Coastal Processes Internship

The Coastal Studies Institute (CSI) in the College of Integrated Coastal Programs at ECU is seeking a geoscience-oriented intern for the Summer 2024. The intern will work in the Coastal Processes Group at CSI as a part of a team studying changes to the ocean beach ecosystem and morphology associated with beach replenishment. The selected candidate will also participate in a study currently underway on the CSI Campus evaluating the effectiveness of living shorelines as a countermanding solution to estuarine landloss through erosion. The student intern will be expected to work approximately 25 hours per week, spending about 60% of this time in the laboratory performing sediment sample preparation and mechanical separation using wire-mesh sieves, conducting microscope-based heavy mineral assay, and performing other tasks as needed. The remaining time will include field work (~15%), computer programming (~10%), and data analysis (~15%).

Required knowledge, skills, and experience are minimal but preference will be given to students interested and some background in a geoscience-related program of study (e.g., geological or biological sciences (ecology-focus), geography). In addition, a familiarity or facility with Microsoft's Excel, and one or more of the following: the Python scripting language, R, Geographic Information Systems, and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (e.g., GPS), would be a plus, though certainly not a requirement. General duties are, for the most part, minimally active. Laboratory work may expose the student to high-temperatures and rapidly moving mechanical equipment. In the field the student might be subjected to moderately hot ambient air temperatures, wind and blowing sand, and minimal protection from the sun. Physical effort in the conduct of field work may require the ability to walk distances in excess of 2 miles during a day and possibly lift as much as 30 - 40 pounds to waist level.