Project Description:

The Office of Advancement Internship in Data Quality offers a hands-on experience working with the data that supports the Smithsonian’s membership and fundraising activities. One of the great things about the Smithsonian is that its generous supporters often contribute to several (or many!) of the Smithsonian’s 19 museums and galleries and the National Zoological Park. At the same time, that can present challenges in coordinating the data flowing in from all those sources, entered by many different programs and by the members themselves. The membership programs rely on Data Quality to make sure that the same person doesn’t have multiple records, that the data is clean and consistent, and that the data is kept up-to-date. Among other opportunities, the Data Quality Intern will participate in the continuous improvement of biographic data, perform data analysis, help identify “pain points” and improvements that can relieve them, and plan and implement data initiatives.

What Can a Student Expect to Learn During This Internship?

- Learn how fundraising data supports the Smithsonian’s mission and activities.
- Identify the challenges of working with data in a large, complex, and generally decentralized organization.
- Learn about resources, tools, and techniques to validate and refine data en masse.

Organize and lead projects to further refine and improve the data in the Smithsonian’s Pan-Institutional Database for Advancement (PANDA).