Robert L. Mayock Student Research Fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

Statement of Purpose and Description of Fellowship

The Robert L. Mayock Student Research Fellowship will provide opportunities for medical students and undergraduate students in their senior year of college to work full-time for 8-10 weeks during the summer/fall in one of the research laboratories of the Allergy, Pulmonary and Critical Care Division of the University of Pennsylvania. Students from the University of Pennsylvania, as well as from other institutions are eligible to apply. The fellowship experience will also include attendance at the daily clinical and research conferences of the Division and presentation of the candidate’s work to a Division research conference. Accepted applicants will receive a stipend of $3500 and will be reimbursed up to $1500 to cover travel-related expenses to attend a scientific meeting to present their research. The deadline for receipt of applications is March 1st of each year.

This fellowship honors The “Father of Pulmonary Medicine at PENN”, Robert L. Mayock, M.D., who founded the division in 1955, at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, one of the first in the nation. Dr. Mayock trained more than 180 pulmonary physicians during his career, many of which are today’s leaders in the field of academic and clinical pulmonary medicine and was recognized as the prototypical gentleman’s physician – caring, dedicated and compassionate. His professional colleagues recognized him as a trailblazer in chest medicine and for all who trained under him, Dr. Mayock taught them the character of a good physician- to always respect patients and to consider the whole person and not just the symptoms that made the patient ill. Through the generosity of an anonymous donor the Robert L. Mayock Student Research Fellowship was established to preserve his legacy and recognize his many contributions to pulmonary medicine as an innovator, clinician, mentor and teacher. Through this program exceptional students will be encouraged to pursue a career in teaching, research and/or patient care modeled after the life and work of Dr. Mayock.
Operation of the
Robert L. Mayock Student Research Fellowship

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

• University undergraduate seniors or medical students
• Interest in pulmonary research/lung biology

APPLYING FOR THE FELLOWSHIP

Applications are included with this packet. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Nilam Mangalmurti, M.D., Director of the Robert L. Mayock Student Research Fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at nspatel@mail.med.upenn.edu.

To apply for the fellowship, the following must be submitted together before March 1st of each year:

• Completed application
• CV/resume
• A letter of recommendation
• Most current transcript

The completed application, CV/resume, current official transcript and the letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope should be returned to:

Robert L. Mayock Student Research Fellowship
c/o Nilam Mangalmurti, M.D.
Perelman School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania
Gates Building, Room 5043
3600 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA  19104

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES

The oversight committee will meet in March of each year to review and decide on the most qualified applicant(s). The following individuals have agreed to serve on this committee:

• Horace DeLisser
• Steven Albelda
• Michael Beers
• Nilam Mangalmurti

Criteria to be used for the selection of the fellows include:

• Previous research experience
• Previous academic success
• The enthusiasm of the candidate for the fellowship as reflected in the application and the strength of the letter of recommendation
E-mail notification of the decisions will be sent to the applicants by April 1st of each year and the selected fellow(s) will be presented annually to the Division Awards Committee.

FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS
- Preparation of a 2-3 page research plan/proposal before the start of the fellowship. (The format to be is below)
- Participation in research for 10 weeks continuously, June – September. (Accommodations will be made for 3rd and 4th year students using the fellowship to fulfill their scholarly pursuit to do their research in the fall).
- Research to be conducted in one of the research laboratories of the Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Division
- Attendance at pulmonary clinical and research conferences
- Presentation of research at a Division research conference

STIPEND
A stipend of $3500 will be provided.

LABORATORY OPPORTUNITIES
On a rotating basis, specific labs will be designated each year to host the students. The laboratory experiences that will be available are the following:

- Epithelial Biology (Beers)
- Acute Lung Injury and Pulmonary Vascular Biology (DeLisser, Mangalmurti, Christofidou-Solomidou)
- Thoracic Malignancies (Albelda, Vachani)
- HIV Biology/Pulmonary Microbiome (Collman)
- Translational Research (Christie, Meyer, Diamond, Shashaty)

Once selected, the student will meet with the faculty supervisor (2-3 months before the start date) to design a meaningful, independent research experience. The research plan will be submitted to the director of the fellowship for review before the start of the research.

PROMOTION OF THE FELLOWSHIP
Information about the fellowship will be posted at the School of Medicine (www.med.upenn.edu/mdresearchopps/shortterm_opps.shtml) and Lung Center web sites. The fellowship will also be promoted to the first year students in the fall and to the second year students during their respiratory course.
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PROJECT PROPOSAL

Please attach a 2-3 page, concisely written description of the proposed research using the format below. (Please note that it is expected that you will write this proposal. For instance, it cannot include excerpts lifted directly from a mentor’s research grant).

a. Specific Aims
First, state the hypothesis to be tested. Second, state what the specific research proposed in this application is intended to accomplish.

b. Background and Significance
State (1) the fundamental problem motivating this area of research, and (2) the importance of your project, i.e., how your specific aims will contribute to the solution of this problem.

c. Research Design
Describe the designed experiments/procedures to be used to accomplish the specific aims, along with a realistic, estimated timetable.

d. Methods
Describe the techniques that will be used and how data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted (less than ½ page). Descriptions should be brief, for example: “I will use standard immunoprecipitation techniques, in vitro translation...etc, which are already used routinely in the lab of Dr.____”.

e. References
Cite at least five (5) used to prepare this proposal