Bioengineering Clinical Immersion Internship Summer 2018

The Bioengineering Department is now accepting applications for a summer internship opportunity!

The development of medical devices is a tremendous challenge necessitating a deep understanding of users, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the engineering design cycle. The purpose of this internship is for students to methodically identify user needs and opportunities for medical device design. Participants in this internship will be grouped into interdisciplinary teams with University of Illinois medical students and placed into a clinical department within the College of Medicine/UI Hospital. This extended exposure to the clinical environment provides a rich experiential learning opportunity for students interested in medical device design.

This internship last six weeks through the summer and consists of two weekly components: 1) a Monday, half-day of guided instruction and activities, and 2) a Tuesday-Friday, all-day immersion with an interdisciplinary team in a clinical environment. In the Monday sessions, workshops exploring the engineering design cycle, user-centered design research, need-identification, and conceptual solutions development will be provided. During the remainder of the week, participants observe users in the clinical environment to document and critically assess their clinical decisions, interactions with technology, interactions with each other, etc. Eventually, these observations are synthesized into insights, from which a succinct problem statement will be generated. Participants conclude the program with rudimentary concept generation to better illustrate and identify user needs in the clinic.

Students who are interested in pursuing a career in medical device design are encouraged to apply to this internship

Strong candidates will have:
1. Excellent interpersonal skills
2. A self-motivated work ethic
3. The ability to work unsupervised
4. The ability to work on an interdisciplinary team

Participant Deliverables:
1. Rigorously document your observations in a provided notebook, which will be collected by the department at the conclusion of the program
2. Maintain individual public-facing blogs, updated with posts in response to weekly prompts
3. Generate a final report and deliver a final presentation, documenting your team’s progress through the internship
Student Requirements:
1. Students must be an entering their senior year and enrolled for BIOE 396 in Fall 2018
2. Students must be available full-time Monday through Friday from June 25th-Aug 3rd
3. Students must submit records of immunization
4. Students will take a drug screening test
5. Students will take a tuberculosis (TB) test
6. Students will be submitted for a background test

Withdrawal from the program after fulfilling requirements 4-6 will result in the student incurring reimbursement costs for tests

To be considered for this internship, prepare the following documents:
1. A copy of your resume, indicating overall and major GPA
2. A sealed letter of recommendation
3. A personal statement, not to exceed 1000 words. Please note, a compelling personal statement will address the following questions:
   a. Why are you interested in this program?
   b. What are your career goals, and how will this program will help you achieve these goals?
   c. What do you hope to gain from this experience?
   d. What coursework, leadership, skills, or experience do you possess that have prepared you for this opportunity?

All submission documents are to be sealed in a large envelope and placed in Dr. Felder’s mailbox in the BioE main office by Friday, February 16th at 5pm. Participation is limited; students will be selected on the basis of GPA, career goals, and potential for success. An in-person interview will be scheduled following application submission. Contact Dr. Felder by phone (312.996.5225) or email (afelde2@uic.edu) with any questions.

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