Internship Title: Laboratory Sample Receiving and Outreach Technician

Internship Site: Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab, Hills Building, UVM Campus

Description: The Vermont Agriculture and Environment Lab (VAEL) partners with 16 of Vermont’s watershed associations to receive and process water quality samples collected by the associations’ volunteer field staff. The results from this volunteer sampling program are posted online by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and are used to shape state and local policies aimed at protecting and preserving the quality of Vermont’s watersheds. The intern will work alongside VAEL staff to receive samples from the Volunteer Watershed Monitoring groups and prepare them for chemical analysis. The intern will have the opportunity to learn and perform procedures for a range of water quality analyses.

A new VAEL initiative is to strengthen its ties to the watershed associations through an outreach program. In the past, the relationship between the lab and the watershed associations was very informal. Now VAEL staff will be offering training to watershed association volunteer staff and will be contacting the watershed associations on a regular basis to schedule sample drop-offs, provide on-going support and training and provide feedback on the quality of the samples submitted and test results. The intern will have the opportunity to assist and potentially coordinate these outreach efforts.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework: Some Chemistry coursework is desirable; otherwise an interest and/or willingness to learn.

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

Supervision: This internship will be under the direct supervision of the supervisor of VAEL’s Inorganic Chemistry Dept.

Start and End Dates: Mid-May – Mid-August, 2016 (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

Total Hours: 20 hours/week, 12 weeks

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.