



Institute for Multi-Stakeholder Initiative Integrity (MSI Integrity) Legal and Policy Fellowships – Summer 2021

Location: Remote

Start Date: Summer 2021 (Flexible start date)

Duration: 10 weeks

The Institute for Multi-Stakeholder Initiative Integrity (MSI Integrity) is committed to designing and building a new global economy that centers workers and communities in the governance and ownership of businesses and economic enterprises. After a decade of research into prominent voluntary efforts by corporations to protect human rights, MSI Integrity has concluded that as long as corporations exclude workers or community interests in their governance and ownership—and instead are beholden to prioritizing profit for passive capital—they risk making decisions that harm people and the environment and increasing economic inequality.

Regulating corporate behavior is not enough: **the corporation itself must change**. Why do workers not have a right to profit from their own labor and to democratic workplaces? Why are affected communities lacking a voice or access to benefits from companies that operate near them? What would it take to dislocate the current corporate structure and replace it with more equitable alternatives?

We believe it is time to debunk the myth of the “ethical corporation” and instead envision and build an economic system and set of economic entities that are accountable to, and directly benefit, workers and communities.

Description

MSI Integrity is seeking Legal and Policy Fellows to join our team during the **Summer of 2021** to advance our [Beyond Corporations](#) work. The Fellows will assist the organization with its work and develop a workplan and central project mutually agreed between the Fellow and MSI Integrity. Examples might include analyzing alternative corporate governance and ownership structures, researching the problematic legal history of the corporation, proposing worker- and community-centered alternatives, and weighing strategic possibilities of new pathways forward for an economy that is centered on caring for people and the planet. We hope to find individuals who share our passion for economic justice and who are interested in pushing boundaries and challenging the status quo as it relates to corporate power and economic inequality.

Responsibilities

The Fellowships are **full-time** (ordinarily 36-40 hours per week, however during COVID we have been enabling our team to reduce to a 32-hour work week given the additional stresses of the period—see our [COVID workplace policies](#)) and **temporary** (minimum 10 weeks). Our approach to working with summer fellows is to embrace you as full members of our team for

the time you are working with us. This means attending weekly staff meetings, engaging in cross-organizational issues that might arise, being able to join working groups of interest to you and occasionally participating in our not-too-awkward remote zoom social hangs. MSI Integrity's fellowship program will be structured to provide a supportive and engaging environment. Fellows will work in close collaboration with supervising MSI Integrity staff and will receive feedback on their work product during regular check-in meetings with supervisors. We will support Fellows in developing a polished writing sample, if desired.

While we anticipate many Fellows will have funding sources from their universities or support organizations, we do not want the lack of funding to prevent interested candidates from applying. Applicants may indicate in their application if they are unable to secure funding from their universities or other sources, and we will work with such candidates to try to find financial support and assess if we can provide a small stipend.

MSI Integrity is strategically reflecting on its own governance and internal processes, in order to reflect cooperative, democratically accountable decision-making rather than conventional top-down nonprofit practices. We hope our Fellows can contribute to this process if it is still underway during the summer. This transformation will be framed by MSI Integrity's ongoing commitment to understanding and addressing the structural forces of classism, racism, misogyny, transphobia, ableism, colonialism, and other intersecting systems that shape and have been shaped by corporate structures. Fellows will be expected to participate in our regular anti-oppression workshops alongside existing staff.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

Academic Experience:

In order to be eligible for the Law Fellowship, applicants must have completed at least their first year of law school by the summer. For the Policy Fellowship, applicants enrolled in any graduate university degree program will be considered, although projects will be matched relevant to skill level.

Applicants should have:

- An academic background in or a demonstrable commitment to a relevant field, such as human rights, solidarity economy, corporate accountability, corporate governance, economic justice or relevant fields.
- Excellent research skills. We particularly value experience in working with or in communities that have experienced environmental or human rights violations, or having been part of any relevant social or labor movements.
- Excellent organizational and writing skills.

Applicants should be:

- Strategic-thinkers that thrive working both with limited supervision, as well as collaboratively.
- Highly motivated and able to handle multiple projects at once.

To Apply

Please provide your academic transcript, an up-to-date resume, a cover letter outlining your interests and experience, and one short writing sample (around 500 words).

All materials should be sent to peoplesearch@msi-integrity.org with the subject “MSI Integrity Law/Policy [select one] Fellowship 2021”.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through until April 2021.