



# A World of Undergraduate Research

Research Opportunities Abroad for  
High- Achieving Undergraduates

NCHC - November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Lauren Bruce**

Director, ISA Internships

**Emily Busse**

Senior Program Manager, ISA Spain & EuroScholars

# Research Abroad?

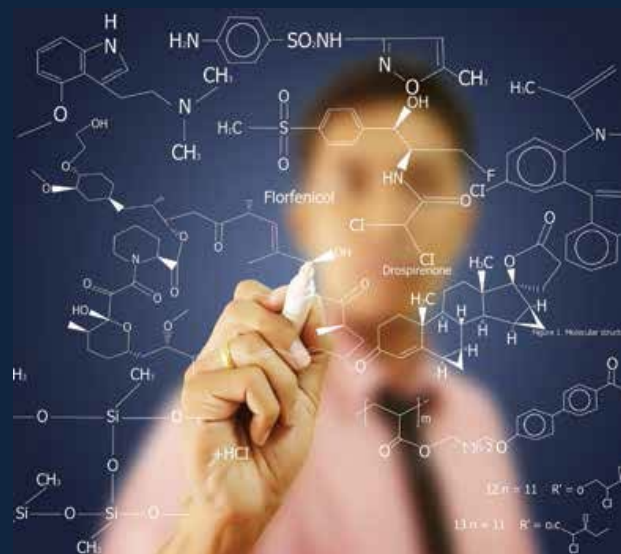
This session will highlight two program models for facilitating international research at the undergraduate level:

- EuroScholars Undergraduate Research Program- Semester and year-long opportunities to join research teams at one of nine prestigious European universities.
- ISA Internships - 10-week internships through International Studies Abroad (ISA), which allow students to engage in research while honing their professional and academic skill sets.

Both opportunities provide students with the option for **academic credit** and **supervised research experience**, and both are open to students from **all academic disciplines**.

# EuroScholars Research Abroad

- EuroScholars is a unique, research-intensive study abroad program designed for talented and advanced undergraduate students.
- The program combines a study abroad experience with the opportunity to join a research team and participate in an ongoing investigation at a European research university.
- EuroScholars is an autonomous program managed by a consortium of the 9 participating institutions, for which ISA serves as the North American representative providing marketing and admissions support.



# Program Objectives

- To choose an academic research project from a variety of fields within the participating institutions
- To join the existing research team and gain hands-on experience, under the direct supervision of university faculty
- To collaborate with like-minded students, both local and international
- To document their research in a paper of publishable quality
- To develop professionally and have the opportunity to explore research as a career- option
- To advance their intercultural and scholarly skills

# Program Details



- Each semester of study is transcribed by the host university in Europe and is considered full-time study, with the primary academic focus being on the research project
- All research and deliverables are conducted in English
- A culture and language course is included in the program
- Mid-stay program allows students to network, experience a new city, and present their research findings to date
- Projects are available in all disciplines: STEM fields, humanities, social sciences, business & finance, etc.
- Geared toward bright and independent students with strong interest in research; 3.4 GPA or higher required





# Global Internships



- Meaningful work
- Custom placements
- Most fields of study
- Professional Development Toolbox
- Academic credit



# Full-time Internships

## **10-Week Program**

- Managing Expectations & Goal Setting
- Bridging Cultures Program
- First week
- Mid-Program
- End of Program

# Why Intern Abroad?

- Improve **lab skills**
- Gain **soft skills**: confidence, cross-cultural communication, teamwork, collaboration, writing skills
- **Apply** what I'm learning in the classroom
- **Explore** career interest
- **To be challenged** as a person and professionally within the field of cognitive psychology
- Determine if **graduate school** is the right path

## Career-specific goals:

- Learn what a biomedical engineer does on a day-to-day basis
- Become more familiar with SPSS in order to conduct own research
- Learn about **current research** in the field of marine science







# Professional Development Toolbox

## Pre-Departure

- Personal Statements
- Resume/cover letter advising
- Online video resume subscription
- Personal brand & interview coaching
- Goal setting tools



## While Abroad

- Bridging Cultures Program
- Individual supervisor and 24/7 in-country support
- Academic course

## After Return Home

- Membership to Better Weekdays (online career assessment)
- Career Resources Guide
- Online Career Resource Videos

# Advising Session

## Resume and Cover Letter Advising

### Ira Intern

#### Summary

I am highly motivated, dedicated, adaptable, and friendly with a passion for adventure and travel. I am a team player who is result driven with an outstanding work ethic. Managing time and prioritizing is my specialty, along with being capable of taking the initiative in any given situation.

#### Education

- Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL
- Bachelor of Science | 2017
- Major: Biology | Minor: Psychology
- 3.7 GPA | Dean's List

#### Highlights

- Detail oriented
- Team worker
- Positive work ethic
- Reliable
- PADI open water diver certified
- People person
- Strong communication skills
- Leadership skills
- Creative

### Ira Intern

#### EDUCATION

- Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL Expected Graduation 2017
- Bachelor of Science Dean's List | Academic All Conference GPA: 3.7
- **Biology (Major)**
  - **Psychology (Minor)**

#### RELATED QUALIFICATIONS

- **Tampa Bay Watch, Volunteer** Spring 2014  
Uses scientific and educational programs to protect and restore the Tampa Bay estuary
  - Role: Shoveled fossilized oyster shells into mesh bags which are then transported and placed on the shoreline to create a series of oyster bars in order to recreate a natural habitat.
- **PADI Open Water Certified Diver**
  - Over 8 Fresh water dives in the FL springs, and 3 salt water dives off the coast of Boca Raton, FL

#### OTHER EXPERIENCE

- **Sea Mark Ranch, Volunteer** Fall 2013  
Gives children from families in crisis the tools they need for a brighter future
  - Monitored children and ensured a safe, constructive, environment by engaging the children through play and supported staff during lunchtime
- **Special Olympics, Volunteer** Spring of 2011, 2012, 2013
  - Created a fun environment while teaching handicapped children to play baseball and soccer
- **Food bank, Volunteer** Fall and Spring of 2010-2013
  - Sorted stock, made sandwiches to serve
- **T.O.P.S., Volunteer** Summer of 2012, 2013
  - Coached soccer to developmentally challenged children
- **Child Care Provider** Summer of 2013, 2014
  - Provide care to children aged 1-9 a daily basis by interacting with kids in activities appropriate to their age and ensured their well-being

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- PADI certified
- Detail oriented
- Positive work ethic
- Reliable
- Strong communication skills
- Leadership skills
- Creative
- Collegiate Athlete (Women's Soccer)

# Academic Credit

- Does your university offer credit for internship experiences?

*If so,*

**OPTION 1:  
Home  
Institution  
Credit**

- Would your university accept transfer credit from a School of Record for an internship or experience for which students must follow a structured curriculum?

*If so,*

**OPTION 2:  
Transfer  
Credit from  
a School of  
Record**



# Chapman University Course

- **Pre-Departure Paper** regarding expectations and objectives for the internship.
- **Bi-weekly Placement Activity Plans** connecting student objectives and related observational tasks completed with the host-site supervisor
- **Student Analysis and Reflection** of the entire learning experience is submitted at the end of the internship.
- **Mid-Placement and End-of Placement Evaluation** will be completed by the host-site supervisor. This report is meant to give an overall assessment and professional evaluation of the student intern based on the intern's professional development.

# Sample Research-Based Placements

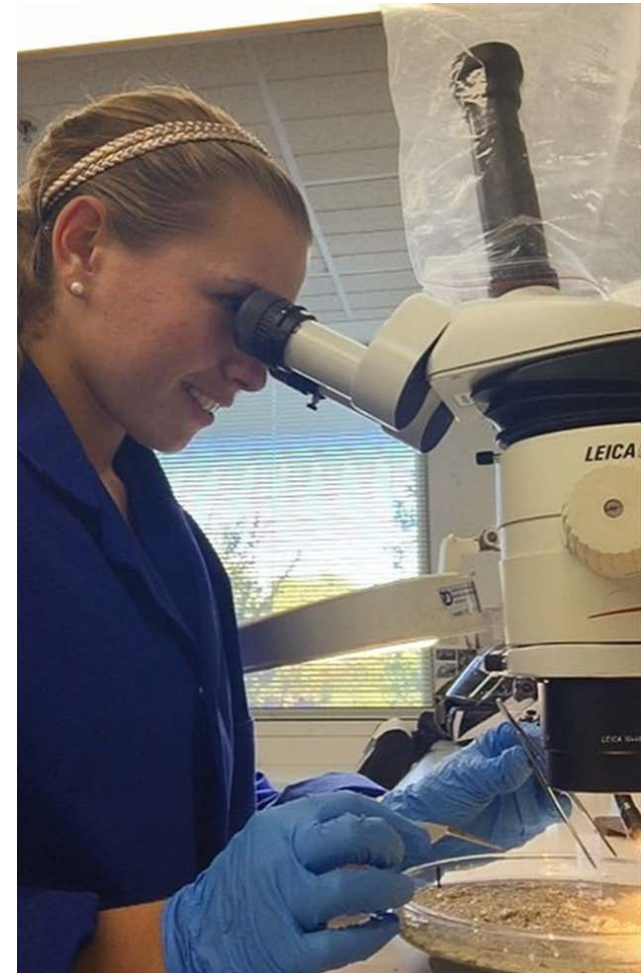
## **SARDI- South Australia Research & Development Institute**, Aquatic Sciences Centre *Marine Biology Research Assistant Intern*

- Sort deep-sea infaunal and epifaunal samples into higher order taxonomic groups and assist with lower order identification.
- Assist with processing sediment samples to determine organic carbon content and grain size distribution
- Assist with processing seagrass samples to determine biomass, stem length, epiphyte loads etc.
- Assist with studies on algal eco-physiology and reproduction

## **Goldsmiths, University of London**, *Cognitive Research Intern*

Research is concerned with the executive control of memory and how this relates to identity and the social world.

- Look at social factors, such as forgiveness, and how this impacts memory performances
- Collect data, transcribe, record memories, maintain clinical documentation via electronic recordkeeping system





# Impact on Career Goals

“It definitely gives me an advantage over other candidates for jobs, graduate school...because of the professional contacts I made overseas. I'm also more comfortable in new situations, which helped a lot during a really unlucky field season I worked in over the summer. My experience abroad was one of the major factors playing into my recent acceptance into a Master's program. ”

*Biology Research Intern*

CQUniversity - School of Medical and Applied Sciences

“The internship further solidified that medicine is the correct career path for me. It was beyond exciting to get to work and learn in a medical environment. Sometimes in the middle of [Chemistry] class...it gets hard to really see the end goal. It was also intensely helpful because most med schools require some sort of [practicum] experience if they are going to accept you. So the ability to work with a world-class physician provides an enormous amount of experience. As far as other career goals it helped narrow down medical specialities that I want to do and the impact of leadership on medical professionals.”

*Research and Clinical Intern*

Gold Coast Medical Precinct

# Impact on Career Goals

“My internship was in a social psychology department conducting research on relationships between people of different cultures. I was given many different jobs throughout my time, and it was through this process that I realized I would be much happier with a career in healthcare administration than I would have been with one in nursing. I will be graduating with a Human Development Family Studies degree this year, and plan to then pursue an MBA (Masters in Business Administration) with a focus in healthcare. ”

*Social Psychology Intern*  
University of Newcastle, School of Psychology



# Conclusion



- Importance of students' intentionality from onset of application process
- Goal setting
- Professional development throughout the process
- Reflection and application to life and career

# Summary Points

- All career fields
- Meet institutional and federal initiatives to increase the numbers of students going abroad
- Available all times of the year (long-term/short-term)