

Grand Challenges in Chemistry REU Site- Furman University
Furman Team Application for Summer 2009

Furman Team Information

Faculty Member Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____
Cell (opt): _____

Student Name: _____

Class (Fr, So, Jr, etc): _____

Is the student a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident? _____

Project Title: _____

Project Description:

Special Circumstances (see guidelines):

Disclaimer: I will spend 10 weeks at Furman University conducting research and supervising my student. I have read the statement of program goals and expectations and I intend to participate in the program activities as fully as I am able. Signed: _____

Grand Challenges in Chemistry REU Site- Furman University Application Guidelines, Program Details and Expectations

The Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program is designed to provide undergraduate students with an authentic research experience. The *Grand Challenges* REU program is different from every other chemistry REU site in the country in that it seeks not only to provide an outstanding summer experience for students, but also to enhance the undergraduate research infrastructure as a whole. *The key to this effort is the involvement of faculty from the student's home institution.* For this reason, the Grand Challenges REU program only accepts applications from faculty/student teams.

Application Guidelines

An application to the Grand Challenges REU site typically begins with an interested faculty member at a Partner Institution. The faculty member should identify one or two students to form a research team. Note that the students **must** be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who will not have received a four-year degree prior to December 2009. Ideally, the team will establish contact with a Furman faculty member with a mutual research interest. *While it is not required that a Furman collaborator be identified before submission of an application, such a relationship will strengthen the application.* If a Furman collaborator has not been identified, the second page of the application is not necessary. The Furman side of the team will be developed after the application has been approved.

The visiting mentor (and the Furman mentor, if identified) should provide contact information, a project title and a brief description of the research proposed for the student(s). Depending on the nature of the collaboration, the research description for the visiting team and the Furman team may be identical, complementary, or unrelated.

Various special circumstances may be noted that can strengthen the application. Some of these are listed below, but other factors may also be included if the teams feel this will help to make their case. Examples of special circumstances include:

- The participation of students from groups identified by NSF as under-represented. The Grand Challenges REU site strongly encourages the participation of minority students and faculty and such participation will be viewed very favorably by the application review committee. (Please note that NSF-funded students must be U.S. citizens). While women are not considered to be under-represented in the REU program, the Grand Challenges site does encourage their participation.
- The participation of students that might not otherwise be able to participate in a summer research program. This includes rising Freshmen and Sophomores, students from 2-year colleges, and others.
- Co-funding from other sources. While the REU program provides stipends for all student participants, support for visiting faculty mentors is provided primarily by Furman. In some cases, stipend support for visiting faculty may be supplemented from other sources, such as supplements to existing grants, or support from the visiting faculty members home institution. Co-funding can help us to increase the support available for other

faculty participants or to support additional visiting teams. The REU Program Director will be happy to assist with efforts to obtain co-funding.

- A clear commitment by the home institution to support the research project into the academic year. Such support might include academic credit for students conducting research, a commitment of laboratory space for research, or support for supplies.

Program Details and Expectations

All program participants are expected to devote at least 10 weeks of the summer to conducting research and are expected to participate in the various REU activities during the summer. These include:

- A seminar by visiting speakers.
- Weekly Grand Challenges luncheons.
- Pre- and post-summer surveys
- Follow-up assessment activities
- Furman's annual Corporate Luncheon
- A special REU outreach activity

In addition, we encourage participate in the Department's spring poster session, held on Furman's campus in April of each year, and attendance at the Southeast Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society or some other professional meeting. Furman will assist with the cost of *student* attendance at the Southeast Regional meeting. Should another meeting be more appropriate, travel funds may be available for student travel to that event instead. Please note that the 2009 SERMACS meeting will be held in Puerto Rico and special arrangements will be made to get the students to that meeting. Finally, the Furman faculty mentor or the REU Program Director is expected to visit the Partner institution to assess the impact of the REU program on the Partner institution's research environment.

Students will receive a stipend of \$4000 for the summer. Housing at the Furman University North Village apartment complex is available for approximately \$1500 for the summer. Visiting faculty are guaranteed a stipend of \$5000. Faculty coming to Furman with stipend support from other sources will receive support at a reduced rate to be negotiated with the site director. In addition, the REU program will provide at least \$1500 per student for supplies.

Questions or concerns about the Grand Challenges REU program should be directed to:

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