

Buffett Undergraduate Research Fellowship Opportunity

China-America Reel Exchange: Climate Crisis

Faculty Mentor: JP Sniadecki, Professor, RTVF (Evanston campus)

Project Synopsis: We are told we face a climate crisis, yet, as a species, humans resist the cultural transformations necessary to meet this challenge. Our proposal to the Cyrus Tang Foundation 2024 Open-Bid Invitation is a transnational, creative, and socially-engaged response: a collaboration between Northwestern University (NU) in Evanston, Illinois, USA and Tongji University (TU) in Shanghai, China.

The project – led by Professors JP Sniadecki at NU and Li Xiaofeng at TU – will connect students from both institutions in collaborations to produce new works of media art that directly engage our most pressing and universal global challenge: climate change. The two-year project will first support two classes each year during the Spring term which will focus on developing efficacious approaches to representing the climate crisis. These classes will be taught simultaneously, one at Northwestern and one at Tongji, and will be connected remotely via multiple platforms as students learn and collaborate together. Each summer, the two classes will come together in-person as a “Field School” to collaborate on hands-on production of media arts projects under the supervision of faculty (JP Sniadecki at NU and Li Xiaofeng at Tongji).

Project Term: Summer + academic year, from 1-6 terms, depending on availability and interest

Project Location: in-person meetings and remote meetings

Ideal Applicant: - lead discussion sessions with undergraduates to explore how an exchange program can best serve and elaborate student productions of original research in climate crisis and cultural exchange

research existing exemplary models of inter-university collaboration, at NU and beyond and compile findings into a brief facilitate communication between NU and Tongji and help with initial development and coordination of CARE program.

Number of Available Positions: One