October 15, 2019

Dear Colleague:

Greetings from Dallas, Texas!

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying a great start to the fall. Every year I write to you to talk about our summer research programs and this year is no exception. In summer 2020, UT Southwestern Medical Center hopes to host 115 bright and passionate undergraduates who plan to pursue a PhD or MD/PhD in the biological sciences.

For the 2nd year, UT Southwestern will host an Amgen Scholars Program. In year 1 of the Amgen Scholars program at UT Southwestern, we hosted 16 undergraduates from across the U.S. and had a spectacular summer. The 2020 UT Southwestern Amgen Scholars Program will provide an exceptional 10 week intensive hands-on research program which will include a trip to Los Angeles to attend the Amgen Scholars Summer Biotechnology Symposium. All details about the program and our application can be found at www.utsouthwestern.edu/amgenscholars.

For the 28th consecutive year, UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is sponsoring the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program. The goal of SURF is to give undergraduate students an intensive, 10-week research experience in a world class research environment. Students immerse themselves in the laboratory and work on individual research projects with UT Southwestern Graduate School faculty. Most areas of modern biomedical engineering, cancer biology, cell biology, molecular biology, biochemistry, development, genetics, immunology, microbiology, neuroscience, stem cell, and pharmacology are represented. The SURF website can be found at www.utsouthwestern.edu/SURF.

Additional SURF sub programs will also continue this coming summer:

In the summer of 2017, we launched a highly successful SURF subprogram specifically focused on stem cells and regenerative medicine, entitled SURF-Stem Cell. This program will be repeated in Summer 2020 and information can be found at www.utsouthwestern.edu/surf-stemcell.

For the 17th year, we are also continuing the Quantitative and Physical Science Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (QP-SURF) Program. This program, initially funded by a NIGMS training grant and now funded internally, will accept students who are earning their undergraduate degrees in the field of biomedical engineering, mathematics, computer science, physics, or chemistry. The goal of QP-SURF is to give students an intensive, research experience and demonstrate to students in the physical and quantitative sciences how their knowledge and skill sets are applied in a biomedical research setting. QP-SURF students would carry out their 10-week research project in a biomedical engineering, biophysics, computational biology, or quantitative/analytical chemistry laboratory. The program website and on-line application for QP-SURF can be found at www.utsouthwestern.edu/qp-surf.

For the 9th year, we are highlighting opportunities for undergraduates interested in research at the interface between chemistry and biomedical research through QP-SURF-Chemistry. We hope you will bring this opportunity to the attention of your chemistry students. Information is available at www.utsouthwestern.edu/qp-surf-chemistry.
Finally, for the 7th year, we are also sponsoring the Summer Undergraduate Research Institution for the Study of Kidney Disease (SURISKD) Program. This program is funded by a National Institute of Health and National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIH/DDDK) training grant and will accept undergraduates who are earning their undergraduate degrees in the field of natural sciences. The goal of SURISKD is to give college students an intensive summer research training experience who are preparing for Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. careers in kidney-related research. SURISKD Fellows spend 10-weeks pursuing individual research projects that range from embryonic development and physiology to kidney cancer and imaging in the laboratories of Graduate School faculty members. The SURISKD website and on-line application can be found at www.utsouthwestern.edu/SURISKD.

All six summer programs include topic specific weekly science seminars, optional courses in genetics, cancer, organic chemistry and neuroscience, a leadership course, social events, and a scientific poster session at the conclusion of the program. Our programs, including the Amgen Scholars Program, will run from June 1st through August 7th, 2020. Participants will be selected based on their essays, letters of recommendation, course work, and experience. The stipend for the 10-week program is $4,000. If a fellow requires housing, the costs will be covered by the program; however, all fellows (with the exception of the Amgen Scholars) are responsible for paying their own travel expenses to and from Dallas.

The application deadline for the Amgen Scholars and SURF programs is February 3rd, 2020. I would like to ask you to post the summer program fliers and announce these summer programs to students who have indicated an interest in a research career and might wish to apply. Previous fellows have been enthusiastic about their experience; most have subsequently enrolled in highly competitive Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. programs.

If you would like me to email these fliers to you for electronic distribution, it would be my pleasure to do so. Simply email me at Nancy.Street@utsouthwestern.edu with your email address. As always, I would be happy to answer any questions you or your students have about our summer research opportunities.

Each year, many SURF fellows matriculate into Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. programs at UT Southwestern. We are now in our 7th year of completing all Ph.D. coursework during year one of our umbrella program; therefore, Ph.D. students are in the lab full-time after one year of classes. Our goal is to train students to think as independent research scientists and we believe this goal can be best achieved in the laboratory! Our average time to degree is ~5.3 years and our stipend for our PhD and MD/PhD students is $35,000/year plus tuition and fees. If you have students interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in the biomedical sciences, I hope they will visit our website (www.utsouthwestern.edu/gradschool) and learn about all 11 of our Ph.D. programs. Our Fall 2020 application deadline is December 1, 2019. I might mention we have no application fee.

Best wishes for a great Fall 2019 and I look forward to crossing paths with you and/or your students in the months to come!

Sincerely,

Nancy E. Street, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Diversity and Inclusion Officer
UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Every year, the Amgen Scholars U.S. Program provides hundreds of selected undergraduate students from across the U.S. with the opportunity to engage in a hands-on research experience at many of the nation’s premier educational institutions. Currently, thirteen institutions in the U.S. host the summer research program. The Amgen Foundation has committed $74 million over sixteen years to the global Amgen Scholars Program to make this opportunity possible for thousands of students.

**Inspiring the Scientists of Tomorrow**
As Amgen Scholars, students will have the opportunity to:

- Take part in important institution research projects, gain hands-on lab experience and contribute to the advancement of science;
- Interact with and receive guidance from faculty mentors, including some of the nation’s top academic scientists; and
- Participate in engaging scientific seminars, workshops and other networking events.

**The Amgen Scholars U.S. Symposium**
A signature component of the program is a mid-summer symposium held in California where students hear firsthand from leading scientists working in industry and academia. The U.S. symposium provides students with a valuable opportunity to discuss their research, learn about drug discovery and development, and network with other Amgen Scholars from the U.S. and Canada.
Academic Research Areas
Any disciplines related to the discovery, development, manufacture and delivery of human therapeutics, as well as the overall biomedical and biotechnology enterprise.

Financial Support
Financial support is a critical component of the Amgen Scholars Program. Please note that details vary by host institution. See each institution’s summer research program website for more information.

Eligibility
Amgen Scholars U.S. Program applicants must be:
- U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents;
- Undergraduate students enrolled in accredited four-year colleges or universities in the United States, Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories; and
- Sophomores (with four quarters or three semesters of college experience), juniors or non-graduating seniors (who are returning in the fall to continue undergraduate studies).

U.S. program applicants must also have:
- A cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or above; and
- An interest in pursuing a Ph.D. or M.D.-Ph.D.

Application deadlines are determined by Amgen Scholars Program host institutions, between early February and mid-February. Check individual host institutions for details about how to apply.

For more information, check out amgenscholars.com, or please contact the Amgen Scholars Global Program Office at amgenscholarsglobal@harvard.edu or +1 617-384-6758.

Amgen Scholars is an international program funded by the Amgen Foundation with direction and technical assistance provided by Harvard University. The Amgen Foundation seeks to advance excellence in science education to inspire the next generation of innovators, and invest in strengthening communities where Amgen staff members live and work. To date, the Foundation has donated nearly $300 million to local, regional, and international nonprofit organizations that impact society in inspiring and innovative ways. The Amgen Foundation brings the excitement of discovery to the scientists of tomorrow through several signature programs, including Amgen Scholars, Amgen Biotech Experience, and LabXchange. For more information, visit amgeninspires.com and follow us on twitter.com/amgenfoundation.
SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (SURF) in
Biological Chemistry  Integrative Biology
Biomedical Engineering Kidney Development and Disease
Biophysics Mechanisms of Disease
Cancer Microbiology
Cell Regulation Molecular Biology
Chemistry Neuroscience
Computational Biology Pharmacology
Developmental Biology Stem Cell Biology
Genetics Systems Biology
Immunology

SURF is one of five research intensive programs offered at UT Southwestern. Complete details can be found at www.utsouthwestern.edu/SURF. This website also provides links to: SURF-Stem Cell, Quantitative and Physical Science (QP)-SURF, QP-SURF-Chemistry, and the Summer Undergraduate Research Institute for the Study of Kidney Disease (SURISKD).

OBJECTIVE
To provide an intensive research training experience that leads to an understanding of the planning, discipline, and teamwork involved in the pursuit of basic answers to current questions in the biological sciences. Fellows will pursue individual research projects under the direction of a member of the graduate school faculty. Lectures and seminars by faculty members will supplement the research experience.

ELIGIBILITY
Applicants must be enrolled in a science degree program at the undergraduate level and have completed the sophomore year. Criteria used in selecting fellowship recipients includes grades, relevant experience, and letters of recommendation from faculty who can assess the applicant's potential for success in biological research.

SALARY AND TENURE
Each fellowship award carries with it $4,000 in support for the 10-week period beginning June 1, 2020 through August 7, 2020. This support is taxable. If a fellow requires housing, the costs will be covered by the program; however, fellows are responsible for paying for their own travel expenses and will not be reimbursed by the SURF Program.

HOW TO APPLY
The SURF application is available on-line at www.utsouthwestern.edu/SURF. Completed applications (including letters of reference) should be submitted by February 3, 2020.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Contact the SURF Administrator at Southwestern Graduate School, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75390-9004, (214) 648-0747, Kristin.spain@utsouthwestern.edu

(An equal opportunity institution)