

Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society



American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) Mitchell Scientific Diving Research Internship

ABOUT AAUS

The American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) facilitates the development of safe and productive scientific divers through education, research, advocacy, and the advancement of standards for scientific diving practices, certifications and operations. AAUS standards have allowed research diving teams as part of scientific diving programs to operate under the exemption from OSHA commercial diving regulations. AAUS was organized in 1977 and first incorporated in the state of California in 1983. Today, there are 118 AAUS Organizational Members that adhere to the consensual Standards for Scientific Diving. Adherence to a parent standard facilitates the establishment of reciprocity arrangements when collaborating on research projects with other AAUS member organizations. AAUS reciprocity is the product of years of experience, trust and cooperation between underwater scientists.

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

The Mitchell Scientific Diving Research Internship provides undergraduates with experiences to build upon their scientific diving education and to further help prepare them for a future in science, research diving, or scientific diving-related fields. The Mitchell Scientific Diving Research Internship is designed for current undergraduate students who already have an active AAUS Scientific Diving certification. The internship will provide opportunities to participate and assist in scientific diving with an AAUS Organizational Member. Daily activities may include planning scientific dives, preparing dive equipment, assisting in scientific diver training, participating on research projects, spending time on research boats, diving, interacting with divers, and logging dives. The program has a great degree of flexibility. The internship may include advanced training in Scientific Diving Program Management. This will provide greater insights into operational standards, proper dive planning and documentation, and operation and maintenance of equipment and facilities. The opportunities open will depend on the aptitude and motivation of the intern and the fit with the host institution(s).

The fundamental goals of interns should include desires to:

- Continue building professional training and experience;
- Participate in scientific research and data collection using diving as a tool; and
- Assist with scientific diving program management and field operations.

LOCATION and DURATION

Host locations vary each year. The internship will take place for about three months in the summer months. Exact dates and schedules will be coordinated between the intern and the sponsor.

ELIGIBILITY

- Active AAUS Scientific Diver certification from an AAUS Organizational Member including:
 - Verification of training letter from training organization
 - Medical authorization established with an AAUS-compliant diving physical completed prior to the start of the internship
 - Current emergency care training
 - Current equipment inspection
 - 12 logged dives in the past 12 months
- Interest in marine sciences or other underwater-related discipline that uses scientific diving as a tool

BUDGET

A stipend is provided to help cover travel to/from internship site and internship related expenses

See www.owuscholarship.org/internships for more information.