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Office of Science

Beyond GREAT-NS: Ideas for Extending the RENEW Initiatives

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GREAT-NS at LBNL

underGraduate Research Educational Academic Traineeships in Nuclear Science

- The GREAT-NS program was funded starting in 2021 by DOE NP
- By partnering with LBNL WD&E we were able to support 10 trainees per year under this program
- Each trainee is paired with a primary research mentor, but is part of a larger cohort and network of mentors, including postdocs within LBNL

GREAT-NS @ Berkeley Lab

Home Program Details Who Are We? 2022 Cohort Research Projects How To Apply FAQ

underGraduate Research Educational Academic Traineeships in Nuclear Science (GREAT-NS) @ Berkeley Lab

Eligibility and How to Apply

Research Projects

Who are we?

2022 GREAT-NS Cohort

The underGraduate Research Educational Academic Traineeships in Nuclear Science (GREAT-NS) @ Berkeley Lab program is a paid undergraduate internship program taking place at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab), San Jose State University (SJSU), the University of California, Merced (UCM) and the University of California, Riverside (UCR). GREAT-NS fellows will be mentored through a 1-year traineeship program in Nuclear Science by Berkeley Lab scientists, professors at SJSU, UCM and UCR and will make contributions to leading research in:

- Low energy nuclear structure
- Medical isotope production
- Fundamental properties of neutrinos
- Nuclear physics for applications in nuclear and homeland security and proliferation detection

- In addition to research, trainees participated in a series of introductory seminars and lectures, workshops and a journal club

Going beyond GREAT-NS

Thoughts on how we can shore up the bridges we're building

- Many of our GREAT-NS students are considering/applying to graduate school programs
- A comments that has come up in multiple conversations is the monetary cost of applications
 - This is low-hanging fruit in terms of a challenge to address
 - Even with the additional RENEW programs being initiated, this is a modest number of prospective students
 - Can we form an alliance of graduate programs willing to waive the application fee for RENEW students?

Going beyond GREAT-NS

Leveraging the full community of resources

- Across the country there are privately-administered foundations targeting opportunities to support STEM and/or minority students
 - e.g. Moore Foundation; Gates Foundation; Sloan Foundation ...
- Initial communication suggests that these types of foundations are open to supporting fellowships for graduate school or postdoc appointments for minority students in STEM
- Exploring these options nationwide can provide a network of opportunities to ease the path for RENEW students to pursue their careers in STEM