Mentors Wanted: Stanford ChEM-H Undergraduate Scholars Program

Are you a postdoc at Stanford who has followed a non-traditional path to your current research interests? Are you interested in mentoring a young scientist who, like you, is interested in blending distinct fields of science to ask interesting research questions?

Stanford ChEM-H is pleased to announce a call for postdoc mentors to join the Stanford ChEM-H Undergraduate Scholars Program. This program aims to provide an interdisciplinary research experience to sophomores at Stanford who have declared majors in physical science, engineering, or life science fields and are interested in gaining depth in a research area that is complementary to their chosen major.

Students selected to participate in the program will be engaging in a year-long program to support their development as interdisciplinary scientists. The experience will begin with a seminar/discussion series to help students gain basic skills to prepare them to work in the lab, including reading and analyzing scientific literature, preparing a research proposal, and developing a scientific presentation. In parallel, students will begin working with their mentors in their host labs during the winter and spring quarters in preparation for full time research over the summer.

By engaging students in their sophomore year, putting them through a rigorous selection process and providing preparation activities outside of the lab, we believe postdoctoral fellows will have a unique opportunity to develop a long-term, productive mentoring relationship.

What to expect of the ChEM-H Scholars Program:

• Access to a high-quality Stanford undergraduate mentee for up to 8 hours a week during the school year and 40 hours a week during the summer
• Formal mentorship training through bi-weekly mentor meetings
• Access to a peer network, staff, and faculty to provide support and advising to you and your mentee

What the ChEM-H Scholars Program expects of you:

• A commitment to mentor an undergraduate in conducting research for up to 8 hours a week during the school year and 40 hours a week during the summer
• Integration of your mentee into your lab environment, including opportunities to attend and present at your lab group meetings
• Input and assistance for your mentee in selecting and analyzing literature, preparation of a research proposal, and development of a final presentation
• Lead at least one ChEM-H Undergraduate Scholars seminar/discussion meeting during the winter, spring, or summer
• Attend mentor meetings and other ChEM-H Undergraduate Scholar events
**Eligibility:**
Applicants must be postdoctoral scholars with current appointments at Stanford in the physical sciences, engineering, or life sciences. Postdocs who are currently working in research labs whose focus is different from their primary field of expertise are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Selection of Mentors:**
An interdisciplinary faculty review committee will select mentors/projects, which will later be matched with student applicants. Selection of your project does not guarantee that you will be matched with an undergraduate.

**To Apply:**
Applications must be received by **November 16, 2015** through the online portal at https://chemh.slideroom.com/ and will require the following:

1. Current CV
2. Proposed project title and succinct one-paragraph description (500 words max). Detailed research aims are not necessary, as you will assist your mentee in developing a full proposal during Spring quarter.
3. Signed letter of support from your PI (a form letter can be found on the ChEM-H website at https://chemh.stanford.edu/programs/undergrad-programs/ugs-mentors)
4. Answers to the following questions:
   a. What is your primary field of training? (Please mention any field transitions that may have occurred between undergrad/grad or grad/postdoc and why you made these transitions.)
   b. What is your area of research expertise? (Please mention how this primary area of expertise relates to or diverges from your training.)
   c. What is your PI’s area of research expertise?
   d. Why do you want to participate in this program as a mentor?

Finalists will be interviewed in January and we expect to notify selected candidates of mentee matches in February.

* Any questions may be directed to the ChEM-H Program Manager, Dr. Alia Schoen at alia.schoen@stanford.edu