Veterinary Externship

Program Description:

We are excited to offer a Veterinary Externship Program for students in our Veterinary and Stranding Department at the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS). Students will work directly with the attending veterinarian, and the Veterinary and Stranding Department staff. As an extern, you will receive varying degrees of exposure to marine mammals, sea turtles, elasmobranchs, birds, and reptiles. Seasonal variations in scheduling and training may occur, with an emphasis placed on different species at different times of the year.

The Veterinary Medical Experience:

Under the direct supervision of the attending veterinarian, students will participate in many aspects of zoological and wildlife medicine including physical exams, minor surgical procedures, ultrasound, phlebotomy, gastroscopy, necropsies in both the field and laboratory, anesthesia, daily rounds, collecting diagnostic samples, and much more. Students will likely have the opportunity to cross-train with animal trainers, researchers, and aquarists.

Expectations:

Veterinary externs are expected to complete a short clinical research project pertaining to their time at IMMS and give a 20-30 minute presentation to Veterinary and Stranding staff members upon completion of their externship. Students can expect to work, Monday through Friday from 9am – 5 pm during the summer hours, or 8am – 4pm during the winter hours, with weekends on-call, and the expectation to respond to potential emergency and rescue events of cetaceans and sea turtles.
Eligibility:

Positions are available at this time for 3\textsuperscript{rd} and 4\textsuperscript{th} year veterinary students that are currently enrolled in a veterinary curriculum at an AVMA-accredited University.

Allied Institutions:

Mississippi State University- College of Veterinary Medicine

Time length:

Presently 2 weeks (with plans to extend the program length in the near future)

Compensation:

Unpaid

Insurance

Students are responsible for providing their own health insurance during the externship program.

Housing:

Students are responsible for providing their own transportation and making arrangements for their own housing. Occasionally, IMMS staff members may have rooms available for 2 week rentals. We are happy to contact staff to help identify housing arrangements whenever possible.

Application Materials:

Please submit: current veterinary school transcripts, 2 letters of recommendation, proof of a current tetanus vaccination and TB test, and 2-3 variable sets of dates for availability approximately 6 months in advance of expected time. Submissions and questions are to be submitted to Dr. Debra P. Moore at vetextern@imms.org.