Museum Taxonomy Internship

Fundación Para La Tierra

Pilar, Ñeembucú Department, Paraguay

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About Para La Tierra

Fundación Para La Tierra is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation of fragile habitats in Paraguay. We achieve this mission through three primary programmes: Scientific Research, Community Engagement, and Environmental Education.

Based in Paraguay, the ‘heart of South America,’ we are caring for the country’s second largest natural reference collection, with over 30,000 specimens of different animal groups. This is one of the most important resources for conservation and natural history, in a country where relatively little is known about its biodiversity.

About the Internship Position

Want to become an expert of a certain taxonomic group? Our collection has many specimens that need identification and sorting based on their taxonomy! You can work with taxonomic groups like mammals (specifically Chiroptera, Rodentia or Didelphidae), reptiles, amphibians, insects or other invertebrates (spiders, scorpions, snails, aquatic macroinvertebrates).

Your main responsibilities will be to identify specimens that are still unidentified from our collection and to help sort the collection in a more specific taxonomic order. This includes activities such as:

- Following dichotomous keys
- Doing literature review about certain taxa
- Working on scientific manuscripts for publishing (depending on the findings)
- Working closely with collection specimens

Depending on your interests, you can also join other museum-related activities. Our internship program is designed to provide young professionals with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience working at a zoological collection, while sharing moments with an international team of professionals.

**Gain basic experience in taxidermy and become part of the second biggest zoological collection of Paraguay!**
**Requirements:**
Applicants must be over 18 years old and have or be working towards a degree in a biology related subject. They must be prepared to stay for a minimum of one month. Conversational English is required.

**Conditions:**
Para La Tierra charges interns to cover costs of room and board. The price includes three meals a day, a bed in shared accommodation with hot showers and access to WiFi. The fee also covers the use of PLT’s scientific equipment, administrative costs associated with the stay, and a small contribution to Para La Tierra's conservation and education projects.

**Costs** – $1,195 per month for the first 2 months and $995 for each subsequent month.

**How to Apply**
The application period is rolling and there are no start or end dates, so the trip can be organised to suit the project and the person. To apply please email your CV to olivia@paralatierra.org or fill out our application form at www.paralatierra.org/internships.