Re-census the UCSC Forest Ecology Research Plot

2-unit, 5-unit, and Senior Internships  Fall, Winter, Spring
Faculty sponsor: Professor Gregory Gilbert  Agency sponsor: Alex Jones asjones@ucsc.edu

Help with the expansion and 5-yr re-census of the 6-ha Forest Ecology Research Plot (FERP) on the UCSC Campus Natural Reserve. The FERP is a living laboratory designed to study forest dynamics and species interactions in the mixed-evergreen forest, and is a resource for teaching and student research in ecology, evolution, and environmental sciences at UCSC.

2-unit internships: Requires one 4- to 5-h block on the FERP per week, helping to map and census the FERP; write two 1-p critical reviews on peer-reviewed publications from mapped forest plots. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

5-unit internships: Requires 15 hours per week (in 4-h blocks or longer), helping to map and census the FERP and enter data; write three 1-p critical reviews on peer-reviewed publications from mapped forest plots. Generally requires 1 quarter as 2-unit intern first (Fall, Winter, Spring)

Senior internships (2 quarters): Requires one 5-unit internship (as above) in Fall or Winter quarter, that also includes preparing a detailed plan for a senior project in the second quarter. The second quarter is a 5-unit Senior internship (Winter or Spring), that includes 8 hours per week helping to map and census the FERP, and 8 hours per week completing senior project (Fall-Winter or Winter-Spring)

Senior internship project possibilities include:
• Comprehensive tree species profile and annotated bibliography for FERP website
• Canopy openness photo grid
• Topographic map of expanded FERP
• FERP Fern survey
• FERP Grass survey

Additional requirements for all internships:
• All requirements as specified by the ENVS internship office (journal, analytical paper, meetings, etc.)
• Regular meetings with faculty advisor and supervising graduate students
• Must not be highly sensitive to poison oak
• Must be comfortable working long hours, off trail, in the forest
• Must learn to identify 30+ woody species
• Attention to detail, and ability and willingness to follow established protocols
• Minimum of 4-h time blocks during daylight hours on the FERP

For more information on the UCSC FERP see http://ferp.ucsc.edu

To apply, please contact Greg Gilbert at ggilbert@ucsc.edu or Alex Jones asjones@ucsc.edu with a brief description of your interests, relevant coursework, and experiences.