



Summer 2013

Aloha,

Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation is pleased to welcome Heidi Cortez as our 2013 summer intern. Heidi is a recent graduate of the University Laboratory School in Honolulu and is also part of the second graduating class of the Pue'o Program at Punahou School. She will be attending Hawai'i Pacific University this Fall and plans to major in journalism. Heidi's internship along with our support for other internship and fellowship programs, have given us an opportunity to reflect on these important learning opportunities.

There's been a lot of buzz recently about internships - a recent federal court ruling finding unpaid internships provided by a major film company should have been paid, articles in the NY Times about the challenges and struggles of interns and of course, a Hollywood movie about two unlikely interns. According to the Times, about a million young people will work in an internship this year, in part because there continues to be a tight labor market, especially for people just coming into the work force.

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In our research related to what the Foundation might do to help support the development of the next generation of home-grown environmental leaders in Hawai'i, we learned from a survey we conducted that the most important resource an emerging environmental professional could have was a paid, high quality internship that included a focus on science and traditional practices. The



Heidi Cortez, 2013 Summer Intern
Brant Chillingworth, Senior Program Officer

We're very pleased to be partnering with four high quality internship/fellowship programs in the conservation field: Haleakalā National Park; The Nature Conservancy; University of Hawai'i at Hilo - PIPES Program; and KUPU.

Heidi is the Foundation's third summer intern. Having an intern join us for the summer also requires work on our part. We want to ensure her internship is educational with meaningful experiences that are well thought out and positioned in a larger context. Heidi's supervisor at the Foundation, Brant Chillingworth, reminds us of that regularly as we craft projects for her. And, the learning clearly goes both ways. Having an intern join our small staff is an opportunity for us to learn as well. We hear great questions that cause us to step back and puzzle over the right answer. There's nothing like being asked why you do something that at this point has become nearly second nature to get you rethinking some old assumptions.

If you stop by our office over the next several weeks, be sure to introduce yourself to Heidi and ask her what she's learning.

Best,

combination of real life work experience and the opportunity to meet and work with professionals within their intended field are great supports for an emerging professional.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janis Reischmann". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janis Reischmann
Executive Director