



# PINEMAP Intern Program

## Mentorship Call For Proposals

2013

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### **General Description:**

#### Program Objectives:

1. Engage undergraduate research fellows in multiple aspects of research and communication
2. Train graduate students for roles as mentors and advisors in their future research careers
3. Assist undergraduate fellows with the development of inquiry-based science education lessons

#### Program Description:

The PINEMAP Intern Program is part of the PINEMAP Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP) grant funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The goal of the intern program is to pair selected undergraduate research fellows with graduate, post-doc, or staff mentors based on the following research interests and program aims: ecophysiology, silviculture, modeling, genetics, economics, education, and extension. Undergraduates will assist CAP-funded graduate students or staff with their laboratory and/or field research during summer 2013. Mentors are expected to provide (1) guidance and support during the summer research, (2) opportunities for personal/professional skill development, and (3) minor assistance (e.g., provide ideas, photographs of research or other materials to use for in class as demonstrations) to undergraduates during their subsequent communication distance class as they develop inquiry-based science lessons for presentation to local secondary schools. Mentors may also help fellows develop a poster presentation as part of their communication class. We expect fellows to come away having participated in as many of the steps in scientific research as possible and a strengthened interest in graduate studies. We expect mentors to develop a greater ability and appreciation for managing and educating undergraduate students.

Mentorship applicants should consider how their current research projects can be used to produce a high quality learning experience for undergraduate fellows. Work by fellows is not limited to only the mentor's PINEMAP research. Exposure to other researchers and projects is also greatly encouraged.

### **Funding Eligibility and Requirements:**

Applicants must be master/doctoral students, post-docs, or other research staff participating in one of the six Aims of PINEMAP. Eligible projects will be related to PINEMAP research in your Aim, although some work may be conducted on non-PINEMAP research. The PINEMAP Intern Program will provide up to 12 awards for the 2013 calendar year.



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**Compensation:**

Proposal awardees will receive an undergraduate research assistant for 12 weeks paid through Virginia Tech. Travel, lodging, and per-diem funds are not included in this award; your research fund is responsible for these.

**Conditions:**

Mentors are expected to provide support and guidance for the undergraduate fellow during the summer and also during the following fall semester. This support includes assisting the intern with locating suitable housing for the summer where appropriate. Mentors will also be expected to provide expertise, samples, etc. as needed when students develop educational presentations. Mentors will be required to communicate periodically with the program coordinator and provide a reflection on their experience at the end of the summer.

**Proposal Guidelines:**

Proposals should be limited to 2-3 pages using font 12 pt Helvetica. Specific information should include: which Aim encompasses the research, objectives for summer work, a description of the methods and analysis, and specific skills required by fellows. Successful proposals will briefly describe how research can be translated into public school presentations. Additional guidelines can be found on the PINEMAP website using the link below. Consider collaborating with your major professor for your proposal.

**Submission Deadline:** January 20, 2013

**Announcement of Awards:** February 4, 2013

**To Apply:**

Visit <http://www.pinemap.org/education/undergraduate/call-for-proposals> for additional information and online application.

You will need to submit an on-line application including your 2-3 page proposal requesting an intern for your project.

**Contact Information:**

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