

International REU

Bernard Whiting and Guido Mueller
University of Florida
with support from NSF



Gravitational Physics International REU

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International Summer Research Program in Gravitational-Wave Physics: Research Experiences for Undergraduates around the world

Thank for your interest in the University of Florida's International REU program in Gravitational Physics.

This program, made possible by the National Science Foundation, is designed to expose students to the rigors of gravitational physics research within a setting that truly reflects its international character. For a period of 8-10 weeks during the summer, participants work on research projects in some of the best gravitational physics labs in Europe, Japan, and Australia. During their stay, students also benefit from the valuable cultural enrichment that comes with living in a foreign environment. The program is open only to US residents, and we are especially interested in recruiting women and minority students.

This year we have several exciting projects lined up. Visit the Projects page for further details. We hope you take time to explore this site for more details on this program.

We invite you to apply and partake of this wonderful opportunity! Students from small schools with limited research resources are particularly encouraged to apply.

IREU In Previous Years



- > 2008 Destinations and Students
- > 2007 Destinations and Students

IREU Contacts

- > Prof Bernard Whiting
- > Prof Guido Mueller

IREU Central



- > Department of Physics
- > University of Florida

What we do

- Solicit applications from undergraduates
- Assemble projects from hosts worldwide
- Coordinate students with projects and hosts
- Send them to foreign labs for two months
- Provide them with stipend, travel & housing
- Brief and debrief them in Gainesville, FL

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APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If you are interested in participating in the UF IREU program, you should send the following:

- (1) Official Transcript
- (2) Curriculum Vitae
- (3) Name and contact information of someone willing to write you a recommendation letter (preferably someone you have worked for in a lab)
- (4) A list of projects you find interesting (from the projects page)
- (5) A person who can act as your mentor in your home institution (if it is the person writing you a recommendation letter, just mention this)
- (6) Address to which a check can be securely sent (not a dorm) in Summer
- (7) Visa status

Requirements (2)-(7) should be sent to vega@phys.ufl.edu.

The transcript (requirement #1) must be addressed to:

Gravitational Physics International REU Program
 Department of Physics
 University of Florida
 P.O. Box 118440
 Gainesville, FL 32611-8440

Application Deadline

There is no strict deadline for admission, but the best chance for getting matched to a project is by filing a complete application before Mid-December. However, we continue to review applications until all positions are filled.



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FUNDING

Details: This is an NSF initiative. Undergraduate participants will receive a \$4,200 stipend, travel health insurance, an allowance for travel to/from Gainesville, FL and to/from their host institution. Housing will be organized by the host institution. It can be a student dormitory or a small apartment. We normally arrange to pay for housing directly.

Eligibility: IREU participants must be undergraduate students and must be citizens or legal permanent residents of the United States or its possessions.

What you can do

- Identify suitable undergraduates
 - US residents, studying in US
 - under-represented minorities
 - limited access to research opportunities
 - demonstrated lab experience
- Encourage (and support) them to apply
- Send to <http://www.phys.ufl.edu/ireu>



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SCHEDULE

Mid-September: Start assembling project list. This process usually proceeds throughout the Fall.

Mid-September: Start receiving applications. If previous projects interest you, consider applying even before the project list is complete.

Mid-December: Applications are reviewed. Allocation process commences.

Mid-January: Admitted students are announced. All admitted students are notified via email.

Throughout Spring: Contact with host is established. Reading material is assigned. Visa applied for. Travel and housing arrangements are made.

Mid-May: 3-day Gainesville visit. Program Briefing. Meet other students. Present your understanding of your proposed project.

June-July: Work in lab abroad. Usual duration, 8-10 weeks.

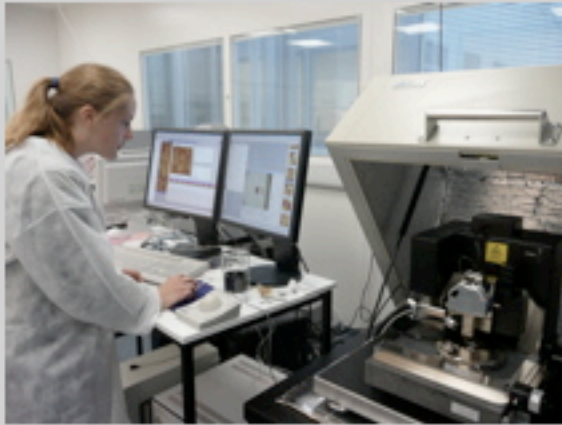
Mid-August: Back to Gainesville. Debriefing. Research presentation and submission of written report. Final payment authorized.

What hosts do

- Offer u-grad projects for selection (Now!)
- Provide students with prior reading material
- Help to identify and select of housing
- Host and mentor students during visit -2 mo
- Provide supportive environment & facilities
- Monitor progress, provide us with feedback

Images from a Summer well spent

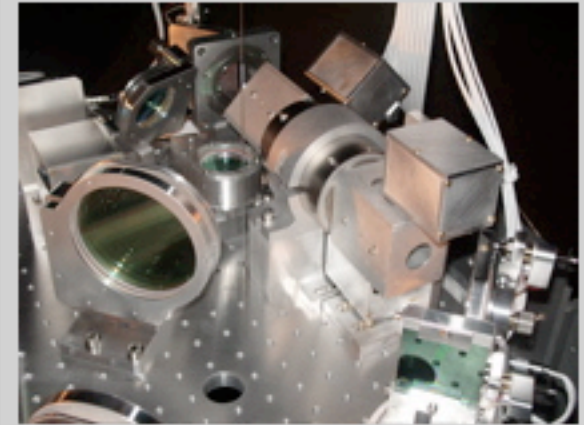
Scientific aspects



Elizabeth works on a scan with the Atomic Force Microscope



Working with the ellipsometer - time off from sightseeing



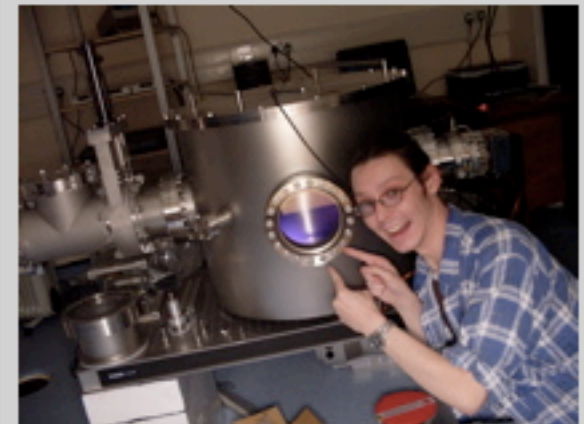
John was working on a Faraday Isolator at Virgo



James Watt's personal steam engine in Glasgow



Andrew made an excursion to see the Virgo detector



Richard shows off his plasma cleaning experiment



Casey installs accelerometers to measure fan noise directly



Cardiff sent an exhibit to the Royal Society Summer Exhibition



Gravity at work in nearby Pisa

Sightseeing opportunities



Jeff really got his eye into ancient Rome



Stephanie against the view from inside the tower in Celle, Germany



Fast cars are a speciality in Italy