

To apply for a GPE Fellow position: Submit an updated resume and cover letter to gsasprofessionaldevelopment@yale.edu with the subject header “[Name of Fellow position]” by June 25 at 11:59 p.m.

Strategic Initiatives Fellow—Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale (Tsai CITY)

Mentor: Zoe Hunter, Managing Director, Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale (Tsai CITY)

Fellow Title: Strategic Initiatives Fellow—Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale (Tsai CITY)

Organization Name: Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale (Tsai CITY)

Organization Website: <https://city.yale.edu/>

Organization Description:

Tsai CITY’s mission is to inspire students from diverse backgrounds and disciplines to seek innovative ways to solve real-world problems. We serve students from across Yale’s campus through programs, funding, and mentoring. We employ a co-curricular and process-oriented approach to our programming, which is intentionally broad since there are many possible pathways to engage in innovative thinking.

GPE Fellow Responsibilities:

Tsai CITY operationalizes its mission (see above) through co-curricular programming, mentorship, and grant funding for special projects, initiatives, and ventures. Tsai CITY has identified five “innovation pathways” to help students navigate our resources in pursuit of their own goals: entrepreneur, intrapreneur, creative, civic innovator, and explorer. These pathways also provide a useful organizing framework for our programming.

There has been a growing body of research and substantial media attention over the past 5+ years on the lack of progress for under-represented founders (entrepreneurs) and funders (venture capitalists) in the innovation ecosystem in the U.S. Based on the research and recommendations compiled last semester, Tsai CITY is seeking a Strategic Initiatives Fellow to begin executing on the efforts to improve our own work in this area.

Working closely with mentor Zoe Hunter, managing director of Tsai CITY, the Strategic Initiatives Fellow will support the coordination and implementation of recommendations to

improve Tsai CITY programs and resources tailored toward supporting under-represented students. This population includes women, nonbinary people, and individuals who are Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC). In a student population it may also include first generation low income (FGLI) students and students with disciplines underrepresented in Tsai CITY's existing work.

Drawing upon research from the past Strategic Initiatives Fellow, the person selected for this role will continue the work of understanding literature and ideate and execute on program and initiatives that support the traditionally underrepresented students aforementioned. The person in this role will have the opportunity to bring to life an initiative, event, program, or resource meaningful to them, in alignment with Tsai CITY's mission. The success of this role will be determined by the successful implementation of agreed upon programs and initiatives for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Desired GPE Fellow Qualifications:

- Exceptional written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent project management skills.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively, adhere to deadlines, and ask meaningful questions.
- Strong interest in entrepreneurship, innovation, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Knowledge of systems and organizational structures will be helpful.
- Ability to apply research findings to practice-based programs and educational frameworks to support program creation.

GPE Fellow Learning Objectives:

- Collaborate with members of the high-performing innovative team at Tsai CITY.
- Develop an understanding of the U.S. entrepreneurship ecosystem that is wrestling with ways to address inequities faced by under-represented founders and investors, based on aggregated research and accompanying recommendations
- Ideate, coordinate, and execute on a new evidence-based program or initiative that supports traditionally under-represented founders.
- Gain knowledge of practice-based solutions (e.g., specialized accelerators, venture capital firms, and community programs), conduct research into the companies and individuals supporting these efforts, and explore the extent to which the frameworks being used are guided by research.

Number of Available Positions: 1