October 19, 2020

Winter College Mini-Semester Program Announcement

To: Administrators/Professors/Science Department Chairs

Subject: 2021 Winter Mini-Semester

Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), Office of Educational Programs (OEP) seeks applicants for the Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists (WDTS) Mini-Semester Program. Selected students are invited to participate in a five-day virtual program developed to introduce participants to BNL’s science. The 2021 College Mini-Semester program will be held January 04 - 08, 2021. Participation in the course is limited to 40 students.

Program:
The program will be conducted by BNL researchers and will operate from 10:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. EST for five days. The 2021 Winter Mini-Semester program will introduce students to a diverse selection of BNL research projects, different pathways to scientific careers, and networking opportunities with the BNL scientific community and administrators. The program format includes an orientation, Scientific Computing Workshops, scientific and safety lectures, virtual tours of BNL’s research facilities, literature research assignments, and group oral presentations. BNL researchers and technical staff will engage with participants to support this unique experience. To learn more about BNL, see this video highlighting our facilities and research: https://youtu.be/csgXRVP0R3A

Eligibility:
This program is designed for underrepresented minorities in STEM. As per the Department of Energy, underrepresented minorities include Women, Hispanics, African Americans, and American Indians (http://energy.gov/articles/introducing-minorities-energy-initiative). Applicants must be U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and enrolled as part of a program at their school. Eligible students must be majoring in a STEM discipline, and have demonstrated strong abilities and interest in STEM. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.

Application Procedure:
1. College faculty selecting possible candidates must distribute the following link to their candidates, https://surveys.external.bnl.gov/n/WDTSMiniSemesterApplication.aspx
2. Students must complete an essay identifying three (3) BNL scientists, their research areas and why the student is interested in those scientist and research areas.
3. Students must provide a faculty recommendation. Upon completion of their application the student will receive a unique link that they will then forward to their selected faculty. Only one recommendation is needed.
4. Students that are accepted into the program will then have to complete additional OEP requirements immediately upon notification. Students that do not complete the OEP requirements on time will be disqualified from the program.

Application Deadline: On or before November 23, 2020

Student Notification By: December 4, 2020
**College/University Responsibility:**
We solicit your assistance in recommending highly qualified students for the program. To help ensure a smooth application and selection process, we recommend that you assist recommended students in meeting the necessary deadlines. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding the program.

**DOE Internship Opportunities:**
We are also proud to host internship opportunities for undergraduate students in our Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship (SULI) and the Community College Internship (CCI). Both of these offer a longer-term research internship, 10 weeks in summer and 16 weeks in fall and spring. These opportunities are open to all students. We highly encourage all of your recommended students to apply to the appropriate internship opportunities.

For SULI (4 year college/universities) please visit: https://science.osti.gov/wdts/suli/How-to-Apply
For CCI (community colleges) visit: https://science.osti.gov/wdts/cci/How-to-Apply

Note that the 2021 summer internship deadline is on January 12, 2021

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

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