Sam’s REU Brain Dump

3-20-2018

Updated 5-9-2018

This year is all about structure, structure, STRUCTURE!

I want to have a full calendar ready to go for them when they arrive. Some things, like exactly which professor is speaking or which fun event we’re doing, don’t have to be fully decided, but we absolutely need the time and tentative place blocked out on the schedule.

Before they get here:

* Packing list
* Readings / expectations

Known Schedule Conflicts:

* Alicia gone May31-June 1 for Fordham University training
* Sam (and pretty much all other statisticians) have JSM from July 28-August 2
* Sam at a workshop 29-31 for USDA. (Agreed to this prior to knowing the REU dates)

“Working” Events

* CSAFE All-hands meeting, all-day June 11-13
* DCI Visit

“Fun” Events (Just ideas for now)

* Adventureland?
* Ames Pool
* Picnic at Ada Hayden
* Saylorville Lake?

Recurring Events

* Lecture & Lunch – every Friday. At 11am, have a lecture from a professor or graduate student on a topic related to statistics or forensics. These should be one-time, separate from the project topics the students will be working on all summer.
  + Dates: June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27 (9 dates)
  + Lecturer Ideas:

1. Alicia, overall CSAFE stuff (mission, projects, history, etc.)
2. Guillermo, shoe project
3. Heike, bullet project
4. Jennifer, stego project
5. Nick & Amy, handwriting project
6. Danica (?)
7. Susan (?)
8. Ulrike (?)
9. Someone else:
   1. Max, design of experiments (?)
   2. Kris de Brabanter (?)
   3. Dan Attinger, bloodstain pattern analysis
   4. Wolfgang (?)

* Professional Development – “Working Wednesdays” – (Sam, Sarah, Harlie, Stacy?) spend a couple of hours every Wednesday covering things that will help their careers / professionalism
  + Dates: June 6, 20, 27, July 11, 18, 25 (6 dates)
  + Topic ideas:

1. Resume/CV (Reach out to Karin Dunn)
   1. homework: re-do their resume
2. Cover letter for a job / internship (Sarah)
   1. homework: edit their cover letters
3. Professional communication (email) (Harlie)
4. Personal statement for graduate school application (Sarah)
5. Cultivating an online presence (Sam)
6. Elevator pitch (Stacy?)

* Other potential topics: asking good questions / prosthetic knowledge, build this into other parts, like profesh comm. and R coding. Cultivate independence throughout. your elevator pitch, the GRE (will be covered by Thelma harding)
* Campus-wide REU events: last year, had lunches every Monday.
  + Tentative Dates: June 4, 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
* Academic writing workshop led by Sarah – one hour a week
* Dates, topics, etc. tentative and up to Sarah
* Coincide with Sam’s blog assignments
* Sarah will edit posts. No longer have workshops.
* Learning R for data science
* Learning Github for submitting assignments and publishing to the web
* Public speaking skills
  + Amy’s torture idea: videotape 10 minute talks and have them watch and improve on their skills. count filler words, etc.
  + Present at show and tells on Monday

“Homeworks”

* Frequent R coding assignments
* Writing assignments related to forensic science