

\*\*\* Please Post \*\*\*

# Wayne State University

Randall L. Commissaris, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI 48202-3489 USA  
Email: [Commissaris@wayne.edu](mailto:Commissaris@wayne.edu)  
FAX: 313-577-2033

## Summer Research Position – Wayne State University

We are currently accepting applications to participate in laboratory biomedical research with members of the faculty in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences during the summer of 2012. Our Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF) program provides students with the opportunity to gain direct experience conducting research in the laboratory of a departmental faculty member. In addition, fellows will be exposed to a variety of elements important in the conduct of such research. Enclosed you will find a description of the program and directions for applying.

The stipend for this Summer Research Fellowship is \$4500; the 2012 SURF application is attached, as is a more detailed description of the 2012 SURF Program.

We hope you will consider submitting an application to our Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows Program. The deadline for receipt of application materials is Friday, March 2, 2012.

Sincerely,

Randall L. Commissaris, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
2012 SURF Program Coordinator

**Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences**  
**Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows Program**  
**2012 APPLICATION**

The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Wayne State University invites talented undergraduate students to discover the excitement of conducting research in our laboratories during a 12-week summer intern program. Openings are available in Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmacology & Toxicology, and Pharmaceutics (drug delivery) laboratories. **We provide a stipend of approximately \$4,500 for this program. Please complete the following application and return to the indicated address.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Current College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ SAT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ ACT Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**Candidate's Statement:** Please provide a brief statement (200-300 words) describing why you are interested in this program, what are your anticipated career plans after graduation and any exceptional aspects/features that should be considered in the evaluation of your application.

**References:** Please provide two letters of recommendation; please have letters sent directly to Dr. Randall Commissaris (Commissaris@wayne.edu):

**Application Deadline: Friday, March 2, 2012**  
**Return application by mail, FAX or email to:**

Randall L. Commissaris, Ph.D.  
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows Program  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI 48202

Email: [Commissaris@wayne.edu](mailto:Commissaris@wayne.edu); FAX: 313-577-2033

# **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF) Program**

**Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences  
Wayne State University**

**Summer – 2012**

## **Objective:**

The objective of the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF) program within the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences is to provide undergraduate students with an intensive research experience in the pharmaceutical sciences. This will be accomplished primarily via direct research experiences in NIH-funded faculty research laboratories. This hands-on research experience will be augmented by a variety of additional experiences, including special topic seminars, a weekly ‘Meet the Mentors’ program, journal clubs and laboratory group meetings.

## **Start and End Dates for SURF Program:**

The SURF program runs for 12 weeks and will pay a stipend of approximately \$4,500. The SURF program will start on Monday, May 14, 2012 and will end on Friday, August 3, 2012. Later start dates often can be accommodated. If the mentor can provide support for the student and the project, the SURF student and mentor are welcome to continue the project beyond the official end date.

## **Schedule for the SURF 2012 Program:**

### **March/April: Selection of Fellows and Assignment of Mentors:**

The deadline for receiving SURF 2012 application is Friday March 2, 2012. Students will be selected and notified by email on or before Friday, March 16, 2012. Mentor selection will be based in part upon the research interests described by the SURF applicant, with available space and resources in the laboratory used as additional factors in the assignment decision.

### **May 14, 2012 - SURF 2010 Day 1:**

SURF students will initiate paperwork for ID cards, payment and will register for all necessary training and certification programs.

### **Weeks 1-2 – Orientation, Training and Certification:**

In the first few days of the program, SURF students will receive training and certification in all areas pertinent to their research projects. All SURF students will attend University-sponsored classes on Laboratory Safety and Hazardous Waste Management. Depending upon the nature of their individual research project, additional SURF Students training may include Blood Borne

Pathogens, Use and Handling of Small Animals, and Radiation Safety. In addition all SURF students will attend a Special Topics Seminar on Record Keeping in Biomedical Research. *Note that SURF students will complete all pertinent training prior to beginning work in a laboratory.*

### **Weeks 2-12 – Typical Schedule Monday thru Thursday – laboratory work:**

Monday thru Thursday the SURF Students will work on a research project within the laboratory of their Research Mentor. Typically SURF student projects are separate projects within the larger scope of the Mentor's laboratory goals. SURF students work with the close supervision and guidance of the SURF Mentor and/or senior personnel within the Mentor's laboratory. SURF students also participate in laboratory meetings and journal clubs within personnel from the Mentor's laboratory. The Research Mentor will determine the format, content and schedule for laboratory meetings and journal clubs.

### **Weeks 2-12 – Fridays:**

Friday Morning Special Topics Seminars: Throughout the program, SURF students will attend a weekly Special Topics Seminar presented by a pharmaceutical sciences faculty member. The topics of these seminars (some topics will require more than one week) include Training for a Research Career, Hypothesis Formulation and Testing, Funding of Biomedical Research, Publication of Research Results, Bibliographic Searching Techniques, Scientific Integrity and Intellectual Property, Literature Evaluation and Careers in the Pharmaceutical Industry.

Friday Midday "Meet the Mentors" Lunches: All SURF Students participants will meet weekly as a group for a series of lunch outings called the "Meet the Mentors" program. These lunch meetings typically are outings at local restaurants where all of the SURF students spend time with an individual faculty member. Over the course of the summer, all program mentors (as well as departmental faculty members who are not serving as mentors in the summer) will host one of these "Meet the Mentors" lunches. At these lunches, the Mentors will provide a brief (10-15 minute) autobiography, followed by a question and answer period.

Friday Afternoon "Mini-Rotations": Throughout the program, SURF students will visit other SURF laboratories for a brief into the overall research interests of the laboratory, an overview of the individual SURF student's project and a demonstration of some of the research techniques used within that particular laboratory. SURF students will lead these mini-rotations, with assistance from the SURF's Mentor and/or other supervisory personnel.

### **Week 12 – SURF Program Ends:**

The SURF program officially ends on Friday, August 3, 2012. If the mentor can provide continuing support for the student and the project, the SURF student and mentor are welcome to continue the project beyond the official end date.

## Special Events – Summer 2012

- **Detroit Red Wings Stanley Cup Parade/Reception:** On those occasions when the Detroit Red Wings have been Stanley Cup Champions (most recently 2008), several SURF students attended the Parade and Reception at Hart Plaza downtown. Will this happen in 2012 ? Who knows?
- **International Freedom Festival Fireworks:** Although not coordinated by the Department, many SURF students attend the International Freedom Festival Fireworks on the Detroit River.
- **Cedar Point Outing:** For those SURF students who are interested, there typically is a day trip to the Cedar Point Amusement Park. SURF students pay their own way for this outing.
- **Detroit Tigers Baseball:** The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences hosts a department-wide outing to Comerica Park to see the Tigers, typically on a Thursday afternoon. The ballpark is about a 10-minute walk from the labs. Last year's Tigers baseball outing was June 28, 2011, when the Tigers hosted the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. SURF students receive complimentary admission.
- **College-Wide Research Symposium:** Early in the fall 2012 semester, there will be a college-wide Research Symposium. All SURF students receive complimentary registration for this meeting and are encouraged to present their research findings in a poster discussion session with other College faculty and staff.