Summer Undergraduate Internships

Plant-Insect interactions

Dr. Thompson’s laboratory (Dept. Biochemistry and Mol. Biology, Oklahoma State University) is looking for an enthusiastic undergraduate student for a 10 week fully-funded NSF summer internship. This program is designed to give undergraduate students a taste of what it’s like to work in a real research laboratory by allowing them to undertake a small research project that will generate novel scientific data. Our laboratory focuses on the biology of vascular tissues in plants and the interactions between plants and vascular-feeding insects such as aphids. We have several ongoing projects which might interest undergraduate students. Firstly, we are attempting to identify plant proteins that are specific to the conducting elements in the phloem vascular tissue. These proteins play important roles in plant resource allocation and the interaction between plants and phloem-feeding insects. Secondly, we are attempting to dissect the regulation of plant-defense responses to phloem feeding insects and have recently received funding to investigate the role of microRNA’s in this interaction. Students working in our lab will learn a number of important scientific techniques and will gain an understanding of how to plan, carry out, and interpret their own experiments.

To apply: e-mail or mail a CV, cover letter and the names of two referees to
gary.thompson@okstate.edu
Dr. Gary Thompson
Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
246 Noble Research Centre
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater OK 74078

Deadline: Positions open until filled

Stipend: $1,750 per month for 2.5 months