

What is the STRI | REU program?

Our REU program in Integrative Tropical Biology is an international experience for students from the US and Latin America.

Our 10-week program is built on three broad research themes:

- Adaptation and Resilience,
- Species Interactions, and
- Drivers of Ecosystem Change.

Each theme is driven by the common need to understand how biological systems are integrated to answer questions about the origins, maintenance, and preservation of biodiversity. Over the 10 weeks, you will conduct mentor-driven research at STRI on a project tailored to your specific interest (see stri.si.edu/reu for a list of scientists and potential projects). Additionally, you will participate in workshops, professional development activities, and networking events that will challenge you to critically think about science.

Who is eligible?

We are looking for 3rd or 4th year undergraduates who are interested in exploring the processes that generate our world's extraordinary diversity. Our program reaches across disciplines and students enrolled in the traditional life science departments (e.g. biology, ecology, botany, etc.), as well as, engineering, mathematics, and computer science departments are strongly encouraged to apply. We also encourage applications from groups under-represented in the sciences.

What will you gain?

- Cutting edge research experience
- Greater understanding of tropical ecosystems
- Experience in how to publish and communicate science
- Expanded knowledge of Latin American culture
- Opportunity to improve your foreign language skills

What will interns receive?

- Airfare, housing, and food allowance
- A \$5,000 stipend

What is the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)?

STRI is a world-renowned center for tropical research located in Panama. The research conducted by scientists at STRI is extremely diverse—ranging from behavioral ecology to molecular genetics to paleontology—and united by a mission to advance our understanding of tropical biology and biodiversity.