Top O’ The Winter, REU Applicant!!

Thank you for your interest in our National Science Foundation Ocean Sciences Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program. Enclosed you will find the necessary items (application form, two blank letters of recommendation, affirmative action information sheet), helpful information (a list of potential mentors at the Center for Great Lakes Studies and their areas of interest), and our wishes of best luck. We expect about 80 applications for 9 fellowships, but don’t let that put you off. All of life is like that, and you can’t get it if you don’t try! If you have a decent academic record and can write an intelligible and personalized statement of interest you stand a good chance of success. Choose your references for the two letters carefully: the people need to know you.

The REU experience is quite a bit of fun combined with some good, hard, career-developing work. You will be in the company of about a dozen other college-age peers, a few high school students, graduate students at UWM, and the research staff. Regular gatherings will be arranged to soften your transplant shock and exchange ideas. It’s a comfortable and often informal atmosphere. If you hail from outside the Milwaukee area, your transportation to and from Milwaukee and housing in decent dormitory facilities will be provided in addition to a living stipend. You will experience all the phases of aquatic scientific research including as much field sampling work as possible. The session runs 10 weeks from 05 June through 11 August 2006.

This year we are continuing a successful program concept in interdisciplinary team research, using our small lake and coastal zone research programs as the foundation. Opportunities in physics (circulation, wind stress), geology (erosion, mineral precipitation), optics (light penetration, UV radiation, photochemistry), chemistry (atmospheric deposition, elemental cycling) biology (plankton productivity, benthos, fish ecology and recruitment, animal behavior), and mathematics (modeling spatial and temporal variation) will be applied to research projects in a collaborative manner. Extensive fieldwork and contributory individual projects will mark this as pertinent experience for 21st Century careers. More traditional one-on-one projects will also continue, particularly in aquaculture and classical geology.

Please be sure to have your transcripts forwarded to us, complete the application form, and encourage your references to write sparkling but truthful letters on your behalf. You must still be enrolled in an undergraduate institution for the Fall of 2006 (i.e., Junior standing, but a “with it” Sophomore will also be considered) and be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien. Residents of Puerto Rico are eligible.

We encourage students with less well-developed career plans and/or experience. If however you have already identified areas of interest, you can help yourself, and us, by identifying one or more potential scientist-mentors whose research appeals to you. This will aid us in matching you with an appropriate, available mentor.

Hoping your completed application package makes it to the short list, we remain

At your service,

Russell L. Cuhel and Carmen Aguilar

REU Program Directors

P.S. If by chance you are not among the selected applicants and wish a more candid letter than “sorry, you were not selected” for information purposes, sign and return this letter with your application.
Name___________________________________________________________________________

Gender: M F Social Security # _________________________

Mail Address at School ______________________________________________ School Phone (       ) ______________
_________________________________________________________________

Permanent Address _________________________________________________ Perm. Phone (       ) ______________
_________________________________________________________________ Email:____________________________________

Education (list all Colleges/Universities attended and provide transcripts from each)

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HIGHEST DEGREE OFFERED BY YOUR INSTITUTION IN LETTERS AND SCIENCE (CIRCLE):

AA BS/BA MS/MA PhD/ DSc

ON A SEPARATE PAGE, PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF (A) APPLICABLE EXPERIENCE; AND (B) RESEARCH INTERESTS AND YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THIS PROGRAM.

Instructions:
1. Complete this application form completely. Attach resume if available. _____May we forward your file to a more appropriate site if we have no mentor available for your specific interest?
2. Obtain two letters of reference on the enclosed reference forms. We will inform you where we have forwarded your file. Check and sign.
3. Request that a copy of your transcript(s) be forwarded to the address listed below.
4. All materials must be received by March 10, 2006 at the address listed below.

Signature  _______________________________ Date_____________________________

_____ I would like to be informed of my Status by Email

Research Experience for Undergraduates
Center for Great Lakes Studies
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
600 East Greenfield Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 382-1700
cglsreu@uwm.edu, www.uwm.edu/Dept/GLWI/reu.html

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Section I (To be completed by applicant).

Name of Student ____________________________________________________________

I agree that the recommendation I am requesting shall be held in confidence, and I hereby waive any rights I may have to examine it  ___Yes  ___No

Date __________________________ Applicant’s Signature ___________________________

Section II (To be completed by reference).

Please type or attach a brief personal assessment of the candidate’s academic accomplishments and his/her ability to participate in and benefit from a work-experience research program in aquatic science. The selection committee relies heavily on these comments.

I would rate this student in the top __________ % of his/her class.

Signature __________________________ Title __________________________

Name (legible) __________________________ Institution __________________________

Address __________________________ City/State/ZIP __________________________

Telephone __________________________ Email: __________________________

Return by March 10, 2006
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The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is committed to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity principles as cornerstones to successful recruitment. To assess our efforts and to comply with State and Federal regulations we must monitor our applicant pools for all REU internships. We would appreciate your assistance by completing this form, placing it in the envelope enclosed, and returning it to us. Your response is voluntary and the information provided will be used solely for affirmative action purposes.

Department Name: Center for Great Lakes Studies
Vacant Position #: N/A

Position Title: REU Internship
Application Deadline: March 10, 2006

1. Ethnic Group
   _____Black    _____Asian/Indian/Pacific Islander    _____White
   _____Hispanic    _____Native American/Eskimo    _____Other (please specify) ____________

2. Gender
   _____Male    _____Female

3. Do you qualify as a handicapped person for affirmative action purposes?*
   _____Yes    _____No       If yes:   ____Hearing   ____Vision   ____Learning
                        ____Speech    ____Orthopedic

4. How did you learn of this vacancy?
   _____Internet Search (SITE: __________________________________________________)
   _____Response to advertisement in ____________________________________________
   _____Solicited by Department
   _____Referred by individual
   _____Response to internal internship listing
   _____Referred by the following job registry or placement service_____________________________
   _____Other _______________________________________________________________________

   Name (please print) ___________________________________________________________________

*HANDICAP STATUS
“Handicapped person” means any individual who has a physical or mental impairment, which substantially limits one or more life activities, has a record of, or is regarded as having such impairment.

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Title IX Employer