The Benioff Ocean Initiative is seeking UCSB graduate students with interest in marine science, conservation, policy, and sustainability.

The Benioff Ocean Initiative is seeking UCSB graduate students to support our work on plastics pollution locally in Santa Barbara and statewide in California. In this fellowship, students will support the Ocean Friendly Restaurants program in collaboration with the Surfrider Foundation Santa Barbara Chapter. The Ocean Friendly Restaurants (OFR) program helps restaurants minimize their impacts on the ocean by adopting practices that reduce single-use plastic waste, promote sustainable seafood, maximize energy efficiency and conserve water. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct research in support of policy measures designed to curb plastic pollution in California. Qualified candidates for the fellowship will have strong communication skills; an interest in pursuing a career in marine science, conservation, policy, sustainability, and/or communications; and an interest in community engagement to help grow the OFR program in Santa Barbara.

Responsibilities of the position include:

➢ Building relationships with local Santa Barbara restaurants to enroll new businesses in the program and support existing restaurant participants in adopting practices to meet updated criteria
➢ Designing and implementing a public outreach campaign around OFRs, including writing press releases, assisting to develop graphics and PSAs on ocean plastics, and creating social media and website content
➢ Planning outreach activities events promoting local OFRs
➢ Conducting site visits to participating OFRs throughout Santa Barbara
➢ Collaborating with local conservation organizations
➢ Exploring directions for growth and improvement of the Santa Barbara OFR program
➢ Researching topics related to plastic pollution policies in California

Qualifications:

➢ UCSB graduate student
➢ Experience and/or interest in communications, outreach, campaign organizing, event planning
➢ Proactive and independent
➢ Strong communication and organizational skills, attention to detail, and ability to meet deadlines

This is a part-time fellowship (10 hr/wk) for UCSB students during 2021-2022 academic year. Work will be conducted in-person or remotely depending on the student’s preference. Compensation is $20/hr.
We encourage all applicants to submit an optional Statement of Contributions to Diversity with their application materials. Please describe and give specific examples of how you have worked to enhance or develop your awareness on issues of diversity and inclusion in the workplace or other professional or academic environments.

To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and the optional Statement of Contributions to Diversity to boi-contact@ucsb.edu with the subject line “Ocean Solutions Fellowship: Plastic Pollution + Ocean Friendly Restaurants” by September 5, 2021.

The University is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through research, teaching and service.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.