



November 11, 2016

Call for iUTAH Research Faculty Mentors for the 2017 iFellows Program

Dear iUTAH Research Faculty,

We are opening our call to all iUTAH Research Faculty at Brigham Young University, the University of Utah, and Utah State University to submit possible projects for inclusion in our highly successful iFellows Undergraduate Research Program. Proposals from prospective faculty mentors must be received no later than **December 16, 2016**.

How are iFellows selected?

The program aims to bring undergraduate students from across Utah into research settings at Brigham Young University, the University of Utah, and Utah State University for an 11-week research experience. The iFellows program was designed to engage students in research activities they would not otherwise have access to.

Students will apply to the program online beginning January 2017, and the iUTAH iFellows Committee will review applicants, and suggest pairings with mentors following the deadline in mid-February 2017. The committee assesses multiple factors, including grades, related coursework, and access to research opportunities. Faculty mentor needs are also taken into consideration while applications are reviewed. Pending mentor approval, iFellows will be offered the position in February or March 2017, and will begin the program on May 15, 2017. The committee will work with mentors to identify students that will fit within their research group, while also achieving the needs of the iFellows program.

How does the program work?

Throughout the iFellows experience students will engage with their paired iUTAH faculty mentor and (if applicable) near-peer mentor(s) to conduct iUTAH-related research. iFellows are expected to spend 40 hours per week on their projects, and will produce the following research products: 1) Research Poster to be presented at the iUTAH Symposium on July 13-14, 2017, and 2) Research Presentation to present at the iFellows Research Symposium on July 26, 2017.

The main role of iFellows mentors is to supervise students' work, provide mentorship about being a researcher, help them frame a research question, collect/analyze data, and support the creation of research products for presentation at events in mid-late July.

iFellows are expected to work full-time for the 11 week duration of the program, supervised by faculty and near-peer mentors. Throughout the summer, iFellows also take part in professional development cohort sessions. These sessions, organized by the iUTAH EOD office, range in topic from research communication trainings to iUTAH research field trips and team building activities.

iUTAH provides iFellows a generous (\$4,500) stipend, and on-campus housing (if needed) for students conducting research at USU or U of U. Additionally, iFellows each have a \$500 budget that can be put towards applicable research expenses.

Call for Summer 2017 mentors

We invite iUTAH research faculty to propose projects that they believe could benefit from having an iFellow as

research assistant. Mentorship proposals should be submitted no later than Friday, December 16, 2016. Based on the information you provide, we will recruit students whose interests align with broad topical areas represented in the mentorship proposals. Student applicants will then indicate which topical areas most interest them, and we will do our best to match students' interests with faculty-developed projects. iFellow applications will be due in February 2017.

If you would like to submit an iFellows project for consideration, please send the following information to iUTAH Education, Outreach and Diversity Coordinator, Ellen Eiriksson (ellen.eiriksson@usu.edu) **by December 16, 2016:**

- R1 Faculty mentor(s):
- Near-Peer mentor(s):
- Institution:
- iUTAH RFA:
- Project title:
- Brief project description:
- Preferred/Desired Skills (if any):

Faculty will be notified re: proposal acceptance by December 22, 2016. 2017 Program and projected cohort session dates are listed at the end of this document. Note: cohort session dates are subject to change as planning continues over the next several months. We look forward to hearing from faculty, and to another excellent year of the iUTAH iFellows program!

2017 Program information (please add to your calendars!):

Confirmed program dates: May 15-July 28, 2017

Proposed 2017 iFellows Program events (Subject to change in the coming months):

Sessions are required for all iFellows, and Faculty and Near-Peer mentors are highly encouraged to attend when possible. Confirmed dates and meeting agendas will be available Spring 2017

- Program Orientation: Monday, May 15, 2017, University of Utah (venue TBD)
 - Cohort Session #2: May 22, 2017 (Institution and venue TBD)
 - Cohort Session #3: June 5, 2017 (Institution and venue TBD)
 - Cohort Session #4: June 19, 2017 (Institution and venue TBD)
 - Cohort Session #5: Week of July 3rd (Specific date and location TBD)
- iUTAH Symposium and student Poster Presentations: July 13-14, 2017, Logan, UT
- iFellows Program Symposium (and final powerpoint presentations): July 26, 2017 (Institution and venue TBD)