Summer 2015

Leah Carroll
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Tim Siauw
STEM advisor, SURF program

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Humanities:

I was able to visit archival libraries all over the world - The British Library, the National Art Library in London, the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, the New York Historical Society Archives, and the Smithsonian and Library of Congress in DC.

I was able to spend the summer becoming an expert in mid-nineteenth century theater history without just rushing into the details that most obviously pertained to my event, the Astor Place Riot. That breadth allowed me to find connections that no other scholars have talked about.

-Eli
Alexandra Roedder, Music
The Violoncello and the Romantic Era: 1820-1920
Mentor: Professor Richard Taruskin, Music

Matthew Lockshin, Philosophy,
Nietzsche's Prophesy: the Idea of Eternal Recurrence as a Consequence of Nihilism
Mentor: Professor Hans Sluga, Philosophy

JAMES JOYCE'S FINNEGANS WAKE
Tea, Urine, and the Resurrection of All Things
Cliff Mak
30 Aug 2007

Agnes Varda: A Woman's Take on the French New Wave
Social Sciences:

The SURF award permitted me to travel to Cap-Haitian, Haiti so that I could conduct ethnographic research first-hand for my senior honors thesis project. Without the SURF stipend none of my on-the-ground research would have been possible. This included almost twenty in-depth interviews and a 2-month participant observation position with an organization. The SURF award allowed for me to live and travel safely while in Haiti conducting research, and for that I could not be more grateful.

-Julia
Social Sciences

Amy Marie Jimenez, Psychology
“Encoding and retrieval of emotional pictures in major depressive disorder”
Mentor: Robert Knight, Psychology

Devin Beaulieu, Geography
Bolivia’s Constituent Assembly: Remapping the State
Mentor: Michael Watts, Geography

Joshua Begley, American Studies
“Well-Intentioned in the Worst Way: Retracing the Life of James Plemon Coleman”
Mentor: Victoria Robinson, Ethnic Studies & American Cultures

Gene Marie Tempest, History, French
“Anti-Nazism and the Atelier Populaire: The Memory of Nazi Collaboration in the Posters of Mai ’68”
Mentor: Susanna Barrows, History
Science/Engineering:

The SURF award gave me the financial resources to spend an entire summer working extensively within my lab. By investing so much time in lab, I was able to pick up the pace of my work and progress through my project at a great pace, something that is usually not possible during the school year. Additionally, the mentoring from Nathan and symposium experience have been phenomenal in developing my confidence in research and ability to demonstrate and speak about my work.

-Neha
Catherine Ngo, MCB, Chinese Language, 
“Positional Cloning of the curly mutation in *Xenopus tropicalis*”
Mentor: Richard Harland, MCB

Julie Himes, IB, “Cultivation and Hatchling Feeding Behavior of the Blue-Ringed Octopus *Hapalochlaena lunulata*”
Mentor: Roy Caldwell, IB

Sara Weinstein, IB, “The Progression, prevalence, and transmission of Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis infection in *Batrachoseps attenuatus* salamanders”
Mentor: Cheryl Briggs, IB

Hongsik Park, IB
“Feature detection in rats”
Mentor: Yang Dan, MCB
Personal transformation:

I am so grateful to be a SURF fellow. In fact, this is the first fellowship I received. Because I want to pursue a Ph. D, this fellowship sure makes me a more competitive candidate. But most importantly, I learned so much thanks to this fellowship. I learned to write a proposal, to prepare CPHS protocol, to work with mentors, to analyze data, to present at the conference, and especially to be a full-time researcher. After this experience, I realized that research is actually really fun and I am more confident in my decision in spending 5 years in grad-school.

-Hai
Personal transformation:

I think the most important thing I learned this summer is that I am very much capable of conducting research. Before, I was always hesitant about research because I was intimidated. However, this summer allowed me to see just how capable I truly am and how rewarding research can be. I was able to stay true to my interviewees and my own values while still contributing to existing knowledge.

-Julissa

This experience gave me a lot of confidence in myself as an individual. I have always been scared to call myself a scientist, or to believe that I can contribute significantly as a single entity, but seeing my work develop this summer has changed that perception.

-Neil
Personal transformation:

The financial support made it possible to do my research full time, but the not so tangible part of the support was in the collaboration that the program as a whole offered me. To work with such talented and committed scholars was an honor and helped to foster my scholarly abilities.

Through the process I was able to develop my academic voice and gain more confidence not only as an academic, but also with my topic. After my SURF paper was published, I used it as a writing sample for my graduate school applications. I am happy to say that I was accepted to the school of my choice and will work with a professor who is top in my field.

I used my SURF paper to talk with other students about self-advocacy and I sent it to organizations who advocate for people with learning disabilities. As a result, I have been asked to present my research on the topic by various organizations as an educational tool.

In addition, it gave me great confidence to self-advocate while I encountered the very thing I was researching.
Why SURF?

- Opportunity for in-depth exploration of a specialized topic you are passionate about
- Experience working with a faculty mentor
- Graduate School preparation
- Contribute to body of knowledge
- Accomplish something you are really proud of!
- Get to know other students who are just as motivated as you are!
- Challenge yourself and gain confidence
SURF benefits

- Summer stipend:
  - SURF/L&S: $3,750 + $500 completion stipend
  - SURF/Rose Hills: $5,000 + $1,000 lab funding

- Research Cluster meetings (Orientation in May, weekly meetings throughout summer)

- Presentation and poster-making coaching and workshops

- Social events

- Work-in-Progress Presentations and Posters at SURF Conference, August 20-21, 2015

- Social science and humanities students may publish in the SURF conference proceedings journal on escholarship.org
SURF Programs

SURF/ Letters and Sciences & SURF/Rose Hills Independent (Juniors)
• Student-initiated research
• Translates into a senior thesis

SURF/Rose Hills Experience (Sophomores and Juniors)
• Exposure to faculty-initiated research under a UCB or UCSF faculty mentor

SURF/Rose Hills Independent (Seniors graduating May ’15)
• Will translate into a publication for which student is one of the authors
Who is eligible? SURF L&S

• College of Letters and Science

• Any major

• Graduating Fall 2015 or Spring 2016 (later grad dates *may* be possible if you are currently a junior and will complete honors thesis by Spring 2016)

• 3.0 or better Berkeley GPA

• Any citizenship status (international, AB540 OK)

• Research will lead to a senior thesis to be evaluated in a graded course taken in the 2015-16 academic year.
Who is eligible: SURF/Rose Hills

• Eligible major in science, mathematics, or engineering (see website)
• 3.25 or better Berkeley GPA (3.5 preferred)
• U.S. Citizen
• Permanent address is in an eligible Southern Californian County
• A current sophomore, junior, or senior (senior=May ‘15 grad)
• For SURF/Rose Hills Independent: For juniors, research will lead to a senior thesis to be evaluated in a graded course; for seniors, research will lead to a publication for which applicant will be an author.
Who is eligible: SURF/Rose Hills

• Eligible majors:
  • Life Sciences: **Integrative Biology**, Microbial Biology, **Molecular and Cell Biology**, Genetics and Plant Biology

• Eligible counties:
  • San Diego, Imperial, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino

**Bolded** majors denote eligibility for both SURF/L&S and SURF/Rose Hills
Obligations

A. Spring and Summer

• Projects with human subjects: submit human subjects protocol to CPHS by March 15 (vulnerable human subjects) or April 1 (all other projects with human subjects). Your faculty sponsor must also take the CITI course or be “grandfathered” in.

• Attend 2-hour orientation during RRR week in May

• Submit photo and project description by June 1

• Devote 8 weeks full-time to your SURF research (no summer school classes longer than six weeks, no internships or employment during that time)

• Attend 4+ mid-summer cluster meetings (can be via Skype)

• Be present in Berkeley at least one week before the conference to practice your presentation.

• Participate in 1+ conference practice/poster feedback session

• Present your research August 20-21, 2015.
Obligations

B. Fall ‘15 and Spring ‘16

• Submit 1-2 page summary of progress and pending tasks, signed by your faculty mentor, by one week after the conference.

• Submit form with thank you to the donors and program evaluation by one week after the conference.

• Complete exit survey in May, 2016.

• SURF L&S and SURF/Rose Hills Independent for juniors: enroll in a course/courses during the 2015-2016 academic year that offer graded credit for your SURF project/senior thesis. Submit your thesis upon completion.

• SURF/Rose Hills Independent for graduating seniors: submit publication or publication draft by May 2016, at the latest.
What you need to succeed

All SURF Programs:

• A 3-5 page research proposal that is well written and reasoned

• Strong backing from a faculty member, including commitment to guiding your research and a letter of evaluation

• A budget is not required but a brief spending plan may be helpful in cases of large expenses
Elements of a good proposal

1. statement of purpose: the big picture
   - what you will do
   - why it is important
   - how you will do it

2. background and justification
   - Why do this project
   - What previous work/evidence supports this project

3. a project plan
   - concrete information such as research methods, preparation, personal qualifications and interest

Links for research proposal workshops, proposal guidance documents, and office hour sign-ups with the graduate mentors on the SURF resources page: surf.berkeley.edu
Other Application Materials

• Transcripts in pdf format
• Recommendation from your faculty mentor
• Does your research involve human subjects? (If you are conducting any kind of interview, it does)
  – Protocol must be turned in by 3/15/15 for vulnerable human subjects, 4/1/15 for others.
  (sooner is better)
Faculty Support

- Why is it necessary?
- Strategies for finding a mentor
- Getting a great letter of evaluation
  - not just a “sign-off”
  - needs to be very familiar with your project
- Requirements for mentors
  - regular faculty or lecturers appointed through Fall 2015
  - email and summer guidance

Attendance Workshop A as soon as possible to help develop a proposal and find a mentor! See Resources link on SURF website for dates and helpful documents: surf.berkeley.edu
Summer 2015 Deadline:

February 25, 2015

(Deadlines may shift slightly – keep an eye on the web site).

Questions?

Email us:

Leah Carroll (Director)

Tim Siauw  SURF advisor for math-science-engineering)

Kristi Govella  SURF advisor for humanities-social science)

surf@berkeley.edu
What you need to succeed

SURF/ Letters and Science

SURF/Rose Hills Independent
(Juniors and Seniors)

• A 3-5 page research proposal that is well written and reasoned

SURF/Rose Hills Experience (Sophomores and Juniors)

• A 4 page (double spaced) statement of research interest

• Strong backing from a faculty member, including commitment to guiding your research and a letter of evaluation

• A budget is not required but a brief spending plan may be helpful in cases of large expenses
Statement of Research Interest
(SURF/Rose Hills Experience)

Elements of a good statement

1. Student interest in project
   - why choose this topic?
   - Why is this research important?

2. Project tasks and goals
   - What do you plan to accomplish
   - How will you complete these goals
   - Timeline of when you will complete them

3. Preparedness
   - What qualifications do you bring to this project?
   - What prior experiences will help you succeed?

Link for the powerpoint on how to write the statement of research interest on the SURF resources page:

Surf.berkeley.edu