Hi!

Each week we compile and share information about exciting opportunities related to undergraduate research on and off campus. We try not to repeat opportunities from week to week but you can always look back on past messages which are archived on our website.

Here's what's included in our newsletter this week:

1. iDigBio Natural History Collections Summer Internship 2020
2. Summer REU: Undergraduate Research in Educational Data Mining
3. NSF BIT SURE Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Summer 2020 (repeat listing)
4. Fralin Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (repeat listing)
5. Apply to present: Engaged Scholar Symposium at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
6. Apply to present: VT's Annual Research Conference

1. iDigBio Natural History Collections Summer Internship 2020

iDigBio is the national coordinating center for NSF’s 10-year Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC) program, which is guided by the vision to digitize and mobilize hundreds of millions of vouchered natural history museum specimens for research. These digitized data constitute a primary platform for “Big Data” research in the biodiversity sciences. Once aggregated, they are freely available for education, outreach, and other Broader Impacts activities. iDigBio strives to further opportunities in education, outreach, and broadening participation in collections science. In this effort, we are offering 10 summer internship positions at the Florida Museum of Natural History collections in Gainesville, Florida in 2020.

Program Description:

The iDigBio Summer Internship program will provide funding for undergraduate students from accredited institutions to work within a partnering natural history collection (see below for lab descriptions) over an 8 week period during the summer of 2020. Interns will be expected to help with the digitization, curation, and research efforts in their lab, with options to complete their own research project. Interns will participate in virtual and in-person meet-ups with their cohort to build professional skills including, but not limited to: grant writing, scientific poster designs, and scientific writing throughout their cohort year (March - October 2020). Interns will also receive funding to attend a professional meeting in 2020 to disseminate their research and experience to the greater science community. Interns will also have the option to participate as peer mentors for subsequent cohorts.

Application deadline is February 28, 2020. Apply today

Read more about the program here.

2. Summer REU: Undergraduate Research in Educational Data Mining
The primary goal of this inter-disciplinary REU Site program is to expose ten high quality undergraduate students to advanced topics in analytics, data mining, and visualization techniques as applied to data from the education domain. Students will participate in projects with the central theme of improving instructional technology design, enhancing academic curricula and modeling learning experiences. This focus on education-centered analysis will provide the participating undergraduate students a deeper understanding of both general data mining techniques and a broader taste for educational design. This REU Site program will make it a priority to engage and recruit under-represented minorities and women to pursue multi-disciplinary careers that transcend computer science and educational sciences. Careful student-student and student-mentor(s) pairings, as well as opportunities for developing organically-formed partnerships will foster an inclusive academic culture.

Each candidate will receive a $6000 stipend for the ten-week duration. Lodging is provided at Mason dormitories. Meals are also covered at $25/day, and we will also cover some travel expenses to Mason.

To learn more, see the Projects page.

Follow the instructions here to apply.

3. NSF BIT SURE Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Summer 2020
Hosted by North Carolina State University, this 10-week program focuses on advanced sequencing tools that are transforming the way biologists conduct research and inclusive science. Participants learn about sequencing techniques, prepare samples in the lab, and participate in professional development opportunities and site visits. A series of workshops and service-learning opportunities promote diversity in science and learning.
Our alumni prepared this short video describing the program: youtu.be/Gi1IW_bRqS4

BIT SURE participants receive a stipend, housing, and a food allowance.

The application is available on our website: go.ncsu.edu/BITSURE. The deadline is February 14th, 2020.

4. Fralin Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program
The Fralin Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship program (SURF) is a 10-week training program designed to give motivated Virginia Tech undergraduates the opportunity to engage in full-time (~40 hrs/week) life science based research and related professional development activities that mirror graduate training.

The goal is to offer students experiences that will help them determine if they want to pursue a career in research while they develop skills for graduate school. The program includes weekly research and professional development seminars, periodic social events, and a final symposium during which students will present their research. 15 students will be selected to participate in the training program during summer 2020 and receive a $4000 stipend. Only open to Virginia Tech students. Learn more and apply here. Please note that you must secure a VT faculty research mentor before you apply. Application deadline: February 24, 2020 at noon.
5. Apply to present: Engaged Scholar Symposium at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is reaching out for abstracts on research, creative works, and service learning projects from all disciplines to be presented at their Engaged Scholar Symposium. Deadline to apply is February 6.

6. Apply to present: VT’s Annual Research Conference
The annual Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship conference will take place throughout the day on Friday, April 24 in the Newman Library. This free conference is designed to be an accessible and open opportunity for students to present and share their work with peers and the VT Community at large. Presentation formats will include printed posters, interactive digital posters (primary geared towards digital humanities), orals, performances, and installations. More information about the conference, including a student registration link is available online. The registration deadline is April 8, 2020 at noon.

Have a great week!

Best,
Keri

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