



Environmental Science and Engineering Program

## Environmental Science and Engineering Residencies

Guidance for Host Institutions

Candidates for the D.Env. degree conduct a residency as an employee of a host institution (e.g., private industry, government agency, nonprofit organization, national laboratory) working on environmental or natural resources problems of contemporary significance. The purpose of the residency is twofold: (1) to give the candidate practical experience under the supervision of knowledgeable environmental professionals and (2) to provide the opportunity for the candidate to develop a dissertation on a subject chosen from the residency experience. The benefit to the institution is to have an extremely well-trained employee working on issues of practical importance, the opportunity to have pressing issues given attention with academic rigor and the intent to publish, and the availability of a faculty guidance committee to support the resident in their research for the host institution. The institution agrees in advance to these purposes and is willing to cooperate with UCLA in providing appropriate guidance and resources to achieve the goals of the residency.

Students seeking residencies hold a master's degree in a field of science or engineering (e.g., MS, MEng, MPH). They have completed post-master's coursework at UCLA in environmental science, environmental engineering, and environmental policy/economics. In addition, they have completed a year-long independent investigation of a current environmental science or engineering issue under the direction of a UCLA faculty member.

Residencies are typically for a period of 18 to 36 months. The resident requires enough time to adjust to working for the organization and undertake sufficient work to write a dissertation. Many residents continue to work at the host institution after completion of their degree, but this initial 18-to-36-month period should be the planned commitment to the employment of the resident. Residents remain enrolled in 8 credit hours at UCLA each academic quarter throughout the residency, which maintains their access to faculty and important resources such as the library.

It is recognized that some residents may work on confidential subjects that cannot be revealed in the dissertation. Nevertheless, the resident will write a scholarly treatment of the problem area of the residency and will coordinate with the institution to ensure the rights of the institution are maintained.

Contact co-chairs Travis Longcore ([longcore@ucla.edu](mailto:longcore@ucla.edu)) or Thomas Gillespie ([tg@ucla.edu](mailto:tg@ucla.edu)) for further information about the residency program.

## Example Residency Host Institutions

California Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Heal the Bay  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
LA Waterkeeper  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Metropolitan Water District  
Orange County Water District  
Ramboll  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Southern California Edison  
Tetra Tech  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers