



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

Internship Opportunities

www.nal.usda.gov

NAL Repository

Contacts: Scott Hanscom, scott.hanscom@ars.usda.gov, 301-504-6999 and Betsy Wiley, betsy.wiley@ars.usda.gov, 301-504-5206

Estimate of time: on-going

Days available for at least a 4 hour time block between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
a.m.					
p.m.					

Brief description of project including a breakdown of tasks to be completed by intern:

Identify, acquire and process items for NAL's institutional repository.

- Research & discover USDA publications for inclusion in the Repository
- Submit digital copies of USDA documents and USDA authored-research to Repository.

Desired skills/educational background:

- Familiarity with database & internet searching.
- Familiarity with Excel spreadsheets.
- Attention to detail.

Deliverables:

- Submission of content to the NAL Repository.

Learning objectives/developmental opportunities:

- Experience discovering, selecting, and acquiring materials for digital collections.
- Experience managing content within an institutional repository environment.

August 2009



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National Invasive Species Information Center

Contact: Joyce Bolton, joyce.bolton@ars.usda.gov, 301-504-6454

Estimate of time: flexible, would like an intern as much time as the person(s) schedule allows.

Days available for at least a 4 hour time block between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
a.m.					
p.m.					

Brief description of project including a breakdown of tasks to be completed by intern:

Assist in discovery of web-based resources for the National Invasive Species Information website. www.Invasivespeciesinfo.gov is a gateway to invasive species information; covering Federal, State, local and international sources.

Desired skills/educational background:

- Knowledge of search strategies to find web-based resources.
- The ability to identify and evaluate appropriate resources for website.
- Ability to create and maintain web pages and web-based information products using knowledge of HTML and HTML editors (such as Dreamweaver).
- An interest in invasive species, biodiversity or environmental issues.

Deliverables:

- Create new species profiles for website.
- Update existing species profiles with relevant information.
- Update geographic-based resources.
- Update state laws and regulations resources.
- Update and maintain other sections of the website as needed, including fixing broken links.

Learning objectives/developmental opportunities:

- Experience selecting, discovering, and creating Web content for a unique Web portal.



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DigiTOP, USDA's Digital Desktop Library: My DigiTOP Services

Contact: Stan Kosecki, stan.kosecki@ars.usda.gov, 301-504-7114

Estimate of time: 240 hours

Days available for at least a 4 hour time block between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
a.m.					
p.m.					

Brief description of project including a breakdown of tasks to be completed by intern:

Exploration of personalization in e-library environment.

Desired skills/educational background:

- Computer science (user interfaces or similar), library degree, or another master-level degree related to information science.
- Proficiency with programming (such as ASP, Java, etc.).
- Skills in evaluating computer applications (from a developer and/or implementer perspective).
- Analytical and designing skills in user interfaces and personalization of user's experience.

Deliverables:

- Review of existing open source and low-cost technologies in area of personalization of user experience.
- Test and pilot most promising solutions and recommend directions for DigiTop services.

Learning objectives/developmental opportunities:

- Application of analytical skills in a library world.
- Practical application of computer skills in enhancing experience of users in e-library environment.
- Deeper understanding of user needs and behaviors in a virtual library setting.

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DigiTOP, USDA's Digital Desktop Library

Contact: Stan Kosecki, stan.kosecki@ars.usda.gov, 301-504-7114

Estimate of time: 240 hrs

Days available for at least a 4 hour time block between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
a.m.					
p.m.					

Brief description of project including a breakdown of tasks to be completed by intern:

Bibliometric analysis of impact of e-journals availability via DigiTop on citing references of USDA-authored publications.

Desired skills/educational background:

- Library degree or another master-level degree related to information science.
- Proficiency with processing large scale bibliographic data in a database environment (such as MySQL).
- Programming proficiency (such as Perl or PHP).
- Analytical skills, including application of statistical methods.

Deliverables:

- A time-series analysis of citing reference patterns and correlation with e-journals availability.
- A report will include trend analysis (subject disciplines, geographical locations, specific titles and year of publication ranges) and forecast for 3-5 years into a future.

Learning objectives/developmental opportunities:

- Application of analytical skills in a library world.
- Deeper understanding of an impact of e-library on researchers' reading patterns.

August 2009