

Neuroscience Undergraduate Research Opportunity (NeURO) Fellowship 2024



Research and Mentorship Plan

Upload this completed form to the SOLO link provided by the application deadline on February 9, 2024. Applications missing this form will not be considered for review.

Student applicant's name: _____

Faculty Advisor's name: _____

Access to 1:1 mentorship is crucial for students' success in the NeURO program. NeURO is designed to introduce students with little to no previous experience to research. 1:1 mentorship provides students with the support they need at this early stage of their careers. We believe this experience to also be enriching for mentors. The program allows mentors to further their mentorship skills by working directly with a student and by participating in training on mentoring offered by the Wu Tsai Neuro Program Team before the summer.

We require that the student works directly with a graduate student, a postdoctoral scholar, or a staff member of the lab, who can commit to serving as the Research Mentor. The Research Mentor will be responsible for the day-to-day mentoring, guidance, and management of the student. They will meet regularly with the student (we suggest meeting at least once a week), establish expectations, explain and teach protocols and techniques, discuss results, and help the student make a poster for the end-of-program Poster Session. We strongly encourage the Faculty Advisor to also participate in the mentorship of the NeURO student. Faculty Advisors will be responsible for meeting with the student once a month, providing feedback on research progress, and promoting the student's integration into the lab by inviting them to participate in lab meetings and activities.

Note that NeURO students are expected to do research part-time (approximately 10 hours per week) in the spring quarter (10 weeks) and full-time (approximately 35-38 hours per week) during 10 weeks in the summer. We strongly advise against Research Mentors taking on multiple mentees from summer research programs (ex. Bio-X USRP, SSRP-Amgen Scholars Program, etc.) where students do research full-time. We expect Research Mentors to engage meaningfully with the program and this is hard to do if they are overcommitted.

Provide the name of the graduate student, postdoctoral scholar, or staff member of your lab that will serve as the Research Mentor for this student.

Research Mentor's name: _____

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The following questions are related to your research and mentorship plan for this student. **We recommend these questions be answered by the Faculty Advisor in close collaboration with the Research Mentor and the student.**

In answering these questions, we encourage the Faculty Advisor and the Research Mentor to think about what types of research projects are feasible for an undergraduate to complete within the time of the fellowship. The proposed research plan should be achievable by the end of the summer.

The spring portion of this fellowship is designed for students to get introduced to the lab environment, get acquainted with relevant literature, and learn key lab techniques. Most of the progress in the research project should be expected to happen during the summer. Please take this into consideration in your plan.

Briefly describe the research plan you have in mind for this student, should they be accepted into the program. Use bullet points to address the following questions in your answer:

- What research area within the lab will this student be working in? What general research question will this student explore?
- What do you expect the student to learn through this research plan?
- What skills will the student develop with their research project?

Limit your answer to 200 words.

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What is your mentoring approach/plan? Use bullet points to address the following questions in your answer:

- How frequently will you meet with this student?
- How will you address what is expected of the student in terms of general behavior and engagement with the lab community (i.e.: hours of work, attendance of lab meetings, level of autonomy in using lab equipment, etc.)?
- How will weekly, biweekly, and/or monthly research goals be set and communicated?
- How would you assess that this student understands their research project and that they're making progress on it?
- How would you help this student move forward when they encounter a roadblock? Besides direct assistance from the Research Mentor, what other resources exist in the lab to help the student (ex. access to lab protocols/notes, indirect mentorship by other lab members, etc.)?

Limit your response to 300 words.

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Note to Faculty Advisors: We recognize that there are more talented students who can benefit from a funded research opportunity than how many we can support through the NeURO fellowship. Thus, we encourage faculty to apply for funding like the [VPUE Faculty Grants for Undergraduate Research](#).

Have you applied to the VPUE Faculty Grant for Undergraduate Research in this cycle (deadline: February 15, 2024)?* Yes No

Undergraduate students who are awarded the NeURO fellowship in February 2024 and whose Faculty Advisor is awarded this VPUE grant in February 2024 will be part of the NeURO program with their stipend being paid through the VPUE grant. Undergraduate students who are awarded the NeURO fellowship and whose Faculty Advisor is *not* awarded this VPUE grant will be part of the NeURO program with their stipend being paid through the NeURO fellowship.

Paying the stipend of NeURO students through other Stanford funding avenues allows Wu Tsai Neuro to effectively leverage all available resources and maximize our support of professional development and community building for students in our program and training for research mentors.

Certification of support

I support this student in their application to the NeURO Fellowship, and their full participation in the program, should they be selected. I understand this includes 8-10 hours of research per week in my lab during spring quarter, 10 weeks of full-time research in my lab during the summer, and program-related workshops/events.

Faculty Advisor's signature _____ Date _____