BICEFS 2025 Summer Internship with the L.R. O’Halloran Research Group

Position Description: The undergraduate student will be part of a research group in the department of Forestry and Environmental Conservation that focuses on ecosystem responses to global change. We study the role of nutrient availability and disturbance on herbaceous productivity, biodiversity, and soil gas flux. The student will have the opportunity to develop their own research questions regarding plant productivity and biodiversity in our local coastal South Carolina herbaceous and pine dominated ecosystems. They will develop skills in field work in terrestrial systems along the South Carolina coast. Work will be in the field and lab. Such duties during the internship might include collecting vegetation and soil samples, identifying plants, sorting vegetation types, measuring light availability and soil carbon flux. The student will participate in an end of summer research symposium for other undergraduates at the Baruch Institute where they will present their work from the internship. We encourage students from all cultural, ethnic, racial, religious, or sexual orientations to apply.

The Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science is located on the coast near the historic seaport Georgetown, SC. Under a long-term agreement with the Belle W Baruch Foundation, the Institute is located on the 16,000-acre Hobcaw Barony at the southern end of the Waccamaw Neck and is 35 miles south of Myrtle Beach and 60 miles north of Charleston. Hobcaw Barony is located on the Atlantic Ocean, bordered by Winyah Bay and North Inlet Estuary. The Institute features a 12,000 sq ft LEED-certified office building with an adjoining 7,000 sq ft laboratory and support facility. The research station is in close proximity to Pawleys Island beaches, Brookgreen Gardens, Huntington Beach State Park. Summer housing may be available.

Competencies:  
Collaboration – working with others  
Adaptability – embracing opportunities for improvement and resilience  
Leadership – leveraging others strengths to achieve a vision