Research Experience for Undergraduates
Program in Astrobiology and Planetary Science
Summer 2012 at the SETI Institute, Mountain View, California

The Program

The SETI Institute (http://ww.seti.org), a non-profit private scientific research institution located in California's Silicon Valley, invites you to apply for a summer Research Experience for Undergraduates program for highly motivated students interested in astrobiology research You will work with scientists at the SETI Institute and at the nearby NASA Ames Research Center on projects spanning the field of astrobiology from microbiology to planetary geology to observational astronomy.

The program includes a week-long field trip to the SETI Institute's Allen Telescope Array, located at the Hat Creek Radio Astronomy Observatory in Northern California, as well as a field experience at hydrothermal systems at nearby Lassen Volcanic National Park. Students will also participate in local field trips to places like The California Academy of Sciences and Chabot Space and Science Center and other nearby locations of scientific interest, and attend seminars, lectures, and discussions on astrobiology.

You will live in dormitory housing on the campus near the NASA Ames Research Center and observatory facilities at Hat Creek. At the end of the summer you will give presentations on your research projects, and the best projects will be selected for submission to a national scientific conference, which the selected students will be funded to attend.

Who should apply
Current Sophomore and Junior Undergraduate Students who are United States Citizens or Permanent Residents

Program dates
June 10, 2012 through August 18, 2012 (10 weeks)

Financial support
Student stipend is $4500 ($450/week).
In addition, participants will be provided with dorm housing and a $50/week food allowance. Travel reimbursement is up to $600 for travel from home or campus to the San Francisco Bay Area.

Apply online
http://www.seti.org/reu

Application deadline
Applications due February 1, 2012

Three main research areas will be emphasized, with projects including:

Biochemistry and the Origin and Evolution of Life on Earth
- Detection of biosignatures
- Survival of microbes under extreme conditions

Planetary Science and the Search for Life in the Solar System
- Europa geology
- Mars geomorphology and spectroscopy

Astronomy and the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence
- Meteor Showers and their Parent Comets
- SETI and Radio Astronomy

SETI Institute

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Carl Sagan Center

NASA Astrobiology Institute

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