**SmartLawn Internship, California Center for Urban Horticulture**

Departmental Division: **UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden**

Job Function: **Community Service, Research Support, Landscaping Training**

**Position Overview:**

**SPRING 2020:** The future of landscaping and horticulture in California requires a new perspective to remain sustainable in the face of climate change, increased water shortages, increased population, and the constant consumer demand for aesthetically pleasing landscaping. As a response to these demands, the California Center for Urban Horticulture (CCUH) is working on the SmartLawn initiative. SmartLawn will be a demonstrative study site to model turf water conservation practices as well as the actual water use of turf and turf alternatives in urban landscaping.

The SmartLawn project is currently under construction on campus at the Western Center for Agricultural Equipment (WCAE). This project models the best management practices for popular turf types and turf alternatives by using the most recent industry developments for water efficient turf blends, irrigation technology, water flow meters, and soil moisture sensors. SmartLawn intern work teams and workshops will be led by two student co-coordinators with occasional training and/or work days led by industry professionals.

Interns will get to experience hands-on training and installation of multiple irrigation systems used in the urban turf industry, as well as a thorough introduction to California water ordinances and how the industry can realistically adhere to these ordinances as they are increasingly being enforced. Such on-the-ground skills will be greatly valuable for students interested in any landscaping, irrigation, or water management related career. Interns will also gain experience installing turf and turf alternatives, and have the opportunity to work with and learn from turf and irrigation industry professionals that are partnered with CCUH. Interns will also have ample opportunities to develop their teamwork and project planning skills.

The Spring 2020 quarter will be focused on in-the-field irrigation and turf installation with interspersed workshop and work-planning days where supporting topics and data management will be covered. There may also be occasional cross-over work days with CCUH’s sister internship (SmartScape) which may involve above-ground irrigation installation and/or landscape planting.

**Time Commitment:** This is a quarter-long internship for Spring, Fall, and Winter quarters. The internship requires 3 work hours per week. Ideally, students will remain with the internship for an entire year, but quarterly interns are accepted as well. Internship Units: Optional

**Qualifications & Expectations**

* Applicants should be comfortable working outdoors in all weather conditions as well as being physically active.
* Applicants will need good teamwork skills including willingness to collaborate with, communicate with, and include other team members from varied skill-sets and diverse backgrounds.
* Applications will need decision making and problem solving skills to provide accurate and timely feedback.
* Applicants will be able to identify and resolve conflicts, and to uphold an effective team environment.
* Applicants will need to have the ability to effectively teach fellow teammate’s skills and/or tasks that they have previously mastered.
* Applicants will need the ability to work independently and self-motivate to follow through on a task without constant supervision.
* Applicants will need an open attitude towards learning and integrating new skills and a desire to constantly improve their own workmanship quality.
* Applicants must represent SmartLawn with a high degree of professionalism and integrity.
* Applicants must complete all needed safety training and must prioritize safety and follow all safety procedures.

**For More Information:** Check out the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden *Learning by Leading* website:

<https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/learning-by-leading>

<https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/CCUH-SmartLawn>

TO APPLY: Fill out the Internship Application attached to this description along with a recent copy of your resume. Send your application and resume as **PDFs** to Sandro Montes, SmartLawn Co-Coordinator, at **sjmontes@ucdavis.edu.** Please name your application files in the following format: **FirstNameLast Name\_SmartLawnInternshipApplicationorResume\_Spring2020.pdf**.

Send application by: **Sunday March 29th, 2020 at 11:59pm.**

**APPLICATION**

**Please attach a recent copy of your resume as a PDF in your application email**

Name:

E-mail:

Phone:

Year at UC Davis:

Major:

What is your spring quarter schedule availability?

In 2-4 sentences, briefly explain your key motivations for applying to this position.

How did you hear about this internship? (e.g. listserv, social media, website, advisor, etc.)