Research Assistant Position at Map of Life

Map of Life (MOL) is seeking research assistants to participate in a global biodiversity research and conservation initiative at Yale University. This is a great opportunity for students looking to gain experience in ecology, GIS, and conservation.

Built on a scalable web platform geared for large biodiversity and environmental data, Map of Life attempts to provide 'best-possible' species range information and species lists for any geographic area. Map of life aims to support effective and global biodiversity education, monitoring, research and decision-making by assembling and integrating a wide range of data types and knowledge about species distributions.

Map of Life is partnered with several conservation groups, such as National Geographic and the E. O. Wilson Foundation, and are developing projects to further understand and conserve life on this planet.

Position responsibilities

In this role, you will be responsible for discovering new data sources and incorporating them into our database, which hosts nearly 100,000 species and over 555 million records, including almost all terrestrial vertebrates, dragonflies, bumblebees, butterflies, and plant species.

Research assistants will be responsible for digitizing biodiversity data, from recording species traits to creating range maps. Approximately 50% of this position will be dedicated to GIS-intensive projects and incumbents will have many opportunities to improve their GIS skills.

Contributing to Map of Life's comprehensive database means complying with strict scientific data standards, and incumbents are expected to adhere to rigorous protocols with keen attention to detail.

Position requirements

- Demonstrated familiarity with ecological concepts through coursework and/or work experience
- Excellent time management skills
- Desire to increase knowledge in spatial ecology and conservation
- Demonstrated experience working as part of a team
- Effective communication skills
- Passion for wildlife, conservation, and the environment

Desirable skills

- Familiarity with GIS concepts
- Experience in QGIS and/or ArcGIS
- Experience in a data entry position

Hours

35 hours per week

Start date

June 1, 2018

Last date to apply

April 30, 2018

<u>Application instructions</u>

Send your resume, cover letter, and 2 references to Michelle Duong (michelle.duong@yale.edu).