2012 REU Program in Systems Biology
research experiences for undergraduates

The University of Chicago
Institute for Genomics & Systems Biology
Chicago Center for Systems Biology

$4,000 Stipend
Research awards are based on academic excellence and potential. Students are given lab space to work on projects with mentor support.

Research Focus
The Chicago Center for Systems Biology focuses on how networks of genes interact to enable cells and organisms to respond to environmental and genetic variations.

Applicants
REU participants are selected from a nationwide pool of undergraduates. In 2011 there were five REU students from Yale University, Indiana University, the University of Chicago and Northwestern University.
The Chicago Center for Systems Biology (CCSB) seeks highly qualified undergraduates for Research Experiences for Undergraduate (REU) projects. Stipends of $4,000 per ten-week summer quarter (June 11 - August 17, 2012) for biology investigations, or per year for honors research activities, are available. They will be awarded on a competitive basis based on academic excellence, motivation, scientific potential, and career goals aligned with CCSB interests. Applicants with computational science backgrounds are especially encouraged to apply. Participants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Students must be enrolled in an accredited undergraduate college degree program with a concentration in a biological sciences related field.

If selected, students will be matched with a faculty researcher and other lab associates who will help mentor REU activities. There will be a mid-summer working lunch and journal club to discuss research projects and papers. At the conclusion of the REU, students will produce a written report and present research findings at a REU symposium.

CCSB is based at the University of Chicago but includes collaborating investigators located at Northwestern University and University of Illinois at Chicago. CCSB research focuses on how networks of genes work together to enable cells and organisms to respond to environmental and genetic changes. There are CCSB projects that study robustness of transcriptional networks in physiological, developmental, and evolutionary time scales.

REU students may use modeling applications and core CCSB technology resources. Participants will have full University privileges with access to libraries, athletic facilities, and University-sponsored social and cultural events.

Deadline for receipt of application materials is February 24, 2012. To apply, send via mail or email the filled out application, personal statement, official transcript, and two letters of recommendation to:

Barry Aprison, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer, BSCD
Education and Outreach Director, IGSB & GGSB
The University of Chicago
Knapp Center for Biomedical Discovery
900 East 57th Street, Rm. 10-114
Chicago, IL 60637
baprison@bsd.uchicago.edu
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2012 Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates Application
Application Deadline: February 24, 2012

Name (first, middle, last): ____________________________

College or university: ____________________________

Major field of study: ____________________________
Current year of study: ____________________________
Expected graduation date: ____________________________

College address: ____________________________
Home address: ____________________________

College phone: ____________________________
Home phone: ____________________________

Date of birth: ____________________________
Place of birth (city, county, country): ____________________________

Citizenship (must be US citizen or permanent resident): ____________________________
Social Security number: ____________________________

U.S. ____________________________

Other ____________________________

Ethnicity:
African-American Hispanic

Asian-American Native American

Caucasian Other ____________________________

Other academic information:

Overall GPA: ____________________________
GPA in science and math-related subjects: ____________________________

Previous colleges or universities attended:

Have you participated in a REU program before? Yes/No
If so, when? & where? ____________________________
The University of Chicago

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Research area(s) of interest:

__ Transcriptional dynamics in bacteria
__ Ancestral metazoan stress response circuits
__ Drosophila segmentation network
__ Drosophila eye development
__ Hematopoietic stem cell differentiation
__ Other:

Describe your specific interest regarding this program (e.g. experiment or theory, particular research area, or project if strong preferences exist):

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Relevant Work, Life, or Laboratory Experience (employer, type of work, dates of employment, talents and practical skills, previous participation in an REU or other summer program):

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Computer Experience (Please list the types of computers you have used and any programming languages or operating systems with which you have had experience):

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________________________________________________________________________
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Please include along with the application a personal statement (of at least 200 words) describing your academic and research goals and how participation in the CCSB REU program would help you achieve these goals.

Personal Statement:

Please send the Application Form together with your statement, 2 letters of recommendation, and official transcript to the address below:

Barry Aprison, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer, BSCD
Education and Outreach Director, ICGB & GGBS
Knapp Center for Biomedical Discovery
The University of Chicago
900 E. 57th Street, Rm. 10-114
Chicago, Illinois 60637
bapriso@bsd.uchicago.edu
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Letter of Recommendation

Name of applicant: ____________________________

In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Education and Privacy Act of 1974, enrolled students have the right to see their letters of recommendation unless they have explicitly waived that right. **Check one:**
I waive my right of access to this recommendation. • I do not waive my right of access to this recommendation.

__________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature of applicant                              Date

Name of respondent (Please print) ____________________________

College, University, or Company ____________________________

Department ____________________________

Title and Position ____________________________

**Note to respondent:** We appreciate your candid evaluation of the applicant named above. We are interested in how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant, your impression of the applicant's initiative, intellectual capabilities, resourcefulness, and any other specific qualities that you feel are important to judge his or her potential for further study and research leading to a career in the biological sciences.

__________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature of respondent                              Date

Please mail the completed recommendation to the indicated address by **February 24, 2012.**