Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program
Genetics, Genomics & Development, Biochemistry, Molecular & Cell Biology, and Biophysics, Cornell University

June 2 - August 9, 2013

Students will develop a meaningful research agenda and conduct research with a faculty mentor. Students will also present their research in oral and written presentations.

Eligibility: Most students entering their junior and senior years majoring in the life sciences with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher. Preference will be given to students with strong interest in gaining research experience in preparation for graduate study. Members of underrepresented minority groups, students with disabilities, and women are encouraged to apply. Participants in the REU program must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Students who have completed the bachelor's degree by May of this academic year are not eligible for REU programs, but are invited to apply to the University's graduate programs (see http://mbg.cornell.edu/).

Compensation: The stipend will be $3,400. In addition to the stipend, housing in an on-campus residence hall with other REU students is provided, along with supplemental compensation for transportation while on campus. A travel budget to and from Ithaca is also provided.

Application Procedure:

1. Please complete the application form below. The application, including transcript and letters of recommendation, are due by January 15, 2013, with rolling admission until spaces are filled.

2. Please request two letters of recommendation from faculty members or employers familiar with your abilities, interests, and motivation towards research. Please include with your application the complete e-mail addresses and regular mail addresses of the individual providing the letter. Letters may be sent via regular mail to the address below, or by e-mail (preferred) to MBG_REU@cornell.edu

3. Please send a copy (unofficial is fine) of your transcript either by e-mail or to the address below.

REU Program in the Life Sciences
c/o Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics
107 Biotechnology Building
526 Campus Road
Ithaca, NY 14853-2703
Attn: Program Manager

MBG_REU@cornell.edu

The application can be found at the following link:
https://cornell.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_7WGTh3lJVSRq0qV
In the post-genomic era of Biological and Biomedical research, progress relies heavily on expertise not only in Biology, but also in Computation, Physics, Chemistry, and Engineering. Cornell has a long-standing tradition of excellence in these areas and is ranked among the top research universities for graduate research in the life sciences.

With over a hundred different research laboratories to choose from and state of the art facilities, our Ph.D. programs offer an extensive and flexible curriculum designed to prepare students to tackle the scientific challenges of the 21st century.

The research interests of our faculty provide an interdisciplinary and vibrant environment, covering topics such as: regulation of gene expression, cell biology, population and evolutionary genetics, developmental biology, chromosome and genome stability, stem cell biology, membrane trafficking, genetics and genomics, cell signaling, biophysics, structural biology, RNA structure and function, neurobiology, enzymology, nutrition, virology and pathogenesis.

Learn more about the three Ph.D. Graduate Fields hosted by our Department through the following web sites:

Field of Genetics, Genomics, and Development (http://www.gendev.cornell.edu)
Field of Biochemistry, Molecular, and Cell Biology (www.bmcb.cornell.edu)
Field of Biophysics (http://www.biophysics.cornell.edu)
Testimonials from some of our current and past PhD students:

"The highly collaborative environment at Cornell was one of the main reasons I decided to join the BMCB program. Many labs work in similar areas, which allows them to hold joint journal clubs, discuss problems, and troubleshoot protocols. It’s great to have the entire building as a resource whenever you have a question because chances are someone is willing and able to help. Everyone in the department is very supportive and friendly, which makes for a great working environment."

"After my undergraduate studies at SUNY at Albany, I worked as a lab technician in a cancer research center in Albany for a few years. I always wanted to further my education and the BMCB program turned out to be the perfect fit. The diversity of the research conducted here allowed me to explore different fields. Most importantly, the BMCB program gives me access to a wide variety of cutting edge research tools. The well-structured nature of the BMCB program helped me settle in the graduate school lifestyle rather easily. Also, the friendliness of the students and the availability of the professors create a comfortable and conducive learning atmosphere."

"Very few colleges around the world can offer the combination of world-class research facility, education and picturesque surroundings of gorges, waterfalls and lakes. Therefore choosing Cornell was a no-brainer, knowing that Cornell can provide excellent training, productivity, as well as a peaceful and healthy lifestyle that are unimaginable in big cities. The graduate program includes researchers in various fields, anything from population genetics to structural biology of single molecules. The wide range of expertise and research topics creates many collaborations and interdisciplinary studies that prepare a student well for future challenges. The friendly, helpful and collaborative environment in the program makes learning and research much more efficient and enjoyable."

"Why Cornell? Simply because of the environment—not only the natural setting of the Finger Lakes area, which is "gorgeous", but the friendly nature of the departments, professors, staff, and students. Everything combines to make you wake up every day, happy to go to the lab and continue on your experiments. The Graduate School, as well as the BMCB program, really work for the students. Everyone wants you to succeed. Also, the interdisciplinary way in which the grad programs are built not only allows you to make connections outside your field, but makes learning new things and applying them easy. After visiting for a weekend and noticing all of these things, and knowing the kind of research that is done here every day, how could I not come to Cornell?"

Students can apply separately to each one of our Ph.D. programs using the links on each Graduate Field website or interactively through the Cornell Graduate School web site at www.gradschool.cornell.edu.

Applications are due by December 8 for fall 2013 admission.

All students accepted by one of our graduate fields are fully supported. Currently (2012-2013) students receive a stipend of $30,533 per year, full tuition and individual health insurance.

We invite you to visit our websites to learn more about our faculty research interests and how to become part of the Cornell community.

We look forward to receiving your application!