Internship Title: Lake Champlain Cyanobacteria Monitoring Project

Internship Site: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Montpelier, VT. Montpelier is serviced by the CCTA Regional bus service. UVM students are able to use this service for free with a valid ID.

Description: The intern will assist with the Champlain cyanobacteria monitoring program, which is active June through October. Primary responsibility will be the identification and enumeration of weekly cyanobacteria samples collected from Champlain and several inland lakes, completing density calculations and uploading the data to the Dept of Health Tracking website. Additional tasks would include analysis of water samples for the pigment phycocyanin, assisting with the development of education and outreach materials, responding to bloom events around the state and building our library of pertinent research. There will also be opportunity to assist with sample collection on Lake Champlain and experience other aspects of work in the Lakes and Ponds Program.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework: You must be comfortable working at the microscope for 4-5 hours daily. Algae identification skills would be preferable, but training will be provided. An understanding of basic limnology would be helpful as would experience with publishing software and databases. Applicants should be able to swim and be comfortable working from a boat under choppy conditions.

*Rubenstein students currently in their first year, sophomore and junior year are eligible to apply.*

Supervision: Angela Shambaugh, coordinator for the Lake Champlain Cyanobacteria Monitoring Project, will be the primary supervisor. The intern will occasionally work with others in the Lakes Program and with our counterparts at the Department of Health.

Start and End Dates: June 1 to August 15, but dates are negotiable.

Total Hours: 20 hours/week, 12 weeks. Ideally the intern would work Monday - Thursday, but schedule is flexible.

Compensation: $12.50/hour. Earning internship credit through the Rubenstein School Internship Program is required.

How to apply: Step by step application instructions are available on the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program website. Applications are due by 4pm, Friday, January 29th, 2016 through Blackboard.