

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; current funding ends after the 6-month internship in early 2014**
- **Since 1999, 280 community college and university students have been placed in research vessels, labs and industry settings (184 were placed on UNOLS vessels)**
- **Students demographics over the last 14 years**
 - **46% women and 54% men**
 - **30% underrepresented minority participation**
 - **From 59 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
- **Awaiting news from NSF on funding request for 2014-2017**



Intern selection process

- **Preference (except for six-month internship) given to technical community college students and marine technology undergraduate students**
 - **67% of 2013 interns were from community colleges**
 - **33% of 2013 interns were from universities**
- **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**



2013 Internships



- 1 long-term intern:
 - Arianna Johns on the *Knorr*, *Walter Smith*, *Atlantis*, and *E/V Nautilus*
- 10 other interns were placed on UNOLS and USCG vessels
 - *R/V Langseth* (3), *Blue Heron* (1), *Sharp* (2), *Thompson* (1), and *USCG Healy* (1)
- 2 placed on the *E/V Nautilus*
- 4 women, 7 men

Mentor feedback on 2013 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**
- **80% of mentors said they would hire their intern immediately in an entry-level position.**



2013 UNOLS mentors said:

- *“Our intern was very responsible while working on deck with the different types of gear used during our surveys.”*
- *“Because our intern was willing and able to do some of the routine work that often requires more than one person at a time, we could efficiently do cable runs and equipment maintenance that helped us to be ready for our cruise and ease the pressure on the rest of us”*

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 (sixth year in a row!)



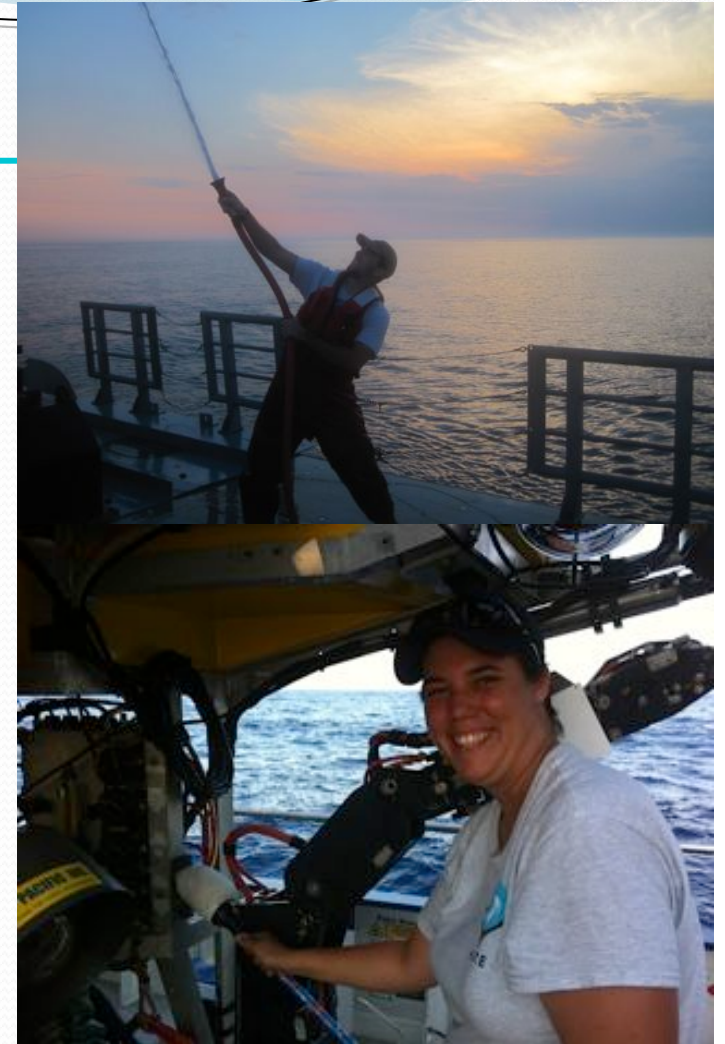
2013 UNOLS interns said:

- *“I learned personal safety, how to deploy and retrieve scientific instruments, and most importantly, my mentor taught me how to be a leader and apply my skills to my situations.”*
- *“I learned the value that a technician has when being a liaison between the scientific party and the ship’s crew.”*
- *“My mentors taught me everything I needed to learn. They were extremely communicative and patient. I learned both actively by discussion and assistance, and passively from watching the way the crew worked.”*



Students getting hired!

- Although no interns were hired full-time yet in 2013, 5 have reported possible job opportunities that have become available because of their internships



Other accomplishments in 2013

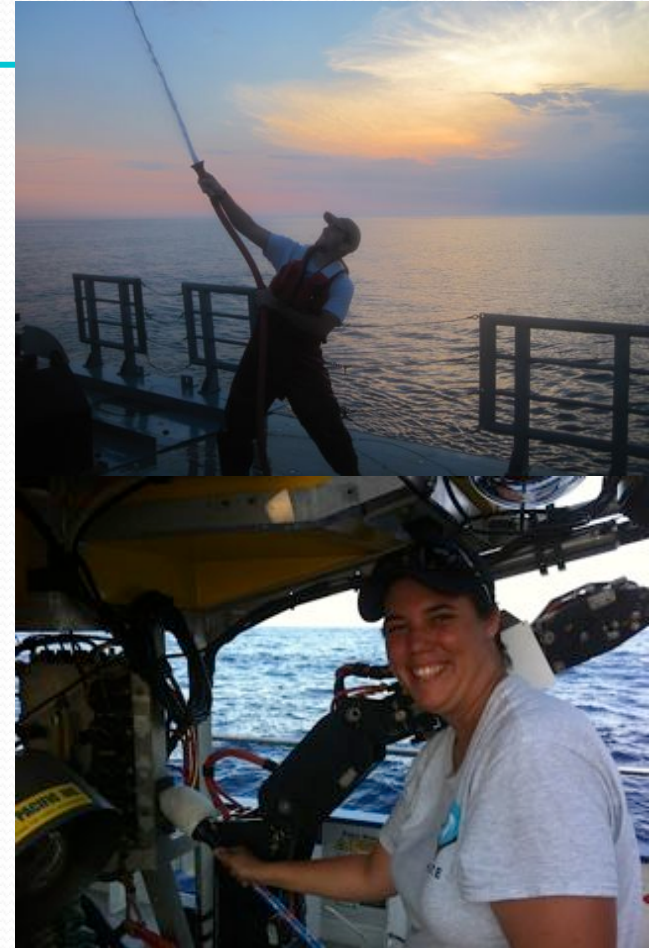
- **Used a new application and host request form, created in 2012 based on input from RVTEC and to create a more host-friendly application review format with much success**
- **Brought Erica Moulton on board in an official capacity as Tami is now working in a high school classroom again**



What is happening in 2014?

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- The 2014 six-month internship has been posted and we are accepting applications through December 5.
- *Hosts: R/V Thompson and R/V Kilo Moana* beginning in January 2014.
- We have applied for continued funding and anticipate finding out by February if we will be able to host interns in 2014-2017.





Yami Lunsford

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Yami 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 group of people in a small inflatable boat on the water. Bottom-left: A person holding a large white board displaying a colorful bathymetric map of the ocean floor. Bottom-right: A person in a red wetsuit and scuba gear standing on a ship's deck next to a large metal frame structure.

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

**Or contact:
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