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https://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/research/summer-research-program

Call for projects for the Summer Research Program (SRP) 2022 – Information for Supervisors

The Faculty of Dentistry provides opportunities for summer students to gain experience in laboratory and clinical research. The quality of work produced by students in the past has been of very high calibre and several students present their award-winning projects at top international meetings every year. I invite you to consider taking on a student next summer - but first read the pandemic note.

Note on COVID-19 and possible implications

We are preparing the SRP with the assumption that research in the faculty will be fully functional in Summer 2022 but need to be realistic and continuously assess the situation. The SRP will follow recommendations and rules established by the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto, and the Canadian Government.

We will do our very best to adapt to the conditions in Summer 2022 and help you to provide students with a memorable research experience. However, in case of a complete shutdown of wet labs in Summer 2022, as it happened in 2020, we will likely cancel the program and related student funding.

Please pay particular attention to page 2 of your application form that you will need to acknowledge.

Next steps:

• Now:

- o Identify a research project in your lab that is suitable for an undergraduate student.
- Match your project with a student. The SRP is open to undergraduate students of the Faculty of Dentistry at U of T, institutes associated with the Faculty, and other Dental Faculties in Canada. There will be few spots for non-dental undergraduate students.

• By February 18, 2022:

- o Describe the research project on maximum 1 page according to this formatting:
 - Times New Roman, 12 pt, black type, maximum six lines per inch, no condensed/narrow fonts.
 - Margin of 2 cm (3/4 inch) minimum around the page for main document text.
 - Indicate in header (1 cm from top page margin): PI name, short project title, fit on one line.
- OVID-19 addition: On the same page, <u>briefly</u> describe contingency measures if wet lab work should not be possible due to pandemic restrictions. If your project does not involve wet lab research, please indicate '100% remote work possible'. If there are no meaningful alternatives, just note: 'Must be done in the faculty's research facilities'.
- o Fill the form: "2022_SRP_Application.pdf", available for download under: https://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/research/summer-research-program.
- o Submit your application to the SRP as one PDF, including:
 - (1) Application form completed by supervisor and student;
 - (2) project description on one page;
 - (3) Unofficial student transcripts;
 - (4) Student CV on two pages.

Benefit and funding chances:

- Typically, 10-15 projects out of 20-30 submissions are funded per year.
- A motivated student with good academic marks, often with previous research experience.
- Support for your research, leading to a possible abstract or other publication.
- The possibility to train and "test" a student for a possible subsequent Master Project.
- Funds from the Faculty of Dentistry of \$750/month to match your contribution.

Supervisor contribution and requirements:

- The project supervisor must have demonstrated expertise or access to expertise for executing the project. Each student is under the direct supervision of a faculty member.
- Preference will be given to projects in laboratories or clinics with an active research program. Existing or applied for external peer-review grant support is considered a positive factor.
- Project duration: 3 months for 1st/2nd year DDS and external students; 2 months for 3rd year DDS students.
- The SRP requests a matching contribution from the supervisor of at least \$750/month. The Program will not be able to support projects without supervisor's matching portion.
- The supervisor contribution is to be paid to the program and not directly to the student.
- The program will provide the student with the full stipend of \$1,500/month.
- The SRP cannot provide support for students that already receive stipends from other funding agencies (e.g., NSERC, UTEA). If fellowships are awarded after application to the program, the program director must be informed. Students can of course follow the program's activities.
- Students cannot take part in additional summer programs (e.g., IBBME).

Summary of Timeline:

February 18, 2022: Submission deadline for PI/student joint application.

Early May 2022: Funded projects will be announced. The time of funding announcements depends on

the time of external funding decisions for the SRP.

May-August 2022: In this period, summer students are typically working on the project.

August 19, 2022: The results of all summer student projects must be presented and must be summarized

in an IADR abstract format. Supervisors will have to make themselves available for the presentation date (or a qualified substitute). The presented research projects will be ranked and may receive additional travel support depending on availability of funds.

February 2023: Projects **must** be presented at the Faculty's Research Day as a poster.

Note: SRP students will be eligible for Pynn Family, CDA Dentsply and OKU Alumni awards, when available.

For information and submissions (e-mail only) please contact Leah Raz, <u>leah.raz@dentistry.utoronto.ca</u>.