

An Interview with ANSC Undergraduate Student Victoria Shuster on Her Internship Experience at Our Companions Animal Rescue and Shelter

Q: Where did you intern, and when?

I interned at Our Companions Animal Rescue and Shelter in Ashford, CT during the fall of 2019.

Q: Was it a paid internship? What did you do there?

It was not paid, but I did receive credits for the internship through Dr. Milvae. I spent my time on the feline side of the sanctuary. I was responsible for cleaning and feeding cats, but also got to work on behavioral aspects. I learned how to use positive reinforcement methods to teach cats how to use the cat door, stairs, carriers, get used to nail trims and towel wrapping and, in one case, work with a cat who overgroomed.

Q: When did you apply for this internship?

I applied during the Spring of 2018.

Q: How long did the internship last?

I was an intern for the entire Fall semester, but have continued to volunteer into this current Spring semester.

Q: How did you learn about this opportunity?

I received an email about the opportunity from the Department of Animal Science.

Q: Anything else you'd like to add about your experience?

I absolutely loved the experience and I love that they support a home environment in place of a traditional shelter. I would definitely recommend everyone to visit or volunteer.

Q: What is your area of interest as an ANSC major?

I am pre-vet with an interest in small animals, possibly going into hematology and oncology.

Q: So, what are your plans when you graduate?

I plan on going into vet school next fall and hopefully into practice shortly after I graduate from there!

Q: If someone has questions, can they contact you regarding your internship experience?

Absolutely! I am open to any and all questions and would be happy to help!

