USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU): Coastal Ocean Processes

2018 Program Handbook For Mentors and REUs

Revised May 1, 2018. Available on-line: dornsife.usc.edu/Wrigley/reu

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THE WIES REU PROGRAM: COASTAL OCEAN PROCESSES
This NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program is administered by the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies (WIES) and the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

The WIES REU program will support twelve highly motivated and talented undergraduate students to conduct independent but guided research that focuses on Coastal Ocean Processes during an intensive 10-week program (June 3 - August 11, 2018) at USC in Los Angeles (week 1) and the USC Wrigley Marine Science Center (WMSC) on Catalina Island, CA (weeks 2-10).

The program will also provide undergraduate students with training in laboratory and field methodologies, special seminars in oceanography and environmental science, academic and career advisement, networking opportunities with faculty and other professionals, and field trips to explore Catalina Island.

Eligibility
Applicants must be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals or permanent residents of the U.S. to be eligible for this program. Students must also have completed at least one year of undergraduate study by the summer of 2018 and must plan to be enrolled in an undergraduate degree program during the Fall of 2018. For the 2018 WIES REU program, special consideration will be given to students who attend a university or college in California and/or institutions with limited research training opportunities, but we encourage applications from all students nationwide who meet the NSF REU program's requirements for eligibility. We especially encourage students from underrepresented groups in STEM fields to apply. This program will be especially beneficial for undergraduate students with a strong interest in pursuing graduate school or a career in marine or environmental science and research. Competitive applicants will have at least a 3.25 GPA, one semester of chemistry, one semester of biology, and one semester of calculus or statistics. Prior research experience is not required.

THE WRIGLEY INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
The Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies (WIES) is USC's hub for environmental research, education and outreach. Our main offices are in Los Angeles on the USC University Park Campus, and we proudly oversee the research laboratories and conference facilities at the Philip K. Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina Island, at Big Fisherman Cove near the community of Two Harbors.

The mission of WIES is to encourage responsible and creative decisions in society by providing an objective source of marine and environmental science and fostering an understanding of the natural world among people of all ages.
Wrigley Institute-affiliated faculty conduct research in all aspects of the environment, such as the biological adaptations to climate change, interactions among humans and natural systems, and the analysis and development of environmental policy. WIES works with foundations and the public to enhance environmental awareness. More information can be found at: http://dornsife.usc.edu/wrigley/.

THE WRIGLEY MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

The WMSC is located near the town of Two Harbors on Catalina Island, about 20 miles from the port of Los Angeles, California. The location is remote but beautiful, with easy access to open ocean and coastal ecosystems. We have a 5.5-acre campus with housing, a conference center, a dining hall, a common lounge, an administrative building, a laboratory…and an ocean!

The environment
Catalina sits in a mild, temperate maritime setting. The marine systems between Los Angeles and Catalina range from urban/impacted sandy and rocky shorelines, to deep canyon-cut continental shelf systems, spectacular blue water environments, to pristine rocky intertidal and subtidal kelp forests. This is a perfect setting to examine diverse marine ecosystems with adjacent lands that include contrasting uses like commercial ports, substantial recreational activity, and marine protected areas. Catalina’s terrestrial landscape is also protected (through the Catalina Island Conservancy) and includes more than 400 native plants. This landscape offers an opportunity to compare land-ocean interactions in heavily human impacted vs. natural settings.

WMSC Laboratories
The WMSC’s 21,000 sq. ft., 3-story laboratory includes teaching facilities, six shared use research laboratories plus individual laboratories with bench space for visiting researchers; ultra clean flowing seawater, radioisotope analytical and molecular capabilities, a computer center, library, wired and wireless internet connectivity, and video-conferencing. By fall of 2014, a research greenhouse will be available for scientists to conduct plankton, aquaculture, biofuel, and terrestrial studies.

Networking and Collaborations
Visiting scientists, students and educators come from regional, national and international institutes, with many returning year after year. This will provide unique opportunities for REU Fellows to interact and network with a global scientific community.
FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHERS (REUs)

Overview
Program dates: June 4 (Mon) – August 10 (Fri), 2018 (10 weeks)
You will spend the first week of the 10-week program at the USC University Park Campus (UPC) in Los Angeles, CA and stationed at the USC Wrigley Marine Science Center (WMSC) on Catalina Island, CA for the remainder of the program. Research schedules can be very demanding and will vary from project to project. Do not expect the “standard” 40-hour/5-day week/9-5 job. During the 10 weeks, you will be expected to:

1. Plan and execute an independent research project under the guidance of a research faculty mentor and (for some projects) near-peer mentors (e.g., graduate students). We anticipate that a minimum of 70% of your working time during the program will be devoted to activities directly related to your research project.
2. Submit a written research proposal by the beginning of the third week of the program, and present your proposal to the WMSC scientific community for feedback. Guidelines for the proposal and presentation will be provided during the first week of the program.
3. Submit a Final Report at the end of the program. Guidelines for the Final Report will be provided during the first few weeks of the program.
4. Present your research findings at a joint poster symposium organized by the USC Wrigley Institute and USC Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations (CDEBI). The symposium will be held on the USC UPC in Los Angeles on August 10, 2018 (Fri) and will be open to the USC community and general public.
5. Participate in other research activities in your mentor’s lab.
6. Participate in the WIES REU seminar series.*
7. Participate in REU program networking activities and field trips.*
8. Participate in career- and skill-building workshops.*
9. Attend Mentee Lunches with the REU Director and/or Coordinators on Tuesdays every week (day subject to change).
10. Have fun and enjoy southern California and beautiful Catalina Island!

* The REU calendar of events can be found here. We ask that you try to plan around REU activities when possible, but research should take precedence. Please inform the REU Program Director and/or Coordinators of any conflicts in schedule as far in advance as possible.
The Research Project

1) **Before you arrive:** If your mentor(s) has(have) not been in touch with you yet, contact your mentor(s) via email to introduce yourself and ask for reading materials that will help you to hit the ground running once you arrive. 10 weeks is a short period of time, so any preparatory work that you can do will help, including reading papers and familiarizing yourself with methods. Some mentor-mentee teams also chat via phone or video conferencing prior to arrival to discuss project ideas. Engaging your mentors prior to your arrival will show enthusiasm and initiative.

2) **The Proposal:** During the first week of the program, you will work closely with your mentor(s) to design a summer research project. Since good science often thrives on collaboration and interaction among researchers, you will present your research proposal to the WMSC science community for feedback at the beginning of the third week of the program (10 minute talk, including feedback and questions). You will also be responsible to turn in a written version of your proposal by June 21. *It is recommended that you ask your mentor(s) to review your draft proposal and go through at least one practice run of your presentation with them.* You will receive guidelines for the written proposal and oral presentation during week 1 of the program.

3) **Execution of the Project:** The details of your project will define your work schedule for the summer. You will work with your mentor(s) to develop a research plan, which should include a timeline that outlines the weekly tasks that must be completed in order to finish the project in the 10-week period. We encourage you to trade field and laboratory help with other REUs in the program as well as other members of your mentor’s laboratory to maximize your research experiences and to learn about other projects. Be prepared for potentially erratic or irregular and long working hours.

4) **Laboratory notebooks:** Each student will be given a laboratory notebook at the beginning of the program. Notebooks should be used to keep detailed notes of the research project, including experimental design of field work and/or lab experiments, results and other notes that are pertinent to the research project. Be diligent about taking detailed notes and, whenever possible, create a duplicate electronic copy of your notes (especially if you take your notebook out into the field). These notes will be critical during data analyses and preparation of final reports and posters. Mentor(s) may also ask to see your lab notebook and/or ask to keep your notebook at the end of the program if the project will be continued with other students.

5) **Weekly meetings:** You will be required to meet with your faculty and/or graduate student mentor(s) at least once a week. During the weekly meetings
with mentors, you should be prepared to provide a progress report of your research project, including results, issues, troubleshooting ideas, next steps, and other research-related matters. Each REU-mentor pair will determine the best day to have these weekly meetings, which can be done in person or via video or phone conferencing. You should take very detailed notes during these meetings, and make sure that you clearly understand any expectations, comments and/or suggestions expressed by your mentor(s).

6) The Final Report and Poster Presentation: You should plan to end your data collection at least 10 days before the last day of the program. Data analysis and interpretation as well as the process of putting together a poster and final report usually take longer than planned, so we suggest you begin this process as early as possible. Keeping detailed notes as you conduct your research will help you develop your final report and poster. You might also consider starting the Introduction and Methods sections early. Your mentor will guide you in analyzing and interpreting data. Further guidelines for the final report and poster presentation will be provided during the first few weeks of the REU program. Electronic versions of the final report will be due on August 10, 2018. These reports will be bound together into a single volume that will be kept at the USC WMSC library, and your Final Report abstract will be “published” on the USC WIES-REU program web site. You will also present a poster of your research findings at the USC Wrigley Institute/CDEBI joint poster symposium at USC on August 10, 2018. The symposium will be open to the USC community and general public. You’re welcome to invite friends and family!

7) Lab Cleanup: It is important that your research activities do not result in additional cleanup work for other researchers after you leave. Before leaving the WMSC and the USC UPC, you must clean your workspace in your mentor’s or assigned lab space and dispose of any samples that your mentor does not plan to save using approved protocols. For WMSC lab spaces, you will receive a “Checkout List” that needs to be approved by the WMSC lab manager (Lauren Oudin) or the lab technician (Kellie Spafford) to show that your obligations have been met prior to your departure.

8) Acknowledgements: The National Science Foundation requires that any publication resulting from, or including, work supported by the NSF REU-Sites program include the following acknowledgement: “This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under NSF Award OCE-1263356.” You should also acknowledge the Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, USC Dornsife, your faculty mentor(s), near-peer mentor(s), lab mates, and anyone else who helped you during the summer.
SCUBA DIVERS

The Wrigley Marine Science Center (WMSC) on Catalina Island is an ideal base for underwater research with convenient access to both temperate nearshore and open water environments. Situated in Big Fisherman's Cove, a nearby marine life refuge established in 1989 offers soft clean sediment, kelp forests and a wide diversity of marine life. The waters just a short distance offshore are deep enough for excellent blue-water diving.

The USC Wrigley Institute conducts a university dive program in accordance with the standards set forth by the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS). USC is an AAUS Organizational Member and recognizes dive certifications from other AAUS organizational members through reciprocity.

Underwater research at the WMSC requires active AAUS Scientific Diver certification for every member of the diving party.

All REU divers and dive-related research activities will be managed by Dr. David Ginsburg (dginsbur@usc.edu), Assistant Diving Safety Officer and Associate Professor, Environmental Studies Program.

Some general guidelines for SCUBA divers are provided below, but please be sure to get in touch with Dr. Ginsburg at least 3 weeks prior to your arrival to ensure that you meet all the requirements for diving at USC.

The following steps are required for Non-USC Scientific Divers from other AAUS organizational members to dive with our program:

1. Research at the Wrigley Marine Science Center and within the marine refuge must be approved by the Diving Safety Officer (DSO), Eric Castillo and the WMSC Laboratory Manager, Lauren Oudin. The online Research Activity Plan is available here, and our current Diving Safety Manual is available here.
2. Please submit the following to the USC DSO:
   Letter of Reciprocity (LOR)
   Approved Dive Plan from your DSO. LORs and Dive Plans must be submitted and receive approval from the USC DSO at least 24 hours prior to the dive operation.
3. All divers conducting scientific dive operations at the Wrigley Marine Science Center are required to log all dives on the USC Scientific Diver Database. Please contact the USC DSO for Registration instructions. Registration is required prior to arrival and dive authorization.
4. Complete a Dive Orientation Briefing on arrival (15 minutes)
The following steps are required for **USC Scientific Divers** to dive with our program:

1. Research at the Wrigley Marine Science Center and within the marine refuge must be approved by the Diving Safety Officer (DSO), [Eric Castillo](mailto:eric.castillo@usc.edu) and the WMSC Laboratory Manager, [Lauren Oudin](mailto:lauren.oudin@usc.edu). Applicants must fill out a **Research Activity Plan**.
2. Contact the USC DSO to request a copy of the USC Scientific Diver Information Form. This form requires divers to provide proof of the following: Scuba medical clearance, SCUBA certification, DAN (or equivalent) dive medical insurance, CPR, AED, First Aid and O₂ certification, and proof of gear service within the previous 12 months or a purchase receipt within the previous 12 months.
3. Register in the **USC Diver Database**. USC scientific divers are required to log all training dives. Once registered and activated, it is the diver’s responsibility to maintain their certifications. Divers may check their certification expiration via their profile page. All certifications and dive logs must be current before dive plans will be considered for approval. If there are any questions, please [contact the DSO](mailto:eric.castillo@usc.edu).
4. **All USC divers must complete a check out dive with the DSO.** Check out dives are regularly scheduled at the Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina (1st Thursday of the month) or on the mainland (2nd Saturday of the month at Redondo Beach Veterans Park), or at other times of convenience to the diver. Please [contact the DSO](mailto:eric.castillo@usc.edu) to schedule your check out dive.

For more information, visit [https://dornsife.usc.edu/wrigley/scientificdiving/](https://dornsife.usc.edu/wrigley/scientificdiving/).
To conduct research in a lab unsupervised, all undergraduate students must complete a 4-hour campus safety course (or the equivalent at your home institution) and a 1-hour WMSC-specific safety talk.

To work in a lab under supervision (by a graduate student or instructor/faculty), all undergraduates must complete a 4-hour safety course (or the equivalent at your home institution) and the same 1-hour WMSC specific presentation. All supervisors must complete the 4-hour training and the 1 hour WMSC-specific safety talk.

Undergraduate students enrolled in academic courses need only complete the 1-hour WMSC-specific safety talk.

No one is permitted in the Radiation Lab unless they have completed the Radiation Safety Course and are named on a current Radiation Permit.

Students under the age of 18 are not allowed to work unsupervised in the labs. If ANY students in a group are under 18, the group must have a supervisor (who has completed the six-hour training) and an adult chaperone to watch over each “bay” being used in the lab). Chaperones are not required to complete any formal training, but are encouraged to complete the 1-hour WMSC safety course.

*Note: Students over 18 are allowed in the lecture hall, computer room and library at any time without supervision.*

**USC Lab Safety Course Information:**

**REU students will complete the 4-hour laboratory safety training course during the first week of the program at the USC UPC.**
REU Professional Development, Training, Seminars and Socials

The USC WIES REU Seminar Series
Researchers and professionals from academia, industry, government and non-profits will be invited as guest speakers for the weekly REU seminar series. REU students will have an opportunity to network with speakers and learn about diverse marine and environmental research topics. Seminars will usually take place on Wednesdays every week, but check the REU Calendar regularly for updates.

Career- and Skill-Building Workshops
Several career- and skill-building workshops will be organized for REUs. Topics may include: scientific communication (proposals, presentations, and scientific papers); applying to and choosing a graduate school and program of study; career opportunities in science; research ethics; education and outreach; oceanographic research methods; and more. Workshops will be posted on the REU Calendar.

Mentee Lunches
The USC WIES REU Program Director, Dr. Karla Heidelberg, and REU Coordinators, Dr. Diane Kim and Dr. David Ginsburg, will meet with REUs every Tuesdays at lunch (day subject to change) throughout the summer. These meetings will provide REUs with an informal setting to openly discuss their progress, challenges, and/or questions they have about their research project or other REU-related matters. This will also be a time for the REU Director and Coordinators to make important announcements.

Field Trips and Orientation Activities
During orientation, REUs will get a tour of USC and WMSC campuses and research laboratories, have a “meet and greet” with other undergraduate researchers and mentors (faculty and near-peer mentors), receive laboratory safety training, visit the Natural History Museum, explore Catalina through hiking and kayaking excursions, network during beach cookouts, and more!

Activities will be updated throughout the summer on the REU Calendar.
Finances and Travel

Finances
REUs will receive a stipend of $500/week during the 10-week program. Stipends will be disbursed in two installments of $2,500. The first installment will be issued on June 4, 2018 (Day 1) and the second installment will be issued on July 9, 2018.

For non-USC students: you will receive an e-mail from USC’s Supplier Portal (technicalsupport@sciquest.com) to complete a new vendor application (non-USC students need to be set up as an ‘external vendor’ for payments). Please fill out the application, which will also include an option to set up direct deposits. If you have any problems filling out the application, please contact the Portal help desk at 213-740-2716.

Taxes: This fellowship may also be taxable under California and Federal law. All tax matters are your responsibility. Please consult the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) (http://www.irs.gov/publications/p970/index.html, IRS help-line at 800-829-1040) and/or consult a qualified tax advisor.

Housing
Housing on the USC University Park Campus during the first week of the program (June 3 - 11, 2018) and last two days of the program (August 9 – 11, 2018); and at the Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina Island from (June 11 – August 9, 2018) will be provided. Students will be housed 2 or 3 people to a dorm. Dorms are furnished with bedding, towels, desks, chairs, and most also have mini refrigerators. Our rooms are comfortable, but remember that you will be living at a remote field station for most of the program.

Meals
Meals at the WMSC on Catalina during weeks 2-10 of the program will be provided. REU students are responsible for their own meals during week one of the program at the USC UPC campus in Los Angeles. The first half of stipends will be issued on the first day of the program to use for food.

Travel
Travel expenses from and to home institutions will be covered by the program. The REU Director and/or REU Coordinators will contact you in mid-April to begin arranging your travel.
Week 1

Week 1 of the REU program will take place at the USC University Park Campus in Los Angeles.

Traveling to USC:
- Those DRIVING to USC, please email dianekim@usc.edu by 5/14/2018 if you need a parking space.
- Those FLYING to LA on Jun 3 (Sun), we will reserve a PrimeTime Shuttle for you at the Los Angeles Airport. The PrimeTime Shuttle will drop you off at the USC campus.
- For those flying in on an earlier date, you will be responsible to get to USC on Jun 3.

Housing at USC UPC:
- Housing at USC in Los Angeles during week 1 will be at the Parkside Residential Building (PKS), which you can locate on this interactive map: https://web-app.usc.edu/mobile/maps/. Check-in any time on Jun 3 (Sun).
- Please review Campus Safety Tips
- All rooms have a full-sized refrigerator, but no microwave. The Wrigley Institute office (CAS 200) has a microwave you can use during normal business hours (9 am – 5 pm)
- Room assignments at Parkside:

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- Everyone should prepare to check out of the USC dorms on Jun 11 (Mon) by 5:30 am. A USC shuttle bus will take you to meet the USC boat for transportation to Catalina Island. The shuttle will depart from USC at 6 am, and the USC boat departs at 7:30 am. More information will be provided during week 1.
Week 1 activities:

- **REU Orientation** – please meet in CAS 200 for the REU Orientation on Jun 4, 2018 (Mon), 9 am. Campus map: [https://web-app.usc.edu/mobile/maps/](https://web-app.usc.edu/mobile/maps/)
- You will spend most of week 1 with your mentors to plan summer research activities. We will also plan 1 or 2 special seminars, dates/times TBD.
- General Lab Safety course on Jun 6 (Wed), 1-4 pm. Everyone must complete USC’s general lab safety course in order to conduct research at USC. You should have received confirmation of your registration in the course. Please contact dianekim@usc.edu ASAP if you haven’t.
- REU activities and events will be added to the REU Google Calendar throughout the program. Please check the calendar regularly for updates.

Meals during week 1:

- You are responsible for your own meals while at USC UPC (week 1), but we will provide breakfast and lunch during orientation on Jun 4. You should all receive the first installment of your stipends by Jun 4 to purchase meals. Meals on the island (weeks 2-10) will be provided by the program.
- Places to eat at USC: [http://hospitality.usc.edu/dining-map/](http://hospitality.usc.edu/dining-map/)

Other information:

- WiFi: you will have immediate and free access to the USC Guest WiFi
- Public transportation system in Los Angeles is the Metro: [https://www.metro.net/](https://www.metro.net/). Cost for Metro rides is $1.75/way. There’s a station right across the street from USC, on Exposition, which you can take to Downtown/Little Tokyo (east bound) and Santa Monica (west bound).
- Things to do near/from USC:
  - Natural History Museum, the California Science Center and Rose Garden are right across the street from USC, cross Exposition
  - Take Metro to Little Tokyo and/or Downtown for shops, restaurants, cafes
  - Take Metro to Santa Monica Beach
- **Download Mendeley**, a free reference manager. After you download the desktop version, also add Word and Chrome plug-ins. Read through the manual and start playing around with the program. This will make organizing manuscripts and citing references in Word a lot easier!
- **Social Media**
  - Instagram: @USCWrigleyInst (for general Wrigley Inst); @wies_up and #wies_up (for Wrigley Inst for Env Studies Undergrad Programs) **use wies_up for REU program related photos
  - Facebook: USCWrigleyInst and USCWiesREU
FOR REU MENTORS

**Important dates and reminders:**

Before the program begins, please communicate with your REU student(s) about summer research plans by email, telephone or video conferencing. Please send students manuscripts and other “homework” so that they can hit the ground running when they arrive!

June 4 – 10, 2018 (week 1): REUs will be on the USC UPC and spend most of their time in mentors’ labs. Please work with students to develop a feasible research plan for the summer. Students will be stationed at the WMSC on Catalina for the remainder of the program (June 11 – August 9, 2018) and will be back on the main campus for the REU joint poster symposium with CDEBI on August 10, 2018 (Fri).

June 21 (Wed): 1-2 page written proposals due from students

June 25 (Monday): REUs will give an oral presentation about their summer research plans at the WMSC on Catalina Island. The presentation will be open to the WMSC science community. Mentors are highly encouraged to attend!

July 30-August 9, 2018 (last 2 weeks): Mentors will be responsible to guide REUs in data analysis and preparation of posters and final reports.

August 10 (Fri): Final report due from students

August 10 (Fri): REUs present their research at the main USC campus in LA

REU activities will be updated regularly on the [REU Google Calendar](#).

**Time on the island:** REU mentors will have housing at the WMSC on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please email dianekim@usc.edu to make arrangements as far in advance as possible and at least 3 days in advance of your expected stay. Space on the Miss Christy will be prioritized for REU mentors throughout the program. Please contact wiesboat@usc.edu directly to reserve space on the boat and mention that you are a REU mentor. REU mentors will be responsible for their own meals. Breakfast and lunch at the WMSC Dining Hall are $8 each, and dinners are $15 each. The mentor apartment has a full kitchen, so mentors can also bring their own food, but we encourage you to dine with REU students!
A note about mentor teams and shared mentoring responsibility:
The goal of this REU program is to provide the best mentoring situation for undergraduates, so please keep this in mind when developing a mentoring plan for your student(s). Team mentoring (faculty, postdocs, graduate students, and/or other members of the lab sharing mentoring responsibilities) can be very effective and is highly encouraged to expose REU students to researchers at different career stages and to provide mentor training opportunities for postdoctoral researchers and graduate students. However, if primary responsibility for undergraduate researcher(s) will be assigned to post-docs, graduate students and/or some combination of personnel in faculty mentors’ labs, please keep in mind that **faculty mentors are still expected to directly engage with REUs**, either in person or via video/phone conferencing. We know from experience that this will have a significant impact on the REU student’s experience in the program! The faculty mentor’s role will be especially important during the first and last two weeks of the program.

Lab Supervision
REU students must be accompanied by near-peer and/or faculty mentors to work in the WMSC laboratories. The REU Program Director and Coordinators will be on site to provide supervision during times that mentors are not available.

The Research Project
Please think about a research project that an undergraduate student can execute and complete (semi-independently) during a 10-week period at the Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina Island. Ideally, the research project will contribute to or complement ongoing work for a dissertation, research grant, or proposal. REU students often produce high quality work and have the potential to make significant contributions to research programs, so please think strategically about what project to carve out for them. Please note that some mentors allow REUs to develop their own research questions, others provide options for summer projects, and some assign specific projects to students. Whatever the situation, please be sure to inform students about the research process, and engage them in as many stages of the research process as possible (e.g., decision-making about experimental design or explaining why a specific experimental design will be used).

Expectations
In addition to clearly laying out a road map of the research project and goals, mentors should also clearly articulate other expectations that they have for the REU student, including working hours, participation in other lab activities or projects, sharing data, authorship, and other relevant matters at the start of the program.
Mentor Meeting
The REU Program Director and Coordinators are more than happy to meet with mentors prior to or during the program to address any questions or concerns. Please email dianekim@usc.edu to schedule a meeting. We especially encourage new REU mentors to schedule at least one meeting with REU program coordinators prior to the start of the program.

Follow-ups
Please inform the REU Program Director (Kheidelb@usc.edu) and/or the REU Coordinators (dianekim@usc.edu and dginsbur@usc.edu) of any publications or presentations at scientific meetings that you coauthor with your undergraduate researcher.

The National Science Foundation also requires that any publication resulting from, or including, work supported by the NSF REU-Site program include the following acknowledgement: “This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under NSF Award OCE-1263356.”

Thank you!
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2018 REU students, mentors and projects

Castaneda, Noe
UC Santa Cruz (Marine Biology, Class of 2019)
REU Faculty Mentor: Dr. Rita Mehta (Associate Professor, UCSC Physical & Biological Sciences)
Graduate student mentor: TBD
Project topic: Morphological, physiological, and behavioral evolution in vertebrates, title TBD

Crawford, Calyn Mei
University of South Carolina (Marine Science, Class of 2020)
REU Faculty Mentor: Dr. Douglas Capone, Professor, USC Biological Sciences
Graduate student mentor: Yubin Raut
Project topic: Nitrogen fixing organisms and nitrogen fixation rates associated with macroalgae, title TBD

Cross, Candice
Loyola Marymount (Biology, Class of 2019)
Dr. Mark Steele (Associate Professor, Cal State University Northridge Biology)
Graduate student mentor: George Jarvis
Project topic: Marine invertebrate and fish ecology, title TBD
REU partner: Hunter, Ramo

Farr, Declan
University of Southern California (Biology, Class of 2020)
REU Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Moffett (Professor, USC Biology, Earth Sciences and Civil and Environmental Engineering)
Graduate student mentor: Kenneth Bolster
Project topic: Trace metal biogeochemistry, title TBD

Hunter, Ramo
University of Southern California (Environmental Studies, Class of 2020)
Dr. Mark Steele (Associate Professor, Cal State University Northridge Biology)
Graduate student mentor: George Jarvis
Project topic: Marine invertebrate and fish ecology, title TBD
REU partner: Cross, Candice

Tristan, Jordan
University of Southern California (Environmental Studies, Class of 2019)
REU Faculty Mentors: Dr. David Ginsburg (Associate Professor of Teaching, USC Environmental Studies) and Dr. Diane Kim (USC Wrigley Institute Director of Undergraduate Programs and Associate Director of Special Projects)
Project topic: Kelp biofuel, title TBD
REU partner: Machuca, Connie

King, Madeleine
Bowdoin (Earth and Oceanographic Science, Class of 2019)
REU Faculty Mentors: Dr. William Berelson (Professor, USC Earth Sciences)
Graduate student mentor: Abby Lundstrom
Project topic: Climate science, title TBD

Machuca, Connie
University of Southern California (Environmental Studies, Class of 2020)
REU Faculty Mentors: Dr. David Ginsburg (Associate Professor of Teaching, USC Environmental Studies) and Dr. Diane Kim (USC Wrigley Institute Director of Undergraduate Programs and Associate Director of Special Projects)
Project topic: Kelp biofuel, title TBD
REU partner: Jordan, Tristan

Levi, Samantha
University of Southern California (GeoDesign, Class of 2020)
REU Faculty Mentors: Dr. Lynn Dodd, Associate Professor, USC Practice of Religion and Director, USC Interdisciplinary Archaeology Undergraduate Major, and Dr. Su Jin Lee, Lecturer, USC Spatial Sciences Institute
Project topic: Reconstructing the hydrology of Catalina Island using GIS to identify submarine groundwater discharge sites, title TBD
REU partner: Malakoff, Eliza

Malakoff, Eliza
Carleton College (Geology, Class of 2019)
REU Faculty Mentors: Dr. Lynn Dodd, Associate Professor, USC Practice of Religion and Director, USC Interdisciplinary Archaeology Undergraduate Major, and Dr. Su Jin Lee, Lecturer, USC Spatial Sciences Institute
Project topic: Reconstructing the hydrology of Catalina Island using GIS to identify submarine groundwater discharge sites, title TBD
REU partner: Levi, Samantha

Ortiz, Emelly
Mt. St. Mary’s University (Biology, Class of 2020)
REU Faculty Mentors: Dr. Adriane Jones (Assistant Professor, Mt. St. Mary’s University Biology
Project topic: Microbial diversity and function in an aquaponics system, title TBD
Pham, Kent Do
University of Sciences (Biological Sciences, Class of 2020)
REU Faculty Mentor: Dr. John Heidelberg, Associate Professor, USC Biology and Environmental Studies
Graduate student mentor: Elaina Graham
Project topic: Deep-sea microbial ecology, title TBD