2015 Bradley University BEST Research Internship Program

Applications received by April 1 will receive priority consideration.

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. All interns will have the opportunity to present their research at the Interns Symposium at the conclusion of the program.

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 15 to August 14, 2015 (dates may vary slightly as negotiated with program directors). 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.

FEE
The cost for the 2015 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 ($810 per credit hour). For more information, contact Sherri Morris at sjmorris@fsmail.bradley.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS
One or two $500 scholarships will be made available to BEST research interns based primarily on financial need. Please complete and return the Scholarship Application, available at http://www.bradley.edu/academic/cio/ Stem/k12/index.dot
APPLICATION PROCESS
Applicants for the BEST Research Internship Program must:

- Complete the attached BEST Research Internship Program Application and a one-page personal statement
- Provide two letters of recommendation from teachers or other professionals who are acquainted with the student's work habits, leadership skills, ability to work with others or potential for research success
- 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).

Screening of applications will commence April 1, 2015. Factors used in the selection process will include GPA, letters of recommendation, research experience, computer knowledge, and personal statements. All applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students selected to participate in the program will be invited to interview with mentors before their placement; however, final mentor-student assignments will be made by the program director. Changes to these placements will only be made for truly extenuating circumstances.

Applications received by April 1 will receive priority consideration.

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

2015 BEST Program
Center for STEM Education
Bradley University
1501 W. Main Street
Peoria, IL 61625

For any further questions, contact Sherri Morris sjmorris@fsmail.bradley.edu
BEST RESEARCH INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME______________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS____________________________________________________________________

CITY___________________________________STATE___________ZIP CODE_____________

TELEPHONE NO.__________________________COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP_______________

EMAIL ADDRESS_______________________________

II. APPLICANT STATUS (circle one) High School Undergraduate

III. OPTIONAL
Completion of this section is voluntary. This information is valuable to the program and funding agency so please consider completing this section.

GENDER ____ Female____ Male

ETHNICITY AND RACIAL BACKGROUND

ETHNIC GROUP
Hispanic and/or Latino: A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race
____ Yes  _____ No

RACE (Choose more than one, if applicable):

_____ 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:

_____ 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:

DISABILITIES OR SPECIAL NEEDS

Do you have any disabilities or special needs? (Handicap access, diet restrictions, etc.)

_____ No  _____ Yes, please explain: ________________________________
V. HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL NAME________________________________________________________

CITY_________________________ STATE__________ ZIP CODE____________________

DATE OF DIPLOMA OR EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION__________________________

Circle One: I am currently a:            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.

VIII. LABORATORY SKILLS (if applicable)

1)_____________________________________________________________________
2)_____________________________________________________________________
3)_____________________________________________________________________
4)_____________________________________________________________________

IX. AWARDS, HONORS

1)_____________________________________________________________________
2)_____________________________________________________________________
3)_____________________________________________________________________
4)_____________________________________________________________________
X. PERSONAL STATEMENT
Attach an additional sheet with your response to the following question or type your response on this page (ONE PAGE MAXIMUM)

HOW DO YOU FEEL A RESEARCH EXPERIENCE WILL BENEFIT YOU?