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George Matsumoto
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Dear Dr. Matsumoto-

I am writing this letter to express my interest in the 2015 internship through Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. I am a good candidate for this internship due to my clear communication skills, ability to research and analyze, and most importantly, a thorough understanding of systems theory. My use of research method and analysis can be seen by referring to the attached writing samples. My project preferences are "Monitoring changes in a deep-seafloor community using time-lapse photography", "Paleobiology of Fossil Hill", and "Bioluminescence and jellies".

My Bachelor's degree in Global Studies heavily focused on the interactions and interdependence of actors within various systems. For example, one can easily apply the framework of Global Studies to the sciences, such as biology or environmental science. My first practical application of these principles came from my Science and Policy of Global Change course, which taught me many of the basic concepts of environmental science, specifically the relationship between climate change and its impact on local ecosystems. The attached ENV5 309 paper, in which I defend the findings of George Somero and Jonathan Stillman regarding the migration of marine invertebrates in the Monterey Bay intertidal zone, illustrates my skills in analyzing various opinions.

By virtue of my analytical worldview and inherent comprehension of complex systems involving multiple actors, I can easily adapt my skills set to fit the demands of marine science and all the concepts therein. My attached Capstone paper illustrates this versatility, as I apply the same systems science concepts and theories above to evaluate the various and interrelated aspects of Chinese foreign policy, specifically the complex economic policies of Chinese investments in Africa in relation to their concurrent political and social policy goals on the continent.

With regards to the subject at hand, the overarching framework of systems and the actors therein can easily be applied to marine science as well, as ecosystems possess various inputs and outputs, with every component relating to the others in some way. The time-lapse photography project involves looking back on the biological history of a local ecosystem, and comparing it to the present day. Similarly, the paleobiology project looks at a unique ecosystem and will determine the factors that caused its development. The key to understanding these environments is the analysis of the various components and their relationship to one another, a concept with which I am intimately familiar, as it is my area of expertise.

Thank you for taking time to review my application. I believe my expertise can be of value to the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. I look forward to hearing from you closer to March.

Faithfully,

Luis Javier Garcia