

# How to Own the Application Process

February 26th, 2020

## Officer Introductions

- **President-Lily**
- VP- Kulsoom
- **Treasurer-Sumana**
- Event Coordinator-Kaitlynn
- PR Chair Reda
- Freshman Rep -Cindy





### What is it?

A Research Experience for Undergrads

It is hosted by a university and you are matched up with a faculty mentor and generally a graduate student or two

They are funded by NSF and are generally very structured programs



### When?

The majority of REU applications have a deadline of February 1st (some earlier and some later).

REU decision timelines depend on the institution but are generally released some time in late February or early March

Programs typically run for 8-10 weeks over the summer (May-August)



## What is required for an application?

Personal Statement

- Make specific to each program! (Do research on faculty)
- Different programs have different questions associated with the statement

Letters of Recommendation

- Generally 2-3
- Recommendation packet

CV/Transcript

APPLY TO LOTS OF PROGRAMS



## What are some good places to apply to?

- Leadership Alliance
- Big10
- Interesting research and good location!
- Does it have meals and conference funding perks?
- Are students publishing papers from their work?
- Do students look happy in photos?
- How well known is the program?



## **Perks**

- Housing and transportation is provided
- Meals/conference funding sometimes provided
- Grad School prep/professional development generally provided
- Social events planned
- You come out with a presentable research project
- Best type of experience to have when applying to grad school
- Great for deciding if a certain school is one that you will want to attend for grad school/networking
- Potential to publish
- No interview process



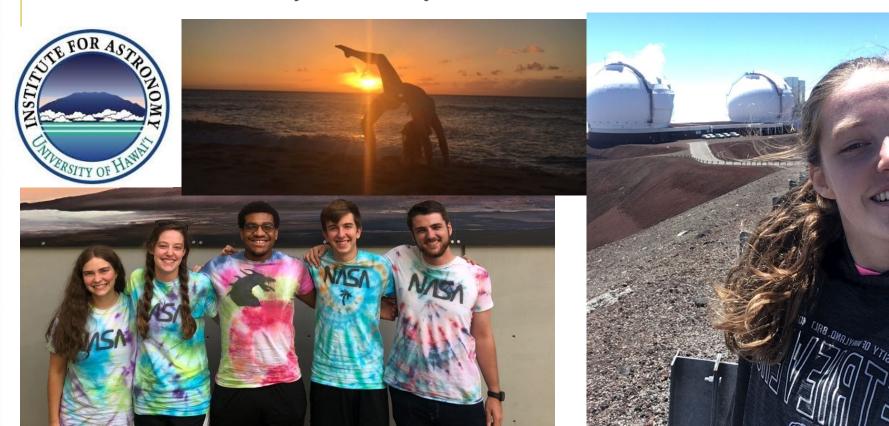
## **Pitfalls**

- The most difficult type of experience to get into
- Stipend is much lower than industry (\$4000-\$5000) for the whole summer
- Generally a very small group of students
- If you don't like your project/mentor, there is not much you can do about it



# My REU Experience (Summer 2019)

Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii at Manoa





## What is involved?

- Experience for 10-12 week summer or for 3-5 weeks over the winter
- Short term position at that company and location
- Full time professional job
- Meaningful projects
- Networking, tours, and others events



## What you need to apply:

- Resume
- Cover Letter
- Transcript

That is usually it! They will ask you to reiterate work experience and then they will contact you for more!



## **Assessing Offers**

- Location
- Position Description
- Pay (including relocation stipends!)
- Length of internship
- Field vs. your interests



## Where to find jobs:

- LinkedIn
- Indeed
- Directly on company websites
- Look at previous career fair directories
- Ask friends!



# My Internship!

## **Pratt & Whitney**

- Summer 2019
- West Palm Beach, Florida
- ~ \$25 / hour
- WELOCAL 2019
- Tours, volunteering, Women's Council
- 10 weeks (flexible)
  - May 29 August 9



## **GO BEYOND**





# **Upcoming Dates**

03/04 GBM #5 "Empowered Women Empower Women", Clarity Solutions

03/11 GBM #6 HMS Host

**03/18 SPRING BREAK!!!!!** 

03/25 GBM #7 Tesla

04/01 GBM #8 SWE Regional

04/08 GBM #9 NASA

04/15 GBM #10 Johnson, Mirmiran & Thomson

04/22 GBM #11 Wetland Studies and Solutions

04/29 GBM #10 Elections

05/06 GBM #11 End of Semester Social

