

In what way were your teamwork skills strengthened?

This was an individual internship, and I worked alone mostly. However, I learned to listen to conflict and help toward making decisions that would ultimately benefit the organization as a whole.

How did your internship affect your career plans?

I feel like I can move forward full speed ahead with my career goals. When I began this internship I only had a vague, romantic idea of what I wanted to do with agriculture. Now I feel like I am able to make concrete decisions about what I want to do with my life and with the land I will be cultivating.

In what ways did your internship cause you to encounter people of different backgrounds from your own? What steps did you take to communicate effectively with such persons? What did you learn from such persons' perspectives?

I have grown up in different suburbs around the country, and have been fairly detached from my food until I began working on farms in the community around Sewanee. The people I interned for this summer live a very different lifestyle than I do. This experience taught me to listen and learn about how to make a living off of the land while giving back to the land as well.

Words of advice for future interns (housing, transportation, etc.)?

Be sure the lines of communication are wide open with the company for which you are interning.

Words of thanks to your internship funding donors:

The gift I received for this internship was extremely generous. With the funding I received, I was able to learn what I'm passionate about without the stress of major financial decisions. The opportunity to help someone toward their personal goals with their career gives that the person validation that someone is confident that they will do great things in the future. I have confidence in my future in the field of sustainable agriculture.