Internships in Conservation, Spatial Biodiversity, and Data/Computer Science

Two paid internship positions are available at the Center for Biodiversity and Global Change and working with Map of Life at Yale University:

1. Internship in Spatial Biodiversity and Conservation
2. Internship in Data/Computer Science for Conservation

The candidate will be involved in software development, environmental science research, and global conservation. The candidate will gain valuable training experience while working with a team of researchers and informaticians to enhance data management, analysis, and visualization workflows. There will be dedicated time for training through designated online courses, attending lectures on campus, mentorship from well-seasoned software engineers passionate about coding for social good and biodiversity scientists.

The Center for Biodiversity and Global Change supports research and training around the integration of biodiversity data to support research and applications in ecology and conservation. Its Max Planck – Yale Center for Biodiversity Movement and Global Change supports the use of new technologies such as GPS tracking and remote sensing to address questions in ecology, behavior, and global change, in close association with partners. Flagship Projects include Map of Life, the ICARUS Initiative, and Movebank. The Centers research themes include species distributions, species coexistence, environmental niche associations, animal movements and migrations, environmental and biodiversity change, and others.

The Candidates will primarily engage with the Map of Life team to enhance and further the platform and its associated projects. There will be dedicated time for training through designated online courses, attending lectures on campus, and shadowing software engineers to gain valuable full-stack software development experience particularly as it pertains to environmental science research and conservation.

Responsibilities include:
1. Supports a range of academic programs.
2. Works on various programs throughout the year; including researching and writing of highly confidential material and working with other departments within the University.
3. Interacts with faculty, students and staff within and outside of the University.
4. May perform other duties as assigned.

Required Education and Experience:
Bachelor’s degree in a related discipline.

Preferred Education and Experience:
Coursework and/or experience working with big data management and analysis, GIS, biodiversity, and conservation

(We will consider applications of candidates who do not meet all the criteria listed below as long as they bring a passion for the project and can demonstrate the ability to quickly learn and adapt to new work settings and workflows)

Skills & Abilities:
1. Exceptional reporting skills, including extracting and summarizing data from database systems and communicating with team members. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Demonstrated experience in conducting written and oral presentations that summarize the analysis of data, interprets the findings and provides conclusions and recommendations.
2. Proficient in at least one programming language (Python preferred) with demonstrated scripting experience (project coursework okay).
3. Ability to work independently and as part of a team, and able to handle multiple projects simultaneously.
4. Be comfortable with data management principles and basic statistics. Must be able to execute these processes programmatically (Python or R preferred).
5. A strong interest in biodiversity and conservation and a passion for working in a project that aims at having a positive impact on people and the planet.
6. Ability to plan, organize and manage a large volume of varied work in a complex, fast-paced environment. Ability to multi-task, prioritize, and work under pressure to meet deadlines. Ability to concentrate and perform with interruptions.
7. Excellent time management skills. Excellent attention to detail and accuracy.