9/18/19

CCF Applicant Reviewers

Cheetah Conservation Fund P.O. Box 2496

Alexandria, VA 22301

Dear Applicant Reviewers:

I was thrilled to discover the veterinary internship opportunities and the abundance of research taking place at the Cheetah Conservation Fund. As a junior undergraduate student pursuing pre-veterinary studies with a special interest in wildlife conservation and related research, I believe that my passion for this work along with prior experience makes me an ideal candidate for this internship position.

I was awarded a competitive University of New Hampshire Research Experience and Apprenticeship Program grant. After formulating an original project, I worked directly with the attending veterinarian at Cocheco Valley Humane Society studying the efficacy of antibiotic usage in shelter cats with upper respiratory infection. It was concluded in this study that antibiotics did not improve the duration or severity of illness within the population. I thoroughly enjoyed this project, and it is this that made me desire to continue a career in undergraduate research. I was taught fundamental research design and implementation skills which would translate over into research I participate in at CCF. Along with gaining research skills such as extensive data collection and statistical analysis, I was also able to develop the animal handling and veterinary skills I would need as a CCF intern while shadowing veterinarians and technicians at the shelter. I was later hired there as a veterinary assistant and continue to build upon my experience.

My specific interest in wildlife that draws me to CCF was invigorated this summer during my experience in Tanzania. I completed a Fundamentals of Wildlife Management program which educated me on wildlife behavior and highlighted conservation issues in the area. During this life-changing five-week stay, I also certainly acclimated to life abroad in Africa and gained an appreciation for their culture and way of life. Between the conservation knowledge I gained and the experience living in Africa I received on this trip, I feel that this experience thoroughly prepared me to travel abroad and work with CCF by providing me with a sense of what my life with CCF in Africa would be like.

As an extremely driven individual in and out of the classroom with a deep passion for animal care, I am eager for an experience to continue working with a variety of wildlife species and learning more about how to best preserve them.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you would like any additional information, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Jillian Broadhurst