We are writing to announce that applications for the **Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program (**[**conservationscholars.ucsc.edu**](http://trackmyemails.org/b09b2304567d4a8eb638af2ced9563c0/a004dbeac54374d92dd4d8cd97003d3f/19df2a04536bcfda784dca5e36daffd0.html)**)** at the University of California Santa Cruz are now available, and to ask for your help reaching prospective Scholars.

Each March we select 20 early-undergraduate Scholars from around the country to participate in a two-year conservation mentorship program centered on the summers between academic years.  Each summer Scholars receive a **$4400 stipend and funding to cover travel, room, and board.**  Our goal is to **serve students from groups traditionally underrepresented in conservation, across disciplines, who can contribute to diversifying, redefining, and strengthening efforts to protect land, wildlife and water**.

During the first year Scholars participate in an eight-week, immersive field course on conservation practice, leadership and ecological research while traveling with a close group of peers and mentors through California.  During the second summer, Scholars pursue eight-week research and practice internships with nationally recognized conservation organizations, labs and agencies.  A professional development retreat after the second summer brings together the Scholar cohort and prepares them to apply for jobs and graduate school. Throughout the two years, we work with home mentors at each Scholar’s campus to provide ongoing support, and continue to provide mentoring beyond the program.

We serve college freshmen, sophomores, transfers and juniors with two or more years of college left, who attend or are in the process of transferring to any four-year institution in the US and its territories.  All U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and U.S. permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident Card), as well as individuals granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program1, indigenous individuals exercising rights associated with the Jay Treaty of 1794, political asylees, and refugees, regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation are eligible.

I hope you will share our program information with faculty, advisors, freshmen, sophomores, eligible juniors, and others in your professional and community networks. Applications are now available and will close at 11:59 pm on Wednesday February 5, 2020.

Please incorporate the attached flyer into talks and presentations, or print and distribute it.  For more information, visit [conservationscholars.ucsc.edu](http://trackmyemails.org/b09b2304567d4a8eb638af2ced9563c0/a004dbeac54374d92dd4d8cd97003d3f/19df2a04536bcfda784dca5e36daffd0.html) or email us at [scholars@ucsc.edu](mailto:scholars@ucsc.edu).

1Eligibility includes individuals with current status under the DACA Program, as well as individuals whose status may have lapsed but who continue to meet all the USCIS guidelines for DACA available [here](http://trackmyemails.org/b09b2304567d4a8eb638af2ced9563c0/a004dbeac54374d92dd4d8cd97003d3f/87f1fa76c9c520a6428d2c5675222f64.html).

Kind regards,

Prof. Erika Zavaleta

Faculty Director

Justin A. Cummings, Ph.D.

Program Director