



Estuarine Research Center Internship Program

Morgan State University's Estuarine Research Center Internship Program

Program Description

The Internship Program at the Estuarine Research Center (ERC) offers undergraduate and recently graduated students unique hands-on experiences in an environmental research setting. The student will gain knowledge on field and laboratory research and project designs. During the entire course of the internship, each student will work exclusively under the guidance and supervision of an ERC faculty research scientist. An ERC intern will be involved in meaningful research during the internship and will present the findings at an ERC seminar series at the end of the summer.

About Our Center

Morgan State University's Estuarine Research Center (ERC) is located on the Patuxent River (part of Chesapeake Bay watershed) in St. Leonard, MD. Research conducted at the state-of-the art facility is designed to increase the understanding of coastal ecosystems so that they may be properly managed and protected. The Estuarine Research Center maintains excellent facilities that include: a 22,000 square foot laboratory and office building, a fleet of vehicles for field work including multiple research vessels; a private dock providing access to the Patuxent River; scuba support and dive locker; teaching laboratory; range of research laboratories, including isotope, constant temperature and image analysis labs. For more information about ERC, go to: <http://www.morgan.edu/academics/erc/>.



Eligibility

This program is open to all undergraduate students and those who recently graduated. You do not need to be a US citizen to apply. Applicants must be accepted by an ERC affiliated researcher.

Intern Supervisor

You will be working under the guidance of your intern supervisor. The supervisor will direct you in your daily work, your schedule and guide you through your internship project.

To choose your supervisor, take a look at the "Faculty and Research At ERC" sheet or go to <http://jewel.morgan.edu/~erc/research.html>. You may want to contact one or more faculty from ERC and discuss their research interests to ensure that they match your interests.

Stipend and Boarding

Each intern will receive a stipend of \$325 per week and \$75 per week for housing. On-campus housing is provided for those who wish to stay near the facility.

Expectations:

Hours

Interns are expected to work full-time (30-40 hours per week) with their supervisor for 10-11 weeks during the summer months. This time-frame is flexible, and must be discussed with your supervisor before you start.

Projects

An internship project must be designed and completed by the end of the internship period. A final report of the project must be given to your intern supervisor and presentation given to faculty and staff at ERC at the end of the summer.

Orientation

An orientation will be given by the Education Coordinator at ERC before you start the internship. The orientation will give you information on various aspects of the internship and your summer at ERC. It will also give you an opportunity to meet other students, faculty and staff from ERC.



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Faculty and Research At ERC

George R. Abbe

Research Assistant Professor

- ☞ Invertebrate population ecology
- ☞ Blue crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) fishery surveys
- ☞ Oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) population surveys
- ☞ Oyster dermo disease (*Perkinsus marinus*) research
- ☞ Metal accumulation by oysters

410-586-9709 • gabbe@moac.morgan.edu • jewel.morgan.edu/~erc/gabbe.html

Jon T. Anderson

Research Assistant Professor

- ☞ Predicting Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
- ☞ Sources and sinks for nutrients in the Chesapeake Bay
- ☞ Algal life cycles
- ☞ Mathematical biology

410-586-9711 • janderson@moac.morgan.edu

Pilantana Anderson

Education Coordinator

- ☞ Environmental science for K-12 students
- ☞ Chesapeake Bay / Aquatic science education
- ☞ Outreach programs

410-586-9717 • panderson@moac.morgan.edu • jewel.morgan.edu/~erc/guide.html

Chunlei Fan

Assistant Professor Biology Department

- ☞ Hyperspectral remote sensing
- ☞ Monitoring eutrophication processes
- ☞ GIS/ Remote sensing
- ☞ Aquatic microbial ecology

410-586-9712 • cfan@jewel.morgan.edu • jewel.morgan.edu/~erc/cfan.html

J. Howard Hixson, III

Research Assistant

- ☞ Power plant monitoring
- ☞ Fish and crab impingement studies
- ☞ Entrainment of fish eggs and larvae
- ☞ Fish taxonomy

410-586-9715 • jhhixson@moac.morgan.edu • jewel.morgan.edu/~erc/jhhixson.html

Richard V. Lacouture

Research Assistant Professor

- ☞ Phytoplankton ecology
- ☞ Monitoring programs in the Chesapeake Bay
- ☞ Harmful algal blooms

410-586-9721 • rlacouture@moac.morgan.edu • jewel.morgan.edu/~erc/rlacouture.html



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How To Apply:

An application must be completed by the student and contain the following:

- ☞ Academic transcripts (unofficial are acceptable)
- ☞ Personal essay (2-3 pages)
- ☞ 2 letters of recommendation
- ☞ Intern Registration Form (1 page)

Essay

As part of the application, each applicant is asked to submit a short personal essay (2-3 pages) outlining past and present interests and academic and non-academic experience. The essay should discuss your special interests, academic and career plans, motives for applying for participation in the Internship Program and how you feel this experience will further your educational and intellectual goals. Be sure to specify up to three researchers whom you are interested in working with in order of preference. We are particularly interested in why you want to participate in this internship program and what you hope to gain through your participation.

For full consideration, all of your application materials must be received by **April 1st, 2007**.

Application materials should be submitted to:

Pilantana Anderson
Estuarine Research Center
10545 Mackall Rd
St Leonard, MD 20685

Fax: 410.586.9705
Email: panderson@moac.morgan.edu