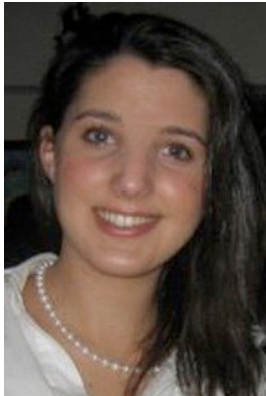


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To Whom it May Concern:

While interning with FREE, I was honored to engage with good people of high intellectual caliber in a vibrant and supportive environment. The experience expanded my understanding not only of free market environmentalism and classical liberalism, but also of political theory and economics in general.

Over the summer, I learned on many levels and from diverse sources. Observing FREE conferences, for example, allowed me to learn from leading scholars about a broad range of issues. Where else could one listen to lectures by Nobel Laureates, Harvard Law Professors, and judges on the US Court of Appeals speaking on game theory, terrorism, global warming, the Constitution, property rights, and crime all at once?

The extensive and carefully crafted FREE Summer Intern Reader further helped to expand my knowledge base. Each week, I read hundreds of pages of well-chosen scholarly works. The readings examined everything from property rights to poverty to public choice; the content spanned from theoretical to practical. In the aggregate, the works provide a detailed and balanced understanding of myriad issues, instigating extensive discussions.

I am further grateful for having been encouraged to formulate and express my ideas orally. The entire office participated in weekly seminars about the extensive readings; discussion of them solidified my understanding of divergent viewpoints and aided in shaping my own beliefs and supporting them with strong arguments. There may be nothing better than dialoging on important issues with open people of wide-ranging political and educational backgrounds.

In the office, dialogue went far beyond these seminars. Over lunch, over email, and everywhere in between ideas flowed freely. The give-and-take nature of intellectual exchange was inspiring. The interns were involved directly, encouraged to partake in discussions, and respected for our knowledge and diverse backgrounds.

A similar opportunity to engage was provided by the FREE conferences. The conferences were an ideal forum for listening and learning. I was honored to chat about the potential for emissions restrictions with Nobel Laureate Tom Schelling over lunch, debate the merits of No Child Left Behind with CA Secretary of Education Alan Bersin on the drive rafting, and hear an insiders view of the judicial system from the Honorable Jane Roth of the U.S. Court of Appeals.

The FREE staff was impressively respectful of my ideas and abilities, encouraging me to put to use the knowledge I had gained and refined over the summer through writing. When Dr. Baden received a request from the Fraser Institute to author a chapter on the history of Free-Market Environmentalism, he generously passed along the opportunity to the interns. We partook in the full writing process and in the end I junior-authored a work of which I am quite proud. I also had an op-ed on global warming published in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle. I am grateful for FREE's extensive encouragement and practical support every step of the way.

Respectfully,  
Emily Glassberg Sands