

Jeffrey A. Smiley, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Chemistry
jasmiley@cc.ysu.edu (330) 941-7103 Fax: (330) 941-1579

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Dear Colleague,

Youngstown State University announces the third year of a National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) site for Summer 2003. Ten students will participate in a program of research characterized by a high level of individual attention from faculty investigators with established records of supervising undergraduate research. Applicants to the REU program will also be considered for supplemental positions available for students from other campuses through grants to individual professors. With the YSU undergraduate summer research students and with our approximately 25 M.S. students, the research atmosphere in this department is very active. The twelve-week program will run from May 19 to August 8, with an accelerated two-week course on Introduction to Undergraduate Research during June. Students will be provided with stipends of \$3,000, plus tuition for the course, housing and a meal plan. Expenses for students to travel to YSU for the summer are available on a very limited basis. We are especially interested in recruiting students with a varied collection of biographical profiles.

Our program, while newly established, will offer students many benefits over similar programs at larger institutions. With our smaller department size, REU students will have opportunities usually reserved for Ph.D. students. With proper instruction, students will gain hands-on experience with instrumentation that is comparable to that at some Ph.D.-granting institutions (and usually reserved for Ph.D. students). YSU visiting summer research students will have the full supervision of any of a number of attentive, research-active faculty members, in any of the chemistry disciplines. NSF-REU students will work alongside other summer research students, both undergraduate and master's-level, in small group-oriented projects. Visiting summer research students will receive top priorities in our summer research efforts. Students can earn academic credit, usually transferable to their home university, for the introduction to research course.

YSU's Department of Chemistry is rapidly gaining increased national recognition among non-Ph.D.-granting institutions. In addition to the REU site, we have recently received several NSF grants for laboratory instrumentation, funding from the Ohio Board of Regents, and research grants from NSF, NIH, Department of Education (FIPSE), Research Corporation and the ACS Petroleum Research Fund. Participating faculty have research interests in all of the traditional fields of chemistry, including analytical, biological, inorganic, organic and physical chemistry, and chemical education.

Applications from qualified students (generally, science majors with grade point averages at least 2.8 on 4.0 scale, and favorable letters of recommendation) can be made using the accompanying documents, which may be photocopied. Application forms and other information are also available at our departmental web site, www.as.yosu.edu/~chem. As an alternative means of submitting applications, all of the application information can be e-mailed or faxed using the contact information provided. To the extent possible, each student will be matched with the research advisor of his/her choice. Students meeting the first application date of March 3, 2003 will receive highest consideration. Since the REU program is intended to immerse students in their respective research projects, we discourage students from holding part-time jobs during the summer program.

We would appreciate your efforts in sharing this program announcement with your students and colleagues, and we look forward to your students' participation in this REU site.

Cordially yours,

Jeffrey A. Smiley
Department of Chemistry