Welcome

The Autoimmunity Institute (AI) at Allegheny Health Network (AHN) is seeking applicants for its Class of 2017 Summer Internship Program. The AI Summer Internship Program, based in Pittsburgh, PA, offers undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree students the opportunity to conduct an independent research project over the course of an eight-week internship under the mentorship of an AI faculty member. Interns gain experience in all aspects of the research process including reviewing relevant literature, developing experimental protocols, conducting experiments at the bench, and analyzing data. Interns also write an abstract and deliver an oral presentation of their project to AI faculty and staff at the end of the internship. In order to highlight the translational nature of our research, our program includes numerous opportunities for interns to shadow physicians as well as a series of didactic lectures focused on specific disease areas and human subjects research.

Application process

Interested students can apply at the link below beginning on December 1, 2016. All applications must be completed by February 17, 2017.

Application link

http://apply.interfolio.com/38978

To complete your application, you will be asked to upload your current resume and current transcript (unofficial is acceptable). You will also be asked to identify a current or former professor to complete an anonymous letter of recommendation. You will receive instructions for this step during the application process, but you may wish to notify your professor of your request in advance. Recommendation letters must come from a faculty member.

Timeline

February 17, 2017: Application deadline (the online system will not accept applications after this date)
February/March 2017: Candidate telephone interviews, positions offered to selected applicants.
June 5, 2017: Class of 2017 internships begin
July 28, 2017: Class of 2017 internships end

Internships are supported by a stipend or by academic credit from your school. Assistance with locating housing in Pittsburgh during the summer is available upon request to students invited to participate in the internship program.
Previous projects

The following are examples of independent research projects conducted by AI interns:

• “Effect of Lupus Platelet-Associated Complement Protein C4d on Rat Photothrombotic Infarction”
• “Binding Efficiency of B-Cell Targeting Agents on B-Cells with Bound Complement C4d”
• “CVD Risk Factors and Events in the Pittsburgh SLE Cohort over 20 Years”
• “Cell-bound complement activation products in autoimmune thyroiditis”
• “Anti-Phospholipid Antibodies, PC4d, and Platelet Function”
• “Imaging Analysis of Adipose Function under Hypoxic Conditions in a Murine Model of SLE”

Participating Colleges and Universities

AI interns have joined our program from the following colleges and universities:

• Allegheny College
• Bucknell University
• Carnegie Mellon University
• Case Western Reserve University
• Chatham University
• Colgate University
• College of the Holy Cross
• Grove City College
• Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
• Penn State University
• Princeton University
• Saint Vincent College
• Trinity College (Dublin)
• University of Colorado
• University of Notre Dame
• University of Pittsburgh
• University of Virginia
• Villanova University
• Virginia Tech
• Washington & Jefferson College
• Westminster College

Feedback from previous AI interns

• “It was great to see both sides of the equation - the research that strives to bring patients better care and the patients that actually need the care.”
• “I was expected to contribute and be productive - my work helped to advance the scientific understanding of autoimmune diseases”
• “My knowledge of protocols, benchwork, analysis, and autoimmunity has increased significantly.”
• “I was an essential part of a research team.”
• “This internship allowed me to be creative and think like a scientist.”
• “The lectures by the physicians and researchers were amazing.”
• “We were not only allowed but encouraged to figure things out for ourselves.”
• “The entire experience has been an essential part of my developing career plans that I never knew was missing.”
• “I thought the program was extremely well-designed and well-scheduled.”

Questions
email: aaaairesearch@ahn.org