



NEWSLETTER

The College of Natural Sciences Newsletter is designed to serve CNS students. It is delivered online every Sunday.

Dean Kopp's weekly email includes a link to access the newsletter, as well.

Items in **BLUE** are new;

Items in **RED** are last chance.

If you would like to submit news to CNS Newsletter, send the information to cnsnewsletter@austin.utexas.edu.

Include a contact person phone number and email, date or deadline, write in complete sentences, text must be fewer than 150 words. Submit by 11:59pm Friday to be included in that week's newsletter.

Edited by: Nicole Kruijs



Academic Announcements

1. **CNS Town Hall**
2. **Sanger Learning Center Presentations**
3. **Women in Tech Event**
4. **Free Speech Essay Contest and lecture**
5. **Austin Forum Lecture on Energy and Environment**
6. **Environmental Science Major Transfer Session**
7. Register for 2014 Global Professional Training
8. CompeteUT Student Investment Competition

Scholarships

1. **CNS Scholarship Application**
2. **F. Edward Herbert Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program**
3. **Texas Exes Scholarship Application**
4. **Continuing and Transfer Student Scholarships**

Internships and Employment

1. **Baylor College of Medicine 2014 Tropical Medicine Summer Institute**
2. **Interview Prep Workshop**

3. **DC Summer Internship Opportunity**
4. **US Army STEM Summer Internship**
5. **Archer Fellowship Program**

Research and Volunteering

1. **The Undergraduate Research Awards**
2. **KBS REU in Ecology and Environmental Biology**
3. **Nanotech Summer Research at UMass**
4. **REU Summer Internship at Learnlab Applications**
5. **SENS Research Foundation Summer Internship**
6. **2014 Summer Research Diversity Fellowship**

Pre Professional Announcements

1. **Personal Statement Workshop**
2. **Group Coaching Sessions by the Health Profession Office**

Organization Announcements

1. **NSC Focus Group**
2. **Apply for Texas Blazers**
3. **Student Journal Club**
4. **Texas Undergraduate Research**

Academic Announcements

1. CNS Town Hall

Wednesday, February 5th; WEL 1.120; 5pm

Attend the College of Natural Sciences Student Town Hall with Dean of Undergraduate Education, Dr. Sacha Kopp discussing first-year CNS programs, orientation to campus, and advising.

2. Sanger Learning Center Presentations

Tuesday, Feb 4th and Wednesday, Feb 5th; 5-6pm; JES A309

RSVP

utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/ugs/my/vents

Study Smarter, Not Harder

Tuesday, February 4 • 5-6 p.m. • JES A309 Monday, February 10 • 5-6 p.m. • JES A309 Tuesday, February 18 • 5-6 p.m. • JES A309

Studying shouldn't feel like basic training yet sometimes it seems like it would take a few good students to get it done. That's because "studying" is not a single act. This program helps you learn about the steps of the study cycle, and discover how to engage in meaningful, active learning to achieve the results you want in class

Time & Procrastination

Wednesday, February 5 • 5-6 p.m. • JES A309 Tuesday, February 11 • 5-6 p.m. • JES A309 Wednesday, February 19 • 5-6 p.m. • JES A309

We all have the same amount of time in a day, but how we allocate it can make the difference between "I'm 3 hours late to the exam" versus "I've got plenty of time for that." We'll show you how to better use your time to make the

most out of your every minute and find a balance between work and play.

3. Women in Tech Event

Tuesday, February 4, 2014; 6-7pm; UTA 1.208

SHE++ Documentary and Women in Tech Speakers – Sponsored by AT&T – food served hosted by the UT ASIS&T and AWIT (Advocating for Women in Technology)

UT School of Information, UTA Building, 1st Floor, Room 1.208 Please RSVP at this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/she-documentary-and-women-in-technology-speakers-tickets-9836240460>

Details:

She++: The Documentary (12 min: TV-14 DL) energetically proclaims 'Hello, World' after following smart, creative, and trailblazing technologists hard at work in hi-tech. This short documentary collects research and inspirational pieces of Silicon Valley's unsung heroes to galvanize us to explore our potential as 'fengineers'. Written and directed by recent Stanford University good girls gone geek, Ayna Agarwal and Ellora Israni.

After the documentary, we will have local women speak about their experiences working in the hi-tech industry:

Sara Haynes, Director, Product Management, PeopleAdmin Katherine Cranford, Knowledge Management/Taxonomy, Dell Kimmie Farrington, Data Scientist, Clockwork Solutions Andrea Richeson, COO and User Experience Director, TradeMark Media

Courtney Jeffries, Product Manager, Indeed

Tracy Reindel, Product Manager at PeopleAdmin

4. Free Speech Essay Contest and Lecture

February 6, 2014; 7pm; CLA 0.128

Free Speech in Relation to Privacy.

A panel discussion

Philosophy Professor Dr. Tara Smith is also sponsoring an essay contest this spring on the topic of Free Speech. The prize money is really good - \$1500 for first prize, \$1000 for second prize, and \$700 for third prize. In past years, there hasn't been a huge number of entries, so if you submit something good, there is a great chance for you to win some money! The deadline is February 17.

More information on the contest including the specific essay prompts is available here:

<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/bbtojectivism/essay-contests/free-speech.php>

5. Austin Forum Lecture

Tuesday, February 4, 2014; 5:30-8pm; AT&T Center, Room 204

"Pandora's Promise" film screening/panel discussion with Karen Hadden, Executive Director, Sustainable Energy and Economic Development (SEED); Dale E. Klein, PhD, Associate Vice Present For Research, Associate Director of Energy Institute, UT Austin; and Fred C. Beach, PhD, Assistant Direct of Policy Studies, UT Austin

6. EVS Transfer Information

Applications are due March 7th

The Environmental Science (EVS) degree program at The

University of Texas at Austin brings together Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degrees from the College of Natural Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Jackson School of Geosciences. EVS is small, restricted, and very competitive, and focuses on science, including calculus, chemistry, biology, geology, and physics.

Getting in to the EVS Program Internal Transfer Factors

EVS accepts internal transfer applications (from • students currently enrolled at UT) each spring for program entry the following fall.

About 10-15% of the EVS cohort comes from • internal transfers. That means about 5-7

The applicant's grades in basic science course sequence of Calculus (M 408K, M 408N, or M 408C), Chemistry (CH 301) and Biology (BIO 311C);

The applicant's overall grade point average at the university and any applicable transfer hours;

students per year. EVS typically receives 40-50 applications for those spots.

• Applications are available on the EVS Program website at www.esi.utexas.edu/EVS. No late applications will be accepted.

The difficulty of the applicant's course load, any course repetitions, and proven mathematical ability;

The applicant's interest in environmental science and in the EVS Program; and

The applicant's previous lab or field experience, and any environmentally-related volunteer work.

Upcoming Information Session Dates in JGB 4.102

February 5, 2014
11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

February 11, 2014
3:30 – 4:40 p.m.

7. Global Professional Training Deadline: March 1st, 2014

Register now to participate a two-day event offering professional development training to students at The University of Texas at Austin who are interested in working and living in the Middle East and North Africa. This opportunity is open undergraduate students with an interest in the Middle East and North Africa and to students from the region who want to share their unique perspectives.

To apply or for more information, please visit:
<http://world.utexas.edu/globalinitiatives/gpt>

8. CompeteUT Competition Friday, April 4th

CompeteUT, formerly known as the UT Horizon Fund Student Investment Competition, is a venture creation and investment competition that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship from students, medical residents, and trainees throughout all 15 University of Texas System Institutions. Open to all UT undergraduates, graduates, PhD Candidates, post docs, medical interns, and trainees, the competition gives sixteen finalist teams a chance to vie for a \$100,000 Investment Award.

For more information, visit our website www.uthorizons.com. If you have any further questions,

please contact Tiffany Kindred at tkindred@utsystem.edu or Jeet Vijay at jvijay@utsystem.edu.

Scholarships

1. CNS Continuing Students Scholarship

Deadline: April 15, 2014

The 2014-2015 College of Natural Sciences scholarship application is now available. The common application is used to award college-level scholarships as well as the Health Professions Scholarships (for pre-medical students) and Out-of-State Tuition Waivers. Current CNS students can access the online application at <https://www.utexas.edu/cns/scholap>.

In addition to the online application, students must submit at least one (1) faculty letter of recommendation. Students may have up to two faculty letters submitted on their behalf, however only one is required. Applications will not be considered complete until at least one letter of recommendation has been received. Instructions on who are eligible to write letters of recommendation and how to submit them can be found on the application.

2. Armed Forces Scholarship

The Army offers one of the most generous and comprehensive scholarships in the Health Care Field. It is called the F. Edward Hebert Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP). If you qualify and are selected for this program, you will receive a full-tuition scholarship for Medical School. You will also receive a monthly stipend while attending

your Medical School, get paid as a Commissioned Officer during your residency (over \$65,000), and have a guaranteed job working in your trained specialty after residency. The HPSP can be applied to any accredited school in the United States or Puerto Rico. Besides tuition, the Army will also make sure your required books, nonexpendable equipment, and most academic fees are paid as well.

HPSP Benefits in the Army:

Commissioned Officer
100% TUITION, BOOKS, FEES, and MORE
\$2,157.00 Monthly Stipend
No Basic Training
\$20,000 Sign-On Bonus Available
Apply for both the Army & the National Residence Match Program
Contact:
Luis G. Merino
SGT, USA
U.S. Army Health Care Recruiter
San Antonio MRS
2040 Babcock Rd, STE 406
San Antonio, TX 78229
Office: 210-692-7376
Cell: 210-385-5621 / 877-570-8059
email: luis.g.merino.mil@mail.mil

3. Texas Exes Scholarship Application
Due March 1st

The Texas Exes Scholarships for continuing students application is now open. Please see <http://www.texasscholarships.org/apply/continuing/CSA.html> to apply.

4. Continuing and Transfer Scholarship Applications
Due April 1st

UT's Continuing and Transfer Scholarship application is now open. See

<http://finaid.utexas.edu/spotlights/CSA140.html>

To apply.

Internships and Employment

1. Baylor College of Medicine Institute

Applications due February 5th

The National School of Tropical Medicine (NSTM) at Baylor College of Medicine is the first school in the United States solely committed to addressing the world's most pressing tropical disease issues. Our school aspires to unify tropical and infectious disease activities across the Texas Medical Center and establish links and collaborations across the state of Texas, the United States and internationally through interdisciplinary efforts to enhance the education, translational research & development, policy, and advocacy and alleviate these global health burdens.

This intensive two-week course, held on Baylor College of Medicine campus in Houston and at the heart of the Texas Medical Center will introduce you to the field of tropical medicine through explorations of global health, epidemiology, public health, infectious diseases, parasitic disease and neglected tropical diseases.

Over the two weeks you will participate in seminars with leading experts in these fields and visit facilities conducting cutting-edge research in the field.

Whether you are considering a career in medicine, research, public health, this two-week course will give you the experiences and information you need to make the right decision.

Summer 2014: June 16-27
Curriculum

The faculty of NSTM, Baylor College of Medicine faculty and affiliated institutions within the Texas Medical Center possess a wealth of knowledge and experience. The Tropical Medicine Summer Institute has been structured to give you a broad overview of the field,

Research/Field Experience Presentations

Throughout the Institute you will have the opportunity to hear individuals actively involved in research on tropical diseases around the world present their findings and discuss their experiences in the field.

Parasitology Laboratory
Beyond the classroom, you will gain experience and develop skills in the laboratory. You will learn the techniques necessary to identify vectors of parasitic disease gain the skills required to conduct laboratory work in resource-limited settings.

Application Process
Tuition for the Introduction to Tropical Medicine Summer Institute is \$1,938.75. This does not include living expenses.

Applications open now! (due February 5th):

1. Fill out short Survey Monkey application online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TropicalMedicineSummerInstitute>
2. Applicants will be notified by February 15th
Criteria for acceptance: Class standing, GPA, essay responses,

demonstrated interest in global health and tropical medicine.

2. Interview Prep Workshop

February 4th; 5:30PM; NHB 1.720

This presentation gives students information on how to prepare for all stages of the job interview: before, during and after. Students can also gain an employer's perspective when it comes to the interview process. Refreshments will be served!

3. DC Summer Internship

Applications due March 18th

Spend a summer interning in the nation's capital and gain that competitive edge. Taking advantage of a Washington, DC internship is a valuable investment in your future that will set you apart after college. The comprehensive programs sponsored by The Fund for American Studies include a guaranteed internship placement, courses for transferable credit from George Mason University in government and economics, and furnished housing conveniently located just steps from the White House in downtown Washington. Students also benefit from networking events, exclusive briefings, and guest speakers.

THE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

We've been creating academic internship experiences for over 40 years and guarantee all participants an internship placement. Your options are endless – we work with over 300 different federal agencies, policy groups, international affairs organizations, media outlets, public affairs firms, government relations offices, and nonprofit organizations.

APPLY TODAY

Students will be accepted on a rolling basis until the final deadline of March 18, 2014. For more information and to begin an online application, please

visit www.DCinternships.org. Questions may be directed to admissions@tfas.org or 202.986.0384

4. US Army STEM Internship

Deadline February 14th

Undergraduate or graduate students majoring in STEM fields and/or Education

Location: Frederick, MD

Dates & Time: June 16th-August 15th, from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Paid: Yes (based on completed semester hours)

What: Mentoring & teaching elementary, middle, and high school students in STEM labs while networking with scientists and professionals from USAMRMC laboratories.

Additionally, college students will learn valuable and marketable techniques in chemical, biological, and engineering fields.

If you have any questions about the GEMS program or would like to receive a digital copy of the application contact Lauren Beeson, 301-619-7942, USArmy.Detrick.MEDCOM-USAMRMC.Other.Educational-Outreach@mail.mil

5. Archer Fellowship Program

Interested in public policy and public service? Want to spend a semester living, interning, and taking in-residence classes in Washington, D.C.?

If the answer is yes, the Archer Fellowship Program may be for you! Students of all majors, political beliefs, and policy interests are welcome to apply. Come learn about this exciting program at an

information session; view the schedule at <http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/archer/info-sessions>.

Applications for the 2014-2015 academic year are due February 17, though students who will be abroad this spring should apply by November 1

Rose Mastrangelo
at r.mastrangelo@austin.utexas.edu.

Research and Volunteering

1. The Undergraduate Research Awards

Applications are due June 2nd

The University Honors Center is pleased to share The Undergraduate Awards, an opportunity for undergraduate students to have their best research essays or special projects recognized and published as part of a program celebrating top students from around the world. We encourage you to share this information with interested students and faculty in your department.

The Undergraduate Awards recognize the world's top undergraduate research projects from a variety of academic disciplines spanning the humanities, sciences, and visual arts. Open to final and penultimate year undergraduates, students are invited to submit research essays or special projects completed as part of their coursework that have received a grade of A and present fresh ideas and new arguments. Winning students will have their work published in the Undergraduate Awards Journal and be invited to attend the UA Summit—a 3 day conference in Dublin, Ireland.

A sample announcement for your website or newsletter is attached, as well as template for announcement to departmental faculty members.

Students should visit www.utexas.edu/ugs/uhc/wards/undergraduate.

2. **KBS REU**

Applications are due February 15th

The KBS REU program provides Free Room & Board, up to \$400 in travel expenses, up to \$500 in research funds, and a \$4,500 stipend. The program runs 10-weeks from late May to early August. Applicants must be currently enrolled as a full time student. We especially welcome applications from students from underrepresented groups in the sciences and first generation college students.

Research projects for Summer 2014 include:

- Plant Eco-physiology
- Restoration ecology
- Mating system evolution
- Using soil tests to survey farmer attitudes about soil health
- Effects of genetic diversity on plants and insects
- Algal adaptation to temperature and nutrients
- The role of mutualisms in plant adaptation

For more information or to apply please visit: <http://www.kbs.msu.edu/education/reu>

3. **UMass Nanotechnology**

Applications due February 28

- Ten weeks, May 27 - August 2, 2014
- Competitive stipend
 - Free housing in our newest dorms

- Free travel to and from campus
- Application deadline: February 28, 2014

For all the program details, please visit: <http://www.umass.edu/masnanotech/SURE.htm>

For undergrads planning a career in cutting edge research, the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Program in Nanotechnology at UMass Amherst might be for you. The ten week lab-and-learning experience will give you a head start on a field that is truly at the forefront of knowledge: nanotechnology!

Women and underrepresented minority students are strongly encouraged to apply. Eligibility is limited to U.S. citizens and permanent residents only. Undergraduate majors in Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering, Physics, and Polymer Science & Engineering are recommended for the program

4. **REU at LearnLab Applications**

Due February 17th

Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh have an exciting opportunity summer research experience for undergradates (REU) available for undergraduates. The application for this program can also be found at http://www.learnlab.org/opportunities/LearnLab_Summer_REU.php.

This REU program is sponsored by LearnLab, a Science of Learning Center funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). We encourage applications from students who

would like to conduct research in the fields of psychology, education, computer science, human-computer interfaces and language technologies. LearnLab's REU program allows talented undergraduates to spend 8 weeks during the summer in a research laboratory at Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh, or one of our research partners. The REU program supports LearnLab's commitment to training a diverse set of science, technology, education, and psychology leaders.

5. **SENS Research 2014 SRF Summer Scholars Program**

Applications due March 3rd

The SENS Research Foundation is pleased to announce its 2014 SRF Summer Scholars Program. The SRF Summer Scholars Program is open to undergraduate students interested in research internships with world-renowned leaders of the regenerative medicine field. Paid positions are available at:

Buck Institute for Research on Aging
Harvard Stem Cell Institute/Harvard School of Medicine
SRF Research Center
University College London
University of Oxford
Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine

<http://sens.org/2014-summer-scholars>. Full descriptions of the available research projects and more details about the program can also be found there as well.

6. **Summer Research Diversity Fellowships in Law and Social Science**

Application due February 15th

The American Bar Foundation sponsors an annual program of summer research fellowships to interest undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds in pursuing graduate study in the social sciences. The summer program is designed to introduce students to the rewards and demands of a research-oriented career in the field of law and social science. The program is supported in part by the Kenneth F. and Harle G. Montgomery Foundation, AT&T, and the National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates.

Located in Chicago, Illinois, the American Bar Foundation is an independent nonprofit research institute dedicated to the study of law, legal institutions, and legal processes.

For application materials and to apply online visit http://www.americanbarfoundation.org/fellowships/Call_for_Summer_Research_Diversity_Fellowships.html

Pre-Professional

1. Personal Statement Workshop

Friday, February 7, 2014; 1-2pm; PAI 3.02

The Personal Statement Workshop is designed to give you the tools you need to start your essay. They are offered to help you get started planning and writing your essays for health profession school applications. For coaching on writing your application essays, please contact the Undergraduate Writing Center. We encourage you to RSVP*, everyone is welcome! So click the link and fill out a survey to RSVP, please:

https://utexas.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_0CH4oT0e3SLj7b7

2. Group Coaching Sessions

Join HPO for our Group Coaching Sessions, starting February 10th! See below for details:

Meeting Times:

Group sessions will be held weekly, and there is limited seating. You will need to be able to attend at least 90% of the weekly group sessions you sign up for. If you are interested in participating in the weekly sessions please RSVP below: Monday 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm in MEZ 1.204 (group will meet weekly February 10 – April 28)

[RSVP HERE](#)

Tuesday 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm in CAL 419 (group will meet weekly February 11 – April 29)

[RSVP HERE](#)

No groups will be held over spring break

The Health Professions Office will be offering group coaching sessions designed to give you the resources you need to prepare for your Professional School application. The group format will allow you to ask your own questions and to hear questions you may not have thought of yet! Come with your questions prepared!

Organization Announcements

1. NSC Focus Group

February 6th; PAI 5.38N; 5-6pm

The Natural Sciences Council will be holding a focus group following the Town Hall on Wednesday with Dr. Kopp. The discussion will focus on small learning communities and their effect on student success. All CNS students are encouraged to

attend to provide feedback on these programs, such as TIP, FIGs, FRI, and ESP. Come out and help shape the future of the College of Natural Sciences!

To stay up-to-date with the Natural Sciences Council and news in the college, like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/UTNSC>

2. Join Texas Blazers

Applications are due February 3rd

Texas Blazers is the premier men's spirit, leadership and service organization at the University of Texas. Applications are now open for the Spring 2014 class. Info sessions are Monday January 27th and Thursday January 30th from 6-7 pm. Location to be announced. Application due Monday February 3rd. For more information and to apply visit www.utblazers.weebly.com

3. Student Journal Club

Feb 6th; 5pm; GAR 0.102

The SJC was created to expose undergraduates to the peer-review process and allow them to review papers/articles regarding current events in various fields of science in the presence of other like-minded students, and to give students exposure to effective methods of giving presentations on scientific papers. We currently have a lot of ideas lined up for this upcoming semester, including professor talks, and are excited to see everyone there so we can get a feel for the interest levels in the different fields of science. If you would like to be put on the mailing list, the membership form is now active. If you have any questions send an email to sjcofficers@gmail.com

**4. Texas Undergraduate
Research Journal Call for
Papers**

Deadline: February 19th

The URJ is a work of multidisciplinary research produced and edited by University of Texas at Austin undergraduate students. The URJ is looking for interested in lucid pieces that present original idea. Submissions can include products of coursework, independent student, supervised research, senior theses, etc. In addition to gaining a competitive edge for grad school and job applications, author of published papers are entered into the running for a \$200 award for the first-place paper and a \$100 award for the second-place paper. All current and recently graduated undergraduate students in good standing at UT are invited to submit their articles for review. Visit <http://texasurj.com/submission> for more information.