This past summer, we celebrated the 15th year of the SIMR Summer Research Program (previously known as the CCIS Summer Intern Program). Eighty-three student interns participated in the summer program. The students were hosted by labs in more than 8 different Institutes/departments including: Immunity, Transplantation and Infection (ITI), Neuroscience, Cancer, Stem Cell Biology, Cardiovascular Medicine, Genetics, and Bioinformatics. During the summer of 2014, we also incorporated a new program within SIMR called the Bioengineering Bootcamp where students participated in team based design projects.

We are thankful that so many students could take part in this program up to this point. We are excited to reach this milestone and we are looking forward to hearing about all the exciting accomplishments of our alumni. We will also be embarking on a huge project this coming year to try to contact all of our previous program participants. Plans are underway to do a 15 year survey/evaluation to track where students currently are in their careers. We hope to get everyone’s participation as the tracking results will be extremely helpful as we apply for grants for future funding. As we are missing some current contact information from students especially from our very earliest classes, we would greatly appreciate it if everyone could go to our website (simr.stanford.edu) to provide some brief contact information such as the student’s email address using the “ALUMNI” link on the homepage on the left side panel. Students may also use that same link to provide any current information or any updates since graduating from the program. The actual questionnaire will come in a future email.

• SIMR- 15 year program survey/evaluation; please go to our website (simr.stanford.edu) using the “ALUMNI” link on the left hand side to give us some initial contact information

• Summer 2015 Poster Session: CCSR; August 6th, 6-8pm
Summer 2014 Highlights

Program Elements included:

- 1:1 mentorship in a research lab within the School of Medicine
- 8-10 Institute specific lectures taught by graduate students/post-doctoral fellows
- 6-8 Joint lectures by Faculty including talks by Dr. Brian Kobilka (Nobel laureate), Dr. Beverly Mitchell (Cancer Biology), Dr. Atul Butte (Bioinformatics), Dr. James Ferrell (Systems Biology) and others
- Field trip to Agilent Technologies
- Mid week joint lunches_Institute group lunches/End of week socials
- Special seminars regarding careers in science and medicine by Dr. PJ Utz and an info session about college/grad/med school
- Oral presentation by Institutes/End of summer poster session
- NEW! Bioengineering Bootcamp program within SIMR- 5 groups of 4 students each worked on the following engineering projects: Sports Injury, Pediatrics GI, Infectious Disease Diagnostics, Surgical Devices, At Home Diagnostics

Jessica Saal Award Recipients
This year’s recipients were Pedro Gallardo and Catherine Li. Pedro worked in the lab of Dr. David Miklos and Catherine worked in the lab of Dr. Shan Wang. We’re thankful for the generosity of Harry and Carol Saal for their support of this annual award.

On Thursday, July 31st, the end of summer poster session was held on the CCSR Lawn, where the exciting posters of our summer interns were displayed. The students had an opportunity to present their summer projects to family members, Stanford Faculty and staff, and to community members --- with over 400 people in attendance. The students answered questions and gave brief presentations regarding their summer project. It was a wonderful way to wrap up the summer program!

ONLINE GIVING

As you know, Stanford is a private school and private funding for the SIMR program is absolutely essential. At we celebrated our program’s 15th anniversary this past summer, my hope is that if possible all of the students who have participated, or their families, will help provide support for the program. Your help will be appreciated now and in the future as our goal is to keep this program going for many more years ahead, and ultimately to endow it. If you are interested in giving, please go to our website (simr.stanford.edu) where you will see a button for donating online on the left hand panel. If you would like to donate by check, please email our program (simr-program@stanford.edu) for more information. We appreciate any help that you may be able to give us.

With much gratitude,

PJ Utz, M.D.
Professor of Medicine, SIMR Faculty Director