Field Interns for Community Ecology and Seed Dispersal Networks Project

We are seeking 4 interns to work on a research project on Oahu, Hawaii. The project is a multi-disciplinary effort investigating seed dispersal networks comprised of interacting native and non-native plant and vertebrate species in Hawaiian mesic and wet forest ecosystems. Specifically, the project will focus on (1) identifying and quantifying vertebrate (birds and rats) seed dispersers and their interactions, (2) radio-telemetry of key seed dispersers, and (3) evaluating/predicting effects of seed disperser movements and diet preference on vegetation communities. Field work will include mist-netting and banding birds, diet sampling of vertebrates, trapping rodents, surveys of plants and vertebrates, nest searching, radio-telemetry, and plant and vertebrate experiments. Lab work will include identification of seeds and insects from diet samples and seed traps. Aviary work will include gut passage and diet preference experiments. The candidate selected for this position will work on a field crew of 10-14 people including other interns, technicians, and graduate students. Must be able to work in rugged terrain in challenging field conditions. Interns will be encouraged to write and publish manuscripts in collaboration with the group.

Qualifications: B.A/B.S. degree in biology, natural resources, wildlife biology or related field. Preference will be given to applicants with experience in tropical ecosystems, avian ecology, avian nest searching, rat ecology, plant ecology, and/or radio telemetry.

Start date: March 1, 2015 for an initial 4 month contract. Continued employment may be possible pending satisfactory performance.

Salary: \$500 per month, with housing and field vehicles provided.

Contact: Dr. Corey E. Tarwater (coreytar@mail.ubc.ca). Email a brief letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and contact information for 3 references familiar with your experience and qualifications. Review of applications will begin immediately. No more applications will be accepted after Dec. 20, 2014.