

COMMENT AND PERSPECTIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

August 27, 2014

The College of Medicine has developed outstanding summer research programs for high school and undergraduate students. These programs introduce young students to the biomedical sciences and to the potential of a future medical education. Many of the students eventually enroll in medical and graduate programs. Abigail Tissot, PhD, provides an overview on these important summer programs.



Thomas F. Boat, MD
Vice President
for Health Affairs,
Christian R. Holmes
Professor and Dean,
College of Medicine

UCCoM Summer Pipeline Programs



Abigail Tissot, PhD
Director, Student
Affairs and
Recruitment,
College of Medicine

More than 200 high school and undergraduate students from around the country recently swarmed the CARE/Crawley Atrium as the summer of 2014 drew to a close. Each year, our College of Medicine welcomes these students to Cincinnati and engages them with mentorship, professional development and research activities through our summer pipeline programs to enhance their development as future professionals. CoM faculty and staff tackle the herculean task of screening, interviewing and selecting these students from more than 1,500 applicants. Then, in June, young people from across the country arrive in Cincinnati to participate in our nationally renowned summer pipeline programs.

ROSE Program

The **ROSE Program** is one of the CoM's oldest pipeline programs. ROSE stands for "Research, Observation, Service and Education" and offers early assurance acceptance to the CoM for highly motivated, intellectually curious undergraduate students. This program identifies the strongest premedical students from Ohio and reciprocity counties in Kentucky and Indiana attending undergraduate institutions throughout the nation. From nearly 200 applicants, 10 to 12 students are offered admission to the ROSE program each year. Students participate in

two consecutive summer research internships and matriculate to the CoM upon the completion of their undergraduate degrees.

ROSE students participate in research spanning many departments in our Academic Health Center and are provided with formative experiences in research, clinical observation and community engagement to aid their development as future physicians. This past year, for example, students shadowed various CoM surgical disciplines, attended a lecture on professionalism in medicine by Jeffrey Strawn, MD, and heard an invited medical student lecture from ROSE alumna Eileen Donovan (M2). All second-year students concluded their ROSE experience by presenting a research poster and many matriculated to the UCCoM within days of this capstone experience.

SURF Programs

The ROSE Program does not function in isolation. The extensive programming offered to our students is made possible through collaboration with other CoM summer pipeline programs. Specifically, several **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Programs** are offered through the Office of Graduate Education, Medical Scientist Training Program, Graduate Program in Neuroscience, and Pharmacology, Toxicology & Pharma-

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ceutical Sciences. These SURF programs collaborate with the **SURF program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center** to bring high school and college students to Cincinnati and engage them in research with Academic Health Center scholars. SURF programming is co-developed and utilized by Cincinnati Children's summer pipeline programs for high school students — **High School Senior Internship** and **Biomedical Research Internship for Minority Students (BRIMS)** — and UC undergraduates in the **McNair Scholars** and **Honors Program**. Notably, the BRIMS and McNair programs select individuals from first generation low-income and/or ethnic minority backgrounds, providing students with support and preparation for pursuing advanced degrees.

Together, our diverse SURF programs offer young scholars cultural and social programming, academic activities, clinical lectures and seminars.

Summer Capstone Poster Symposium

As the summer concludes, students from all pipeline programs gather for a collaborative, two-day Capstone Poster Symposium. This symposium allows students to present their work and culminates with awards acknowledging students' quality of work, poster composition and oral presentation.

Although the hallways quiet down for a few days after the symposium, the "pipeline" experience for our summer students rarely ends with the summer capstone. Many of these students matriculate to UC undergraduate or graduate programs or the College of Medicine. Some return for another pipeline experience. Many continue to collaborate with their mentors and colleagues.

The paths of pipeline students are varied, but one common theme defines their

experience: CoM pipeline programs would not exist without the mentorship, support and dedication of our Academic Health Center faculty and staff. Moreover, without the excellence of those involved, students wouldn't flood our programs with applications year after year. So, it is with sincerest gratitude that I thank each of you for your ongoing commitment to developing the next generation of scholars, researchers and clinicians. Thank you for another phenomenal summer of pipeline programming.

Abbigail Tissot, PhD

Director, Student Affairs and Recruitment

tissotam@ucmail.uc.edu

Interested in Being a Mentor?

*Faculty and staff who are willing to extend research, clinical and/or service opportunities to ROSE students are always needed. Please contact **Abbigail Tissot, PhD**, if you are willing to offer an enriching experience to these young physicians-in-training or would like to act as a research mentor.*

Pipeline programs are always searching for mentors who are willing to welcome students for paid summer internships. If you think a particular program may be of interest to you, please visit the program website. You may also support CoM pipeline programs by acting as a judge for the summer Poster Capstone Symposium.

UCCoM ROSE Program:
med.uc.edu/ROSE

UCCoM SURF Programs:
med.uc.edu/SURF

CCHMC SURF Programs:
cincinnatichildrens.org/education/research/surf/default/

CCHMC High School Student Programs:
cincinnatichildrens.org/education/research/high-school/default/

UC McNair Scholars Program:
uc.edu/mcnair/McNair_Programs.html

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Office of the Dean

3230 Eden Avenue | PO Box 670555
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0555

513-558-7333 | thomas.boat@uc.edu | med.uc.edu

