The Smart Surfaces Scholar Program

Make your thesis matter!
If you are doing a master’s degree thesis, a Ph.D. thesis, or an exceptional undergraduate honors thesis, and want your work to have a real-world impact on climate, people, and equity... AND are interested in networking with many of the nation's industry leading organizations in developing your thesis, you may well be a good fit for the Smart Surfaces Scholar Program.

Smart Surfaces—surfaces that more effectively manage heat and rain, including reflective, green, and porous surfaces plus trees and solar PV—can cool cities by 5 degrees, cut pollution, improve health and equity and slow climate change. Using temperature and flooding as key indicators, Smart Surfaces largely addresses systemic inequities in cities.

The Smart Surfaces Scholar Program connects students working on theses that relate to Smart Surfaces with the Coalition's network of 40+ industry leading organizations. The Coalition provides support in securing data, engaging with highly placed industry and government advisors, developing a professional network, and translating your thesis into impact. Your thesis will be highlighted and promoted through the network and could be published.

The Smart Surfaces Coalition includes 40+ partners such as the National League of Cities, American Institute of Architects, World Resources Institute, the American Public Health Association, Habitat for Humanity, and the World Cement Association.

Here are some recent articles on Smart Surfaces in Bloomberg, Popular Science, and U.S. News & World Report.

Read about the work of current and past Smart Surfaces Scholars here.

Please send an email indicating your interest in becoming a Smart Surfaces Scholar and other related information including your degree and ideas for a thesis to jmiller@smartsurfacescoalition.org.