

MATE Center Update

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Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Center



Internship Program Overview

- **Started with a NSF UNOLS grant in 1999 to fill need for marine technicians, funding through summer 2013 and 6-month internship in early 2014**
- **Since 1999, 265 community college and university students have been placed in research vessels, labs and industry settings (173 were placed on UNOLS vessels)**
- **Students demographics over the last 14 years**
 - **46% women and 54% men**
 - **18% underrepresented minority participation**
 - **From 55 colleges and universities**



Internship Program Overview

- **NSF Grant for 2011-2014**
 - **Host 12-16 interns in 2-16 week internships each summer; support to lengthen internships beyond one research cruise at each site**
 - **Host 1 six-month intern each year on 1-2 host vessels each year**



Intern selection process

- **Preference (except for six-month internship) given to technical community college students and marine technology undergraduate students**
 - **50% of interns in 2012 were from community colleges**
- **Interns' interests, knowledge, and skills are carefully matched to mentor requirements**
 - **Mentor receives the 3-5 resumes that best match their needs**
 - **Mentor makes final decision on which student(s) they host**



Selection for 6-month interns

- Alice Doyle at UNOLS and Tami Lunsford review applicants for marine technical qualifications and determine top 10-12 finalists
- Ad-hoc committee of RVTEC members review the finalists and score and rank them
- Top 5 candidates from this review are sent to the host(s) to interview, call references, and select



What the interns gain

- **Job experience essential for employment– often the most important step**
- **Better understand the diversity of ocean careers**
- **Experience with cutting-edge technologies that are not available at their institutions**



2012 Internships



- 1 long-term intern:
 - Ashley Stinson on the *Kilo Moana & Endeavor*
- 9 interns were placed on UNOLS and USCG vessels
 - *Atlantis, Knorr (2), Blue Heron, Sharp (2), Thompson, and USCG Healy (2)*
- 2 placed on the *E/V Nautilus*
- 4 women, 8 men; 2 African American students and 2 Hispanic students

Mentor feedback on 2012 interns

- **100% of mentors said:**
 - **They would hire another MATE intern in the future**
 - **They were satisfied with the process of hiring and intern and the support received by MATE**
 - **The intern developed skills that increased their chances of employment in the field**
- **83% of mentors said they would hire their intern immediately in an entry-level position.**



2012 UNOLS mentors said:

- *“Our intern showed excellent technical knowledge and the ability to figure projects out with minimal guidance & supervision. She has a great attitude towards work and others. I highly recommend her for further opportunities in the industry.”*
- *“The intern showed great initiative from the very start of the cruise, which lasted right up until we reached the dock. He was inquisitive and constantly endeavored to learn more about the activities in which he was involved.”*



Student post-internship survey results

- **100% of interns said:**
 - **The internship prepared them for future jobs in marine technology**
 - **The internship was a valuable learning experience**
 - **Their mentor served as a professional role model for them– WELL DONE!**
 - **They have increased confidence in working on technical & scientific problems**
 - **They enjoyed working at sea (fifth year in a row!)**



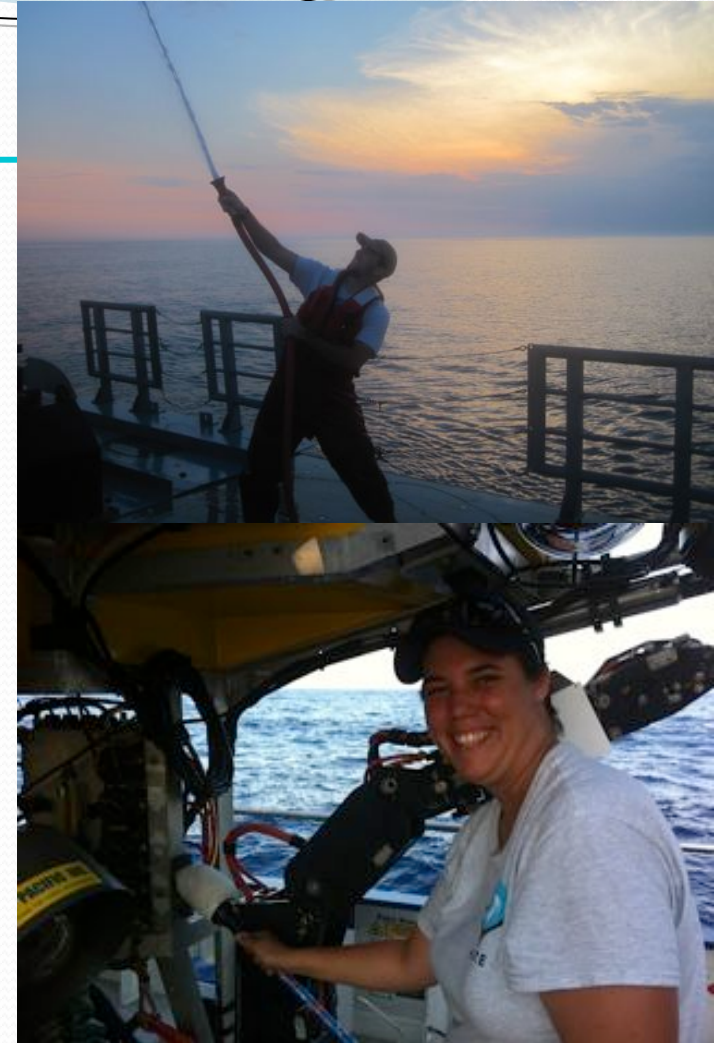
2012 UNOLS interns said:

- *“The most valuable thing I learned from my mentor was willingness to work on complex problems for long hours and perhaps without resolving them. Also opening up new questions to be answered in the process.”*
- *“This was an opportunity of a lifetime, and I know with additional education and hard work, I will have a career in this field.”*
- *“This internship allowed me to experience the exciting nature of the research being conducted and the integral role that the technology plays in making that research possible.”*



Students getting hired!

- Interns were hired immediately following their internships!
 - Ted Cummiskey was hired by his host, the *Sharp*, before his internship was even over!
 - Maggie Craig and Tara Willis were hired by the *Nautilus* for next summer
- 4 others have reported possible job opportunities that have become available because of their internships



Other accomplishments in 2012

- **Launched a new MATE website, including all new internship pages**
- **Finalized two videos with a professional videographer on the MATE program and life as a marine technician**
- **Edited the internship application and host request form based on input from RVTEC and to create a more host-friendly application review format**



What is happening in 2013?

- **The 2013 six-month intern has been selected and starts this week!**
 - **Arianna Johns will join the *Knorr* this week, then she will sail on the *Walton Smith* and the *Atlantis* later this year.**
- **We are currently accepting student applications and host requests for summer 2013 internships**
- **We will be applying for continued funding this summer for 2014 and beyond.**





Tami Lunsford

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MATE Internship Program

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RECENT POSTS



Tami Lunsford

Are you a community college student transitioning to a 4 year college? Check out this webinar on how to make the transition with an ocean science career in mind! Thursday, January 31st at 7 p.m. Eastern time for a short presentation followed by a Question & Answer period. Preregistration is requested. Please sign up and pre-share your questions with us at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8LDW00Y>

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MATE Internships

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Same requests as every year!

1. **Please commit to providing internship opportunities as soon as possible and consider longer multi-cruise internships.**
 2. **Use the internship to promote marine technical careers— you are great mentors and role models.**
- THANK YOU!**



The background is a collage of four images related to marine research. Top-left: A large, complex scientific instrument is being lowered into the ocean from a ship's deck. Top-right: A small inflatable boat with several people is on the water. Bottom-left: A woman is holding a large framed map or chart. Bottom-right: A person in a red jacket is operating a large cylindrical piece of equipment on a ship's deck.

**For more information visit:
www.marinetech.org/internships**

**Or contact:
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