

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 Dec. 3 at 11:59 p.m.

Strategic Initiatives Fellow at Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale - Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale

Mentor: Victor Padilla-Taylor, Director of Mentor, Advisor, Partner Networks, Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale

Fellow Title: Strategic Initiatives Fellow at Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale

Organization Name:

Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale

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 approach to our programming that includes the active participation of student leaders who represent and deliver value to their peers in various pathways that lead to innovative thinking. The center also partners with outside organizations and individuals to deliver such programs, which increase in quality when strong connections are made across the growing Yale entrepreneurial community in New Haven and beyond.

GPE Fellow Responsibilities:

Tsai CITY fulfills its mission (see above) through co-curricular programs, mentorship, and grant funding for student-led projects, initiatives, and ventures. Tsai CITY has identified five ‘innovation pathways’ to help students navigate its resources. These pathways are: entrepreneur, intrapreneur, creative, civic innovator, and explorer. A key component of Tsai CITY’s delivery strategy is the more than 50 student employees who support its various programs and help the center’s mission with their own innovative mindsets and leadership skills. The work of these young leaders also supports stronger connections with valuable partners belonging to the Yale entrepreneurial community. There is a growing body of research describing the importance of leadership and an entrepreneurial mindset to drive innovation and success in today’s rapidly changing business and social landscapes. Leaders who possess an entrepreneurial mindset are characterized by their ability to think creatively, take calculated risks, and adapt quickly to new challenges and opportunities. This mindset encourages a culture of experimentation, continuous learning, and a willingness to embrace change and work across boundaries to achieve positive outcomes. Working closely with mentor Victor Padilla-Taylor, Director of Mentor, Advisor and Partner Networks, the Strategic Initiatives Fellow will support the discovery and implementation

of actions leading to the improvement of how Tsai CITY programs trains the entrepreneurial mindset, develops youth leadership, and leverages the innovation ecosystem to which Yale University belongs to. The Strategic Initiatives Fellow will contrast research in the topics of entrepreneurial mindset, leadership and ecosystem building with current practices used by Tsai CITY to deliver its programming. In addition, the Strategic Initiatives Fellow will interview current student leaders, student fellows, staff, and partners to Tsai CITY to gather insights and perspectives on their experiences and suggestions for improvement. The Strategic Initiatives Fellow will also collaborate closely with Tsai CITY's leadership team and other stakeholders and external partners to develop a report with actionable recommendations based on their findings. The success of this role will be determined by the quality of these recommendations ahead of the launch of new programs and initiatives for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Desired GPE Fellow Qualifications:

Exceptional written, verbal, and interpersonal and group communication skills. Excellent research and project management skills. Ability to work both independently and collaboratively, adhere to deadlines, and ask questions. Strong interest in entrepreneurship, innovation, leadership, and ecosystem building. Experience with organizational structures and behavior 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 staff, students, fellows, and partners of the extended innovative team at Tsai CITY. Develop an understanding of the entrepreneurial mindset and leadership skills deployed by student employees at the center. Develop recommendations for the best uses of the resources available inside the Yale entrepreneurial ecosystem. Gain knowledge of practice-based solutions (e.g., specialized accelerators, venture capital firms, and community programs), conduct research into the organizations and individuals supporting these efforts, and explore the extent to which the strategies being used are guided by research.

Number of Available Positions:

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