From Amanda Plante:

I'll be working on an internship with the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, which is located in Richmond near London, England. The gardens at Kew are part of a world-wide network, and they are one of three Royal Botanic Gardens that are located in the United Kingdom. The other two in the UK are located in Belfast, Northern Ireland and Edinburgh, Scotland.

The gardens at Kew were first founded in 1759. An early plant collector who contributed to these gardens was Sir Joseph Banks, a friend of King George III. Banks paid for passage several expeditions with the intent of collecting plants. One such expedition was Sir Frances Cook's legendary trip “around the world” on the Endeavor.

The Royal Botanic Garden at Kew's mission is to "To inspire and deliver science-based plant conservation worldwide, enhancing the quality of life.” Kew strives toward this mission in everything they do, from curating and building plant collections, maintaining the legendary conservatory and gardens and inspiring and educating the public, to facilitating international internship experiences for students like myself. I'm really grateful for the opportunity to participate in this program, and I appreciate the overflow of support from the department and CASNR during the application process.

- I'll be attending during the summer trimester "D" June 23 - September 5.
- I’ll be working on site within a designated garden area at Kew Monday through Friday.
- I should receive more information about what area I’ll be working in, etc. in the mail within the next two weeks. My top six garden areas were all within the Hardy Display section, which includes the Order Beds, Queen's Garden, and Duke's Garden among other areas.
- An additional independent study outside of normal work hours is encouraged.
- A "plant of the week" profile is required each week.
- Completion of a monthly identification test is required.
- I'll need to produce a practical work journal with daily entries at the end of the internship.