Brandeis University seeks qualified applicants for an NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program in the Biological Sciences for a 10-week summer period (June 1 - August 5, 2011). Stipends of $5000, plus housing costs and meal allowances will be awarded to each participant. Participants must be US citizens or permanent residents and should have completed their sophomore or junior year of study and be enrolled in an accredited undergraduate college or university. We especially welcome applications from students of under-represented groups in science, or who come from economically-disadvantaged backgrounds (for example, first-generation college students), or who come from academic institutions with limited resources for research, or who are students with disabilities (i.e., a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities).

Selected students will be matched with a faculty researcher, from among 50 in the biological sciences, who will mentor the student through an independent research project using modern cell and molecular visualization techniques. Students will participate in weekly lunch seminars, which will include faculty research presentations, ethics discussions and professional development activities such as panel discussion with students and postdoctoral fellows from the Greater Boston area concerning careers in medicine, biotechnology and research. Students will develop a written synopsis of their summer work, with feedback and editing, and they will participate in a capstone symposium including poster presentations.

Please complete the application found on pages 2 & 3. Be sure to include the material listed in the checklist on page 3.
APPLICATION FACE SHEET

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM: NSF REU in Cell & Molecular Visualization
June 1 - August 5, 2011

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Your Name________________________________________________________________
Home Address_____________________________________________________________

Name of your college/university: _____________________________________________
Campus mailing address: _____________________________________________________

Campus or Cell Phone Number:_______________________________________________
eMail: ___________________________________________________________________

This summer you will be a (circle one): Rising Junior or Rising Senior

Major or Field of Concentration(s)___________________________________________
Current cumulative grade point average (GPA)_________________________________

Are you a student from an under-represented group in science [e. g., African-American, Latino/Hispanic, Native American, Alaska Native], or do you come from an economically-disadvantaged background [e. g., first-generation college student], or do you come from an institution with limited resources for research, or are you a student with a disability? If yes, please clarify ____________________________________________________________

Your research interests are (circle all that apply):
molecular biology, genetics, gene regulation, developmental biology, cell biology, neurobiology, computational neuroscience, genomics, cancer, signal transduction, vision, brain-language relationship, biochemistry, structural biology, or other (if other, please describe below)

If there are specific Brandeis faculty members with whom you would like to work, please list them. Consult Brandeis’ web site: http://www.bio.brandeis.edu/research.html.

1st choice________________________________________ 2nd choice_____________________
3rd choice_______________________________________ 4th choice_______________________
INFORMATION FOR THE APPLICANT:

A completed application includes all items listed below in the checklist.

Application checklist:
_____ (1) the application face sheet (preceding page)
_____ (2) a complete transcript, including Fall semester grades of the current academic year.
_____ (3) recommendation letters from two faculty members. Their recommendation letters should be returned to you in a sealed and signed envelope, and you should include them with your application form.
_____ (4) a one-page essay (at least 200 words) describing your academic and research goals and how participation in this program would help you achieve these goals. If you have any previous research experience, please include it in the essay. Include your long-term goals: graduate school, medical school, work in biotech or industry, etc.
_____ (5) this page which includes whether you do or do not waive your rights to see your letters of recommendation:

The Federal Education and Privacy Act of 1974 gives enrolled students the right to see their letters of recommendation unless they have explicitly waived that right. Please check one:

__________ I waive my right of access to the recommendations

__________ I do not waive my right of access to the recommendations

_________________________________________  __________
signature of student                      date

Please mail your assembled application package to:

Dr. Joan Press
Brandeis University
Rosenstiel Center  MS029
Waltham, MA 02454
press@brandeis.edu

DEADLINE: March 31, 2011

Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.