WFSM Office of Women in Medicine and Science

Women's Health Internship Projects
Summer 2017

www.wakehealth.edu/School/OWIMS/Internships.htm

The Office of Women in Medicine and Science (OWIMS) is committed to the promotion of women's health and we know that the recruitment of future top-notch researchers and physicians begins at the undergraduate level of college. The OWIMS coordinates women's health internships between Wake Forest University School of Medicine (WFSM) researchers and healthcare providers and undergraduate students from area colleges who are looking for projects for course credit and/or experience (these are *unpaid* positions).

To inquire about submitting or applying for an internship project or if you have any additional questions about the program, please contact owims@wakehealth.edu .

Projects currently recruiting for interns:

Health Equity Education and Workforce Development

The Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity is searching for one intern interested in health equity, health education and workforce development to participate in data gathering (RedCAP), data analyses and program evaluation. The student should have some knowledge or familiarity with statistical software such as SPSS/SAS. Intern will receive on-site training in Human Subjects Research, Institutional Review Board requirements, data collection software, survey production and data analyses and presentation.

Intervening on Sedentary Behavior to Prevent Weight Regain in Older Adults

This study is being conducted to help determine the appropriate type, amount and intensity of physical activity most beneficial for preventing weight regain after weight loss in older adults. The study will test the efficacy of an intervention that uses mobile health technology for reducing time spent sitting/lying down on the longer-term maintenance of lost weight.

The study is just beginning and will provide opportunities for up to two interns who are interested in learning about clinical research for the treatment of obesity involving behavioral lifestyle changes, including weight loss and exercise. The intern(s) would assist with study recruitment, data collection and delivery of interventions, as well as attend study-related meetings when available. Data collection would involve assessment of body composition, maximal aerobic capacity testing, physical and muscle function testing, questionnaires, and resting metabolic rate assessments. The intern(s) would also assist with helping during the dietary weight loss classes and supervision of treadmill exercise

Effects of Menstrual Cycle Phase on Ethanol Consumption

This project studies the menstrual cycle phase and how it can influence a female's response to drugs. This ongoing project in our laboratory involves six female rhesus monkeys who are trained to freely drink alcohol five days per week. An intern who becomes involved in this project would study how the

monkeys' drinking patterns change as they enter different phases of the cycle. The intern would gain skills in behavioral pharmacology, blood collection and analysis and reproductive endocrinology, as well as training in animal husbandry and other basic laboratory skills. The laboratory is located in a dynamic research environment in which several faculty, students and technicians interact on a daily basis. Interns would also gain exposure to a number of other projects that involve nonhuman primate models in substance abuse, pain research and brain imaging.

Discovery and validation of novel therapies in Ovarian Cancer

The Cancer Biology Department is searching for 2-3 students to assist in their research. In their research, they use primary and cultured ovarian cancer cell lines and mouse models of ovarian cancer. They investigate the Interactions between cancer cells and the microenvironment *in vitro* using and novel organotypic 3D cultures composed of primary human and mouse omental fat cells (both normal and cancer-associated). Their goal is to understand the early steps of ovarian cancer metastasis to the peritoneum and omental fat cells (adipocytes). Students will learn to conduct an experiment, collect and analyze data and document the process.

Stress Reduction for Migraines

This team in Neurology is looking for 1 or 2 motivated and committed students with an interest or background in neuroscience, neurology, pain, or stress reduction to help conduct a clinical research evaluating mechanisms and effects of stress reduction on migraines. They will also evaluate underlying pain mechanisms through experimental heat pain responses. Students interested in joining a great team that will give opportunities for direct experience with the clinical care of migraines, experimental heat pain responses, and clinical research, would make a great fit.