2014 Bradley University BEST Research Internship Program

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the BEST (Building Excellent Scientists for Tomorrow) Research Internship Program is to provide a foundation in scientific research appropriate for high school and college students interested in pursuing a career in basic or applied sciences, including biology, biomedical sciences, environmental sciences, physical sciences, and engineering. Opportunities for undergraduates include the added benefit of developing leadership skills and advancing scientific knowledge.

This program will:
- Provide a mentored research experience that is challenging and stimulating;
- Broaden the Intern’s technical skills, interactions with individuals from the scientific community, and educational and professional experience;
- Offer supporting information for the intern’s career development; and
- Provide awareness of the employment opportunities in the field of science here in Peoria.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Interns will complete a 150 to 300-hour internship during the program period of June 11 to August 8, 2014 (dates may vary slightly). The program begins with a three-day orientation at Bradley University. Then interns will work with top researchers and their teams on a research assignment. Interns will work directly with a BEST mentor. BEST mentors that have participated in past years include researchers from Bradley University, the USDA Agricultural Utilization Lab, University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria, Caterpillar, OSF St. Francis, ILM Consulting LLC, and Methodist College. In addition, throughout the summer there will be various STEM-related workshops, symposiums, and field trips. Interns should plan to attend every event, unless otherwise indicated.

FEE

The cost for the 2014 BEST program is $1475. This fee includes all of the programmatic activities that the intern will participate in, including but not limited to: workshops, discussions, seminars, local field trips to field sites and medical institutions, and the Interns Symposium. A $100 deposit must accompany the application. Checks should be made payable to Bradley University Continuing Education. Applicants who are not accepted into the BEST program will receive a FULL refund.

Undergraduate students may opt to receive university credit in mentored (BIO 280) or supervised research (BIO 385) for additional cost. For more information, contact Brittany Pham at bpham@mail.bradley.edu.
SCHOLARSHIPS

One or two $500 scholarships will be made available to BEST interns based primarily on financial need. Please complete and return the Scholarship Application along with the application, available at http://www.bradley.edu/academic/cio/stem/k12/index.dot

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants for the BEST Research Internship Program must:

- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Be at least 15 years of age by the time the program begins
- Complete the attached BEST Research Internship Program Application and a personal statement
- Provide two letters of recommendation from teachers or other professionals who are acquainted with the students work habits, leadership skills, ability to work with others or potential for research success. DO NOT send letter written by family members.
- Provide a copy of high school or college transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable for application but certified transcripts will be required to start the program).

Factors used in the selection process will include GPA, letters of recommendation, research experience, computer knowledge, and personal statements.

TIME TABLE

Applications received by April 18 will receive priority consideration; however, applications received after that time will be considered as space allows.

Acceptance and rejection letters will go out in late April.

Accepted applicants will be required to attend a meet and greet on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. This event is important as it helps us match students to mentors based on compatibility. The program committee will make final mentor-student assignments. Changes to these placements will only be made for truly extenuating circumstances.

The program culminates on August 8, 2014 when all interns will present their research in front of fellow interns, mentors, family and friends in either the form of an oral presentation or a poster.
**Applications received by April 18 will receive priority consideration.**

Mail applications and the refundable $100 deposit, payable to Bradley University Continuing Education to the following address:

Bradley University BEST Internship Program  
Center for STEM Education Olin 3  
Bradley University  
1501 W. Bradley Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61625

For any further questions, contact Brittany Pham at bpham@mail.bradley.edu
2014 Bradley University BEST Research Internship Application

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME______________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS____________________________________________________________________

CITY___________________________________STATE___________ZIP CODE_____________

TELEPHONE NO.__________________________COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP_______________

EMAIL ADDRESS______________________________________________________________

I. APPLICANT STATUS (circle one) High School Undergraduate

II. OPTIONAL

Completion of this section is voluntary; however, the information is highly valuable to the program and funding agency so please consider completing this section. Applicants will not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability.

Gender (circle one) Female Male

Hispanic or Latino: A person of Cuban Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race

American Indian or Alaska Native: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam.

Black of African American: A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

Native Hawaiian of Other Pacific Islander: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

White: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or
North Africa.

First Generation: Would you be the first in your family to attend college?  

YES  
NO

Disabilities or Special Needs: Do you have any disabilities or special needs (handicap access, diet restrictions, etc.)  

YES  
NO

If yes to above, please explain:

V. HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL NAME________________________________________________________

CITY____________________________________STATE__________ZIP CODE______________

DATE OF DIPLOMA OR EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION_____________________________

I am currently a (circle one): Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior.

CUMULATIVE GPA______________

VI. COLLEGE EDUCATION (if applicable)

INSTITUTION CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN___________________________________________

MAJOR/MINOR___________________________________________

TOTAL NO. OR CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED__________CUMULATIVE GPA__________

(CHECK ONE) SEMESTER_______ QUARTER_______

VII. WORK EXPERIENCE (if applicable)

CURRENT JOB TITLE AND EMPLOYER___________________________________________

SUPERVISOR’S NAME_________________________________________________________

STARTING AND ENDING DATES__________________________________________________

LIST ADDITIONAL, CURRENT, OR PREVIOUS JOBS ON A SEPARATE PAPER OR ATTACH RESUME.
VIII. RESEARCH EXPERIENCE/LABORATORY SKILLS (if applicable)

1) ________________________________________________________________
2) ________________________________________________________________
3) ________________________________________________________________
4) ________________________________________________________________

V. COMPUTER SKILLS

1) ________________________________________________________________
2) ________________________________________________________________
3) ________________________________________________________________
4) ________________________________________________________________

VI. AWARDS, HONORS

1) ________________________________________________________________
2) ________________________________________________________________
3) ________________________________________________________________
4) ________________________________________________________________

VII. SPECIFIC AREAS OF SCIENCE OR RESEARCH YOU ARE INTERESTED IN

1) ________________________________________________________________
2) ________________________________________________________________
3) ________________________________________________________________
4) ________________________________________________________________

VIII. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER SUMMER COMMITMENTS? These may include other jobs, family vacations, summer camps, etc.) If you know the dates, please include them also.

1) ________________________________________________________________
2) ________________________________________________________________
3) ________________________________________________________________
4) ________________________________________________________________
2014 Bradley University BEST Research Internship Application

PERSONAL STATEMENT (maximum of one hand-written or two typed double-spaced pages)

HOW DO YOU FEEL A RESEARCH EXPERIENCE WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO YOU?