2015 MOST Summer Program

MANUAL

University of Illinois at Chicago
College of Dentistry
Welcome

Welcome to the MOST Summer Program! We are very glad you have chosen to participate and hope that we will provide an enriching and useful research experience. Our goal is to give you experience and exposure to research opportunities so that you may better plan your future education and develop career goals. Throughout the summer, feel free to contact Dr. Ana Bedran-Russo or Ashley Burton if you have any questions whatsoever. We want you to feel welcome and comfortable and to help you learn as much as possible.

Dr. Ana Bedran-Russo is Associate Professor and the Director of Applied Dental Biomaterials & Interfaces Research. Dr. Bedran-Russo is the Director of the T32 MOST Program and the MOST Summer Research Program. Her research focuses on biomechanics and biochemistry of dental hard tissue and bioinspired strategies to preserve and repair lost tooth structure. Dr. Bedran-Russo is actively involved in teaching and mentoring pre-doctoral and post-doctoral students. She is involved in many clinical and research associations such as Academy of Dental Materials, International Association for Dental Research and Academy of Operative Dentistry. Contact: bedran@uic.edu, phone: 312-413-9581, Room 531

Dr. Phimon Atsawasuwan, DDS, MS, MSc, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Orthodontics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Atsawasuwan’s research interest is in the field of Orthodontics and Craniofacial biology emphasizing on accelerated tooth movement and microRNA biology. He serves as a President of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR), Chicago section. He receives several research awards and funding from the University of Illinois at Chicago, American Association of Orthodontist Foundation and NIH. He serves as a reviewer for many peer-reviewed journals and has mentored numerous trainees at all levels.
Ashley Burton – Office of Academic Affairs, is the coordinator of the post-graduate programs at the College of Dentistry including the MS in Oral Sciences. Ashley is happy to answer any questions that come her way. aburt55@uic.edu, phone: 312-355-4666, Room 202D

What is the MOST Program?

MOST stands for Multidisciplinary Oral Science Training. The Summer Program is one of several research programs for different levels of students. All of the programs prepare highly qualified individuals for careers in oral health science research, some as scientists and some as clinician scientists. The MOST Program has a PhD program and a combined PhD/DMD program. It also trains postdoctoral fellows (individuals who have completed a PhD and are receiving further training prior to becoming a faculty member).

Oral science research is multidisciplinary because it covers many different areas of biomedicine. The oral cavity can be thought of as a gateway to many other organ systems in the rest of the body, so research at the College of Dentistry involves a lot more than just teeth.

Faculty conduct a wide range of research activities, from public health and prevention and the development of best practices in dentistry, to the creation of techniques and technology that will allow teeth to be regenerated in adults. Research occurs at the college from the bench (laboratory) to the bedside (treatment of patients). College faculty work with other researchers throughout the university and throughout the world to address critical questions involving a diverse range of health issues including diabetes, stress and depression, HIV prevention, wound healing and cancer. It is possible that your research mentor may be located not in the College of Dentistry, but in another health science college at the University of Illinois at Chicago. That’s because there are faculty outside the college who do research projects that involve systems related to the oral cavity.

Your Summer Experience
The core of your summer experience will be a mentored research project. You will work in a laboratory under the advising and supervision of a faculty mentor. During that time, you will help to plan and execute the project and will be activity involved in literature review and learn new laboratory techniques. At the end of the summer, you may have enough data to write a research abstract which you can submit for presentation at a scientific meeting.

After you complete 12 weeks of research during the summer, you may have enough data to submit an abstract to a scientific meeting. If your abstract is selected, you will be able to travel (with funding support) to that meeting and present your research. Doing so will give you exposure to other researchers in your field as well as showcase additional education opportunities.

Participants who attend schools in or near Chicago are encouraged to submit an abstract to the College of Dentistry’s Clinic and Research Day, held in early March of every year. At this meeting, over 100 students who have conducted research or case reports in the College present their findings to faculty and the research community.

The program will also include weekly meetings of all summer research participants during which common topics will be explored. These topics will include: ABC’s of evidence base medicine/dentistry; how to read an articles, how to write a hypothesis, responsible conduct of research, careers in biomedical research, How to write an abstract/ make a research presentation.

### Scientific Meeting

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### Program Expectations
During the summer, your faculty mentor will be your primary supervisor. So, he/she will set your schedule and expectations for most of you week. Additionally, program participants are expected to attend all scheduled events.

Exceptions can be made for reasonable requests, especially for academic reasons; though requests must be made in advance to Dr. Bedran-Russo or Ashley Burton.

All participants must adhere to safety and laboratory standards and procedures. Participants will receive online training prior to beginning research in a laboratory.

A MOST Summer Research Mini-Symposium will take place at the last week of the program. The symposium is organized to showcase the research activities carried out during the program. Participants are expected to work with their mentors of the preparation of a formal presentation of their research experience during the program.

All participants are also expected to work with their mentors to write and submit an abstract to a scientific meeting. If the abstract is selected, the student must attend the meeting. Travel funding will be provided for this purpose. However, it is possible that students may have to spend additional time during the academic year to prepare their presentations.

Choosing a mentor

Prior to the beginning of the program, each participant will be matched to a mentor to work with over the course of the summer. Our mentors are part of a world-class research faculty and conduct cutting-edge biomedical research. They also all have years of mentoring experience at the undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral levels. The program will make every effort to match the trainee’s with a mentor with expertise on the research interest disclosed in the application. Mentor selection is based on their availability to mentor for this summer.

Schedule

**Monday, June 1, 10am – 2pm: Orientation**

**Weekly, throughout summer: 12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**Tuesday, August 18: Mini-Symposium**

**Friday, August 21: last day of the program**

Additional events may be added throughout the summer. Participants will be given adequate time to plan their schedules. Each participant must work out a daily schedule with his/her mentor. Times may vary for students as scientific research itself does not always fall into a set 9-5 schedule. However, participants
should expect to commit between 35 and 40 hours every week.

Logistics

Location

Most activities will occur in the College of Dentistry on the West Campus at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The College is located at 801 S. Paulina. It is at the heart of a large, urban medical district that includes 6 health science colleges and patient care centers of the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System. Other hospitals in the same district include Rush University, Cook County Hospital and the Veterans' Administration Hospital. The district is located minutes (by public transportation) from downtown Chicago and about a mile west of the University of Illinois at Chicago East Campus. Also nearby is the Little Italy neighborhood (east along Taylor Street) and the United Center (north along Paulina).

By train: from downtown, take the Pink Line (54/Cermak) to the Polk Street stop. The College is located across the street (Paulina) to the east of the Polk Street stop. Or,

By the Blue Line: take the Blue Line to the Illinois Medical District stop. Use the Paulina Street exit off the platform and proceed south (take a right) through the large driveway to the Rush University Hospital and continue south on Paulina to Polk Street.

By bus: Several CTA buses will bring you close to the College including #’s 157 and 7. Use this site to help you plan your route: [http://www.transitchicago.com/](http://www.transitchicago.com/)

Parking is available for a fee. Participants may contact the University parking office to obtain a pass: [http://www.uic.edu/depts/avcad/parking/](http://www.uic.edu/depts/avcad/parking/)

Some students may conduct research outside of the College of Dentistry. Other laboratories are located close by, within walking distance of the College.

A map of important sites on West Campus is included at the end of this brochure.

Housing

Housing is available on-campus. Participants who require housing can visit the University’s website: [http://www.housing.uic.edu/intern/index.php](http://www.housing.uic.edu/intern/index.php)

If students require UIC housing for the length of the program, a portion of the stipend will be allotted for that purpose and the fellow’s direct payment will be reduced.

iCard

iCards (identity cards) will be issued to all participants. Students should keep these cards on their person at all times, so that they are identifiable to all staff and faculty at the College of Dentistry. Those participants who must access locked laboratories or the building after hours will swipe the iCard for access.

The iCard may be used on the intercampus shuttle. Information about the shuttle can be found on the following website:
## Stipend Payment

Students will receive two stipend payments during the summer, in July and August. The University of Illinois makes no statement on the taxability of the stipend; however, students enrolled in the program are not employees of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

## Safety

**Personal safety.** The College of Dentistry is an open access building from 8am to 5pm in a major metropolitan city. Therefore, students should keep their possessions in control at all times, and be aware of their environs. The number for campus police is 312-355-5555. You may also subscribe to text message safety alerts by following this link: [http://sms.accc.uic.edu](http://sms.accc.uic.edu)

**Laboratory Safety.** All participants must complete laboratory safety training prior to beginning work in a lab. After completing the course, participants must bring a copy of the certificate of completion to Ashley Burton. To access the online training: [http://www.uic.edu/depts/envh/Training/ChemTrain.html](http://www.uic.edu/depts/envh/Training/ChemTrain.html) Select “Laboratory Safety Refresher Training,” not “Shipping and Handling of Hazardous Materials.”

**Additional courses.** Students should work with their mentors to identify appropriate courses.

## Dress Code

Participants must follow the dress code required for work in a laboratory setting. For safety reasons, the following are not allowed:

- Shorts
- Open-toed shoes.

## Health Insurance

All participants must have health insurance coverage for the length of the program. Participants will be asked to provide proof of coverage during orientation.

## WiFi

WiFi access is available through eduroam. To obtain access, participants must sign up for eduroam at their undergraduate institutions prior to starting the program. To do so, contact your home institution’s computing center or visit: [https://www.eduroam.org/](https://www.eduroam.org/)

http://www.uic.edu/uic/about/visit/parking-bus.shtml
training based on the research project. Below is a listed of common additional training:

Chemicals:  
http://www.uic.edu/depts/envh/HSS/CHP.html

Patients or human subjects:  
http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/protocolreview/irb/education/citi.shtml

Protected health information:  
http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/protocolreview/irb/education/2-2-2/HIPAAonline.shtml

Animal:  
http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/protocolreview/acc/education/index.shtml#training

rRNA and Infectious Agents:  
http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/protocolreview/ibc/education/index.shtml