Cenusa Bioenergy Research Internship Experience for Undergraduates May 28 – August 3, 2013*

Apply Now!

(Application deadline is March 15, 2013)

The summer 2013 CenUSA Bioenergy Research Internship Experience for Undergraduates will provide rich interdisciplinary training and engagement opportunities for undergraduate students in all areas of the bioenergy value chain to
Summer 2013 Cenusa Bioenergy Research Internship Experience

Program Overview

The 2013 CenUSA Bioenergy Research Internship Experience for Undergraduates will provide rich interdisciplinary training and engagement opportunities for undergraduate students in all areas of the bioenergy value chain to meet the workforce challenges of the emerging bioeconomy.

The research internship program will enroll a class of 12 students, with all students spending the first five days in the program at the Iowa State University site. While a portion of the students will remain at Iowa State University, several of the students will then travel to one of Cenusa Bioenergy’s partner institutions (depending on their research interests) to complete their summer program at a partner lab. All students will maintain contact with the program through distance technologies for weekly meetings, seminars, and final presentations.

Selected undergraduate interns will gain practical research skills in computer modeling, field methods, and/or experimental design by conducting independent projects under the guidance of experienced faculty and research scientists. Other activities of our CenUSA Bioenergy Internship Program are designed for social, leadership, and professional development of the undergraduate participants. Students selected for the program will work on interdisciplinary teams with faculty, graduate students, post-docs, and in some cases industrial partners.

This Research Internship Experience will provide students with a summer stipend, and housing and traveling allowances. The interns will expected to work in a research lab for 40 hours per week, participate in weekly lab meetings and all other scheduled events. At the end of the internship program, interns will be required to present their research findings at a poster symposium.

CenUSA Bioenergy internship program – includes stipend, travel, housing, field trip information.

CenUSA Bioenergy internship research project descriptions – When applying, students select their first, second, and third choices for their research focus areas.
Cenusa Bioenergy

Research Internship Experience

Program Dates: May 28 – August 3, 2013
Application Deadline: March 15, 2013

Stipend: $450 per week for ten weeks.

Travel: The program will refund student travel costs up to a predetermined limit. Our team will work with each participant individually to arrange travel.

Housing: Program participants will be housed in an on-campus four-bedroom apartment with other REU student participants. Free campus housing and an initial subsistence allowance will be provided.

Eligibility*: Undergraduate students studying agronomy, agricultural sciences or engineering and related disciplines are eligible. Participants must be US citizens or permanent residents. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

*Please note, an undergraduate student is defined as a student returning to undergraduate programs in the fall.

Notification Schedule: The deadline for application submission is Friday, March 15. The 2012 program participant group finalized by mid-April.

Program Directors: Dr. Patrick Murphy of Purdue University and Dr. Raj Raman of Iowa State University

Application steps - please be prepared to attach the following to your online application:

- PDF version of your resume

- Review the available projects on the Research Project Descriptions page and select your top three interests in priority order

- A letter explaining your interests in your selected research areas and a letter explaining any previous research experience (if applicable)

- A copy of an official or unofficial electronic academic transcript*

- Email address for two references. An email will be sent to your reference to upload a letter of recommendation
2013 Cenusa Bioenergy Research Project
Titles and Descriptions

(Indicate your top three choices in your application)

Project titles:

A. The influence of biochar on soil physical properties (Dr. Laird)
B. Laboratory studies of thermal depolymerization of plant polymers (Dr. Brown)
C. Pilot plant investigations of solvent liquefaction of lignocellulose to biocrude (Dr. Brown)
D. Analysis and Development of Biomass Densification Systems (Dr. Birrell)
E. Identification of sources for hazardous dust exposures of workers engaged in feedstock production (Drs. Schwab and Hanna)
F. Cellulosic Ethanol from Corn Stover – Calculating and Improving the Bottom Line (Dr. Karlen and Dr. Gary Gresham)
G. Thermochemical conversion (pyrolysis) work with switchgrass (Dr. Boateng)

Additional information on Cenusa Bioenergy is available at www.cenusa.iastate.edu

2013 Cenusa Bioenergy Internship Application*
Application available at: http://forms.engineering.iastate.edu/cenusa/reu

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