partner site for entire academic year
- Biweekly seminars, Fridays 2:00 – 3:50 p.m.
- Final product or research to remain with community partner

Eligibility

- Any full-time undergraduate student pursuing any major
- Preference is given to juniors and seniors

Application Requirements

- Unofficial transcript
- Resume
- Civic Engagement Essay

Apply

- **Application Deadline: April 15**
Participation is awarded on a competitive basis. For essay guidelines, visit the website below.



For more information and to apply online, visit:

www.elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu/student-programs/elsie-hillman-honors-scholars-program.



15

TOTAL STUDENTS
SINCE THE
PROGRAM'S
START IN 2016

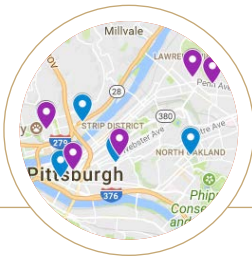


7

AVERAGE
COHORT
SIZE

ELSIE SCHOLARS HAVE
CREATED PROJECTS THAT
LEFT A POSITIVE IMPACT
FOR MULTIPLE PITTSBURGH
COMMUNITIES:

- Healthy food access guide for Homewood
- Policy research on consolidating school transportation
- Literature review about regional LGBTQ youth and homelessness and best-practice solutions
- Fundraising and advocacy plan for STEAM education
- Mental health needs assessment for marginalized communities
- Health education brochures for children, teens, and their parents to reduce opioid abuse
- Evaluation best-practices of equitable development projects



2017 Elsie Scholar, Jerilyne Almonte pictured with her community mentor Julius Boatwright (left) and Robert Ware (right) of Steel Smiling



Photo: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



2017 Elsie Scholar, Julia Abbondanza presenting her project to a community mentor, Dr. Patrick Dowd of Allies for Children

“

The Elsie Hillman Scholars program was most unique and one of the most rewarding experiences, both professionally and personally, during my time at Pitt. There are no similar opportunities for undergraduate students with the program's project-oriented curriculum, year-long placement, and incredible networking experiences through your community partner and the Institute of Politics.

Dominic DiSanto, Neuroscience & Chemistry

”



AMBASSADORS FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP

Graduate students interested in applying their academic skills and experiences to a community partner initiative focusing on affecting positive community outcomes will thrive as an Elsie ACE. The Ambassador for Civic Engagement Fellowship pairs three graduate students from various disciplines with a single community partner to work as a team on a critical community need or policy issue.

Each year, the community partner may vary, so student recruitment efforts will focus on the appropriate academic backgrounds necessary for the partner's initiative.

Benefits

- Earn \$13 per hour for 15 hours per week
- Work with an interdisciplinary team of students to positively impact your community partner and the population they serve
- Connect with community leaders and executives

Program Commitments

- Seven-month program (January - July)
- 15 hours per week at partner site for entire academic year
- Team meetings with Elsie Forum staff to discuss the project and experiences

Eligibility

- Any full-time, graduate student pursuing any degree
- Must be a student on Pitt's Oakland campus

Application Requirements

- Unofficial transcript
- Resume
- Civic Engagement Essay

Apply

- **Application Deadline: December 1**
Participation is awarded on a competitive basis. For essay guidelines, visit the website below.



For more information and to apply online, visit:
www.elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu/ambassadors-civic-engagement.



3
AVERAGE
COHORT
SIZE



2017'S COMMUNITY PARTNER
WAS **ADAGIO HEALTH AND ELSIE ACES:**

- Assisted Adagio in planning and implementing its first women's health policy symposium and networking event: Transforming Women's Health
- Helped establish a Western PA Women's Healthcare Consortium
- Assisted with advocacy efforts surrounding Title X



2017 Elsie ACEs,
Helen Ann Lawless,
Sarah Amanfu, and
Shannon Whitaker at
Adagio Health's first
women's health policy
symposium, Transforming
Women's Health



I am so proud to have been a part of the inaugural Elsie ACE Fellowship class through the Institute of Politics. From the outset of this experience, I was treated with respect and viewed as a colleague with valuable input as opposed to "just an intern." Because of this mentality, I had the opportunity to work on tasks that were integral to the success of various advocacy initiatives at Adagio Health. Words cannot express how grateful I am for this program and for the experiences I have had as an Elsie ACE. It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of Elsie's legacy, and I will carry her spirit with me throughout the rest of my career.

Helen Ann Lawless, MPH/MSW Student





NEVER A SPECTATOR CAMPUS EVENT

The Never a Spectator event allows students to network with some of the region’s most prominent leaders: elected officials, foundation executives, and nonprofit and business leaders. The event also introduces students to the Elsie Hillman Civic Forum and other civic engagement opportunities at Pitt.

Usually held in February or March, students join regional visionaries for an evening devoted to promoting public service, inspiring action, and developing Pitt students as emerging leaders of our region.

Benefits

- Connect and grow relationships with established regional leaders
- Learn how you can make a difference by getting involved with civic engagement programs at Pitt
- Earn Outside the Classroom Curriculum (OCC) credit
- Free food!

Eligibility

- The event is open to all University of Pittsburgh students

Registration Deadline

- Since the event is usually held in February or March, students should watch for registration to open in January or February.

NETWORK WITH THE VISIONARIES WHOSE IDEAS ARE SHAPING OUR CITY

Never a Spectator

Special On-Campus Event elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu



For more information and details on this year’s event, visit:

www.elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu/student-programs/never-spectator-campus-event.



457
STUDENT
PARTICIPANTS
SINCE 2016

64

COMMUNITY
LEADERS
PARTICIPATED
SINCE 2016



Past leaders include:

- Allegheny County Executive
- Pittsburgh City Mayor
- Cofounder & CEO, 412 Food Rescue
- President, BNY Mellon Foundation of SWPA
- President & CEO, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
- CEO, Allegheny Conference on Community Development
- Executive Director, Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership
- President, The Buhl Foundation
- President & CEO, Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh



Never a Spectator afforded me the opportunity to encounter real impact leaders in the Pittsburgh region while a student at the University of Pittsburgh. In my two years of participation in the event, I was able to engage with leaders such as the Mayor of Pittsburgh and the Director of a major nonprofit working to reduce food waste in the region. Never a Spectator gives students the chance to interact with some of the most influential people in the city and can show a small-town kid like me that real change is possible and that no resource in this area is 'too big' to engage.

Kevin Zedack, Ecology & Evolution





LEGISLATOR FOR A DAY

Legislator for a Day provides students interested in the political process with an up-close and personal introduction to key state legislators. Students shadow a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly to gain insight into the legislative process and experience a day in the life of a state representative or state senator while in session at the Capitol.

Coordinated with "Pitt Day in Harrisburg," Legislator for a Day typically occurs in March.

Benefits

- Connect and network with state legislators
- Experience a day in the life of an elected official
- Possible experiences include constituent meetings, chamber or committee meetings, committee hearings, or meetings with lobbyists or interest groups
- Free trip to Harrisburg!

Eligibility

- The event is open to all University of Pittsburgh students

Application Requirements

- Resume
- Essay describing your interest in politics

Apply

- **Application Deadline: February 15**
Participation is awarded on a competitive basis. For essay guidelines, visit the website below.



For more information and to apply online, visit:
www.elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu/student-programs/legislator-day.



104
STUDENT
PARTICIPANTS
SINCE 2007



9
AVERAGE
NUMBER OF
PARTICIPANTS

HISTORICALLY,
STUDENTS HAVE
SHADOWED:

- The Speaker of the PA House
- The Democratic Caucus Leader
- PA House Minority Leader
- PA House Majority Leader



While shadowing my representative around the Capitol building, what really struck me about him was how a significant portion of his influence seemed to come through personal connections. Over the course of the day, he introduced me to more people than I could count, and he not only remembered everyone's name, but also details about their work and family life. Being able to observe and interact with someone whose style of leadership is so markedly different from my own was an incredibly eye-opening experience. That, combined with the insight into the legislative process I gained while in the House chamber or committee meetings, made the Legislator for a Day program a unique and valuable experience that I will never forget.

Rhiannon Jacobs, Political Science



Never a Spectator: Elsie Hillman

In the civic, political, and personal aspects of her life, Elsie Hilliard Hillman exemplified Dwight D. Eisenhower's motto, *Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re*, "Pleasantly in manner, powerfully in deed." Elsie's accomplishments, borne of a strength of mind and the courage to stand for what she believed in and paired with a generosity of heart, are rich in the lessons they can impart to students and policymakers alike, whether at the regional, state, or national level.

Elsie set a standard for service by encouraging a sustained commitment to leadership and civic participation and inspiring a new generation of leaders to make service a central part of their lives. Evident throughout her life and work, Elsie's belief that despite their political, social, or economic means, individuals of all stripes can be productive agents for positive change.

True to the case study published on her life, *Never a Spectator: The Political Life of Elsie Hillman*, she was never a spectator. Instead, Elsie worked tirelessly to improve the condition of those who lived here in her beloved Pittsburgh as well as in far more distant places. Through her inspired entrepreneurship, her special gift to relate to others empathetically, her dedication to social justice, and her unique ability to will into being the unimaginable, she has left us with a legacy to be remembered, honored, and advanced.

Now, through the programs of the Elise Hillman Civic Forum, the Institute of Politics has a unique opportunity and companion responsibility to serve as an institutional steward of her remarkable legacy.



“

PLEASANTLY IN MANNER,
POWERFULLY IN DEED.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

”





University of Pittsburgh
Elsie Hillman Civic Forum

710 Alumni Hall
4227 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Program Manager: Meredith Mavero
Phone: 412-624-1839
Email: mlm72@pitt.edu

elsiehillmanforum.pitt.edu