INFORMATION THAT MAY HELP GET AN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH POSITION

Faculty member:

Last Name  BISSON  First Name:  MARY A.

1. What do you look for in a potential undergraduate researcher?

   Student who: can work at least 2 semesters in the lab. Received at least a “B” in courses I teach (BIO 328), have received good grades in lab courses, have good recommendations from TA’s and most of all have enthusiasm and a willingness to work

2. What are the best times of the year for students to look for a spot in your lab?

   The best times of the year are at the very start of the semester in which they wish to work, or the end of the semester before.

3. What do you expect from an undergraduate researcher?

   I expect students to work at least 10 hours per week. After a few weeks of training, students should be able to perform on their own procedure which they have learned. Students will work independent or jointly with other personnel in the lab.

4. What can the student expect to be doing in your lab?

   A number of projects, most concerning the algo Chara, are available, including those involving patch clamping, conventional electrophysiology, ion fluxes, and microscopy. Molecular studies with J. Berry of M. Hollingsworth are also possible.

5. What is the best way to approach you about getting research in your lab?

   Either phone or e-mail me  bison@buffalo.edu

6. What kind of repayment can the student expect?

   Course credit will be given for independent work, salary for technician work. Students are only hired as a technician if they have already worked in the lab for credit or as a volunteer and have proved themselves capable and reliable.

7. If course credit is given, what does it take to get an A?

   Student who work at the project diligently or make progress towards getting results will get an “A”. Students who don’t work, make mistakes, and do not consult me or other people in the lab will get lower grades, depending on how serious their mistakes.

8. Do you have room in your lab now, or foreshadow when you will?

   I may have room in my lab in the spring semester and will definitely have room in the summer.