

**Michael Richardson wrote the following about his internship in the Office of Commissioner Michael Copps at the [Federal Communications Commission](#):**

I found my summer experience as an Intern in the Office of Michael Copps at the FCC to be invaluable. Day to day work primarily consisted of writing technical or policy memos for the Commissioner's legal advisers. The subjects I worked on ranged from conference preparation to many of the pressing public policy issues that have recently been before the Commission. In addition to writing memos, one of the most interesting aspects of this internship was the opportunity to sit in on meetings between legal advisers and stakeholders where I was able to experience policy negotiation first-hand. As a result of sitting in on meetings, I had the opportunity to meet and interact with policy advocates from many different sectors of the industry. Moreover, events were held throughout the summer that allowed us to interact with interns and full-time employees from other parts of the Commission. After having watched decisions as they are made from the inside, I have a much better sense of the dynamics of the FCC decision process. Support from Silicon Flatirons and financial help through the donors to the Hatfield Award made it possible for me to spend the summer working for the FCC and, specifically, working for a Commissioner who is generally considered a champion for public interest issues from broadband access to media consolidation.

*Michael Richardson has an undergraduate degree in Information Networking and Telecommunications. He is currently working on his thesis to complete a Masters Degree from the Interdisciplinary Telecommunications Program at the University of Colorado.*

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