Botany Research Internship Program
at Carnegie Museum of Natural History

Supported through the Allison W. Cusick Botanical Research Fund, this 10-week paid internship provides hands-on opportunities for undergraduate students to conduct independent research under the mentorship of museum botanists. The immersive internship also provides opportunities to learn about botany, museum collections, and the diversity of careers and activities at natural history museums.

Active research areas for 2026 include:
- Climate change impacts and phenology of forest wildflowers
- Plants of conservation concern in Pennsylvania
- Functional trait ecology of invasive knotweed
- Herbarium field techniques & specimen digitization/curation

Participants will gain experience in all aspects of research, from hypothesis and research question development to study design to collecting and analyzing data. Students will present their results in a poster session and if appropriate, be encouraged to publish their results.

Eligibility: Students enrolled in an undergraduate degree program interested in gaining experience in botany, plant ecology, and the environmental sciences. No prior research experience is required. Ability for transportation to field sites is preferred but not required.

Length: 10 weeks, starting May 1 (with some flexibility in start date). Students are expected to commit to 30 hours/week for 10 weeks. Opportunities may exist to continue into fall semester.

Stipend: $5,000

Application materials: **1)** Cover letter that briefly describes any experience in botany or research (if any), why this internship appeals to you, and which research area listed above that is most interesting to you; **2)** Resume or CV; **3)** Letter of recommendation (*optional*) [letters can be sent directly to heberlingm@carnegiemnh.org]

Apply online at: https://form.jotform.com/250334385136151

The deadline is March 1, 2026. We anticipate announcing decisions by March 30.

Questions? Please contact Dr. Mason Heberling heberlingm@carnegiemnh.org