Tufts Summer Scholars – Crone Lab | http://ase.tufts.edu/biology/faculty/crone

- Anonymous (Biology, Environmental Studies, 2016)
- Independent Researcher/Crone Lab Research Assistant
- Full-time, 40-50 hours per week
- Paid

**What do you do as an intern at this organization?**
I conduct independent research on queen bumblebees that will be part of my senior honors thesis. In addition, I assist a graduate student project examining how bumblebee worker body size (e.g., weight) impacts foraging trip frequency and duration.

**How did you find your internship?**
Through the Summer Scholars website.

**What do you enjoy most about your internship?**
I am able to work with an incredibly fascinating species on a project that I'll be able to continue for the remainder of my time at Tufts.

**What do you find challenging?**
Research doesn't always work. For example, many of our bumblebee colonies weren't as successful as we would have liked them to be.

**What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?**
I would reach out to several professors and inquire about research opportunities in their labs. A simple email will suffice. Even if no research opportunities are available at that time, take advantage of your correspondence with said professor to set up a time to meet and ask a few questions about the lab and/or ongoing research (sort of like a pre-advisor advisor). If you can, make a point of reviewing some of their past publications; it's always impressive when you ask them specifics about their work.

**About the Organization**
Tufts Summer Scholars – Crone Lab
Medford, MA

Dr. Crone studies plant and animal interactions at the intersection of theoretical ecology and natural history: How do our observations inform theory, and how can theory inform an understanding of the natural world? Many aspects of answering these questions involve advances in statistics. Her current projects include: the causes and consequences of mast-seeding in plants; the effect of mast-seeding on the plants' consumers; the effects of climate and land use change on butterfly populations; bumble bee demography in relation to food resources; and the consequences of different forms of variance on plant population dynamics.