

Research Experience for Undergraduates in Computational Biology -  
Dartmouth College - Summer 2017

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The Zhaxybayeva lab in the Biology department at Dartmouth College (<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~ecglab/>) is pleased to announce an NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) position to study the evolutionary history of enigmatic, virus-like entities called Gene Transfer Agents (GTAs). As their name implies, GTAs are hypothesized to be used by bacteria as gene delivery systems. The Zhaxybayeva lab uses comparative genomics, phylogenetics, and mathematical modeling to learn more about this fascinating biological system. This internship is ideal for candidates with background in mathematics, statistics, computer science, or engineering interested in exploring how computational approaches are used in solving biological problems. The student is not expected to have prior experience working with biological systems. The student will work closely with Dr. Olga Zhaxybayeva and Dr. Shannon Soucy and will learn the basics of genomic analyses, how to utilize high performance computing facilities, read primary scientific literature, and present scientific research. The candidate must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America or its possessions, and enrolled as an undergraduate student in the Fall 2017. Individuals of underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. The 9-week internship is tentatively expected to begin on June 21, 2017 and end on August 18, 2017. The candidate will receive \$4,500 stipend, and will be reimbursed for the costs of lodging and travel to Dartmouth College.

To apply, please e-mail the following application materials in a single PDF file to Shannon Soucy ([Shannon.Soucy@dartmouth.edu](mailto:Shannon.Soucy@dartmouth.edu)) with the subject line "REU" no later than March 10, 2017:

1. A statement with the following information:
  - a. Why you are interested in this position.
  - b. Your future plans after graduation from college.
  - c. Confirmation of your eligibility for the REU program.
  - d. Dates you are available to start and end this position.
  - e. The name and contact information of one person who will serve as your reference. Please arrange the letter of recommendation to be sent to [Shannon.Soucy@dartmouth.edu](mailto:Shannon.Soucy@dartmouth.edu) directly by your reference.
  - f. Your email address and phone number.
2. Curriculum Vitae (or resume).
3. Transcript (unofficial is acceptable).

Dartmouth College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer with a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion. We prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran status, marital status, or any other legally protected status.

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