**Subject:**

Seeking Faculty with Summer Opportunities for Undergraduate Students

Hi Faculty Members,

Do you have summer opportunities appropriate for undergraduate students?  We want to match you with talented and interested UNC undergrads!

We are piloting a summer internship program for undergrads [potentially called Biostatistics Undergraduate Summer Internships or BUSI].

Hope that it is a win/win/win:  you get some help on your projects/undergrads get valuable experience/ your grad student(s) get mentoring opportunities.

What’s next?  Email me back by 2/22/22 with answers to the questions below. These items will help us ‘make a good match’ between faculty members with projects and undergrads who are interested.   You can expect to hear back from us with interested students’ information in early March.

Details below.  Thanks!

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**QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR POTENTIAL INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY:**

1. How many students are you interested in working with this summer?
2. What will the student(s) be doing? (2-3 sentences about the project)
3. Any special skills needed or preferred? (SAS/ R/ other courses?)
4. Paid or unpaid?
5. In person or potentially remote?
6. Do you have graduate student(s) working on this project that would be interested in serving as mentor(s)?
7. Estimate of ‘length of project’: (Examples:  5-10 hours for 4 weeks, 40 hours a week for about 10 weeks, flexible but likely approx. total of 30 hours across the entire summer, 10 hours a week starting in May and ending mid-July, …. Approximations are fine…)
8. Anything else you would like us to know to find a student who is a good fit for this project?

**INFO ABOUT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO MAY APPLY:**

* We are advertising this opportunity to our BSPH Biostatistics students as well as more widely to UNC undergraduates.
* BSPH Biostat Students: After one year in the BSPH Biostat program, most students have had {Intro Applied Biostat (500H), **SAS programming (511),** linear models (645), three semesters of calculus, discrete math, linear algebra, public health two semesters, epid,…some students may have had Bios 512, 650, 664, 668, 669, 635}
* We are advertising widely to other UNC-CH undergrads.  We are targeting students with interests and coursework in *statistics/programming/math*.
* Students from historically underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply.

**MORE ABOUT THIS PROGRAM / WHAT ARE THE UNDERGRADUATES LOOKING FOR IN AN INTERNSHIP?**

* Projects could take on a wide variety of forms… From the basics (data management in SAS or R, creating variables, writing documentation, data entry, data extraction, validation … short, time-limited projects) to more complex projects (data analyses with the potential for publication or simulations).  The projects could potentially morph into a senior honors project for faculty/students who are interested  - or  could be continued as part-time work in fall.  Or not.
* If you have graduate student(s) interested in serving as mentor(s), our BUSI student intern managers (Ann Marie Weideman & Taylor Krajewski) will provide mentorship training before the summer term begins. Mentors will help interns become familiar with the project, serve as a resource for questions related to the project and biostats in general, etc. They will essentially serve as a big buddy!
* Interns will be encouraged to participate in the UNC Summer Undergraduate Pipeline (SUP) program, which involves career development and an end-of-summer research symposium. The BUSI student intern managers will provide information about these opportunities to your graduate student mentors and summer interns.
* Students are different – and looking for different things –they bring to the table different goals and backgrounds. So feel free to share whatever projects you think are appropriate.
  + Some students are happy to have a low-key unpaid opportunity to get experience in any kind of research – several hours a week is good. They may be piecing together part time work and summer school.
  + Some are looking for a full- time research summer opportunity that will be helpful in preparing to apply to (bio)stat PhD programs.  We have some amazing undergrads -with experience and very strong backgrounds - who are capable of challenging projects.
  + Some want a part-time paid job in their area of interest.  The financial compensation is important and they need a substantive number of hours.
* We anticipate we will have more student interest than projects available. We will screen students and then send information to faculty so that you can interview and select your student.