Program Dates: June 1 – August 1, 2014
The nine week long REU in Soft Materials Program provides undergraduates research experience in the field of Soft Materials. The students also gain professional development opportunities by participating in the program. The participating faculty have research programs covering all interdisciplinary areas of the field including nanotechnology, electronic materials, photonic materials, energy materials, biomaterials, computational materials and structural materials with applications in health care, communications, transportation, recreation, energy and electronics.

Penn State University has one of the country’s finest research efforts in materials and the Materials Science & Engineering Department is ranked within the top in both undergraduate and graduate studies.

Eligibility:

Undergraduate Sophomores, Juniors, enrolled in a program leading to a bachelor’s degree. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States.* This program has a GPA general requirement of 3.4.

*limited funding may be available for international students, on a case by case basis.
Participants will be responsible for attending all program events* and completing all program responsibilities including a short oral presentation and poster. All presentations and posters must be reviewed and approved by the faculty mentor.

**Oral and Poster Presentation:**

Each student should prepare an oral discussion and poster of the research project. The presentation/poster should be clear, concise, and emphasize the major aspects of your research in the program. Both should include an introduction of your project, synopsis of any literature review, research questions or hypotheses, methodology, and conclusions/preliminary findings.

*exceptions must be approved by program administration
Posters will have to be submitted by July 23rd, 8:00 am to ensure that we can get all posters printed by the symposium. A drop box for the posters will be opened on the ANGEL website (www.cms.psu.edu). Send both PDF & PPT versions for printing.

Posters should be landscape, 34x40 and include the following components:

- Poster Title, your name, faculty mentor’s name, grad mentor name, along with REU program.
- NSF Symbol and grant number DMR-Award # 1156960
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Objective
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgements

Prepare a 3-5 minute verbal explanation for the poster session
The REU in Soft Materials is committed to providing a safe working research environment to all program participants.

All program participants will be required to complete a safety training before conducting research in the program’s laboratories. For more information about the safety training, follow the link:
http://www.matse.psu.edu/safety

In case of Emergency:
(Police, Fire, Accident, or Ambulance) - dial 911

If you have a chemical, biological, or radiological incident:
Call (814) 865-6391 Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM, on holidays or (814) 863-1111 (University Police) all other times.

General Questions about procedures:
Scott Henninger, MatSE Safety Officer, 2 Steidle Building.
(814) 865-3568
henninger@matse.psu.edu

Specific Questions about Chemicals:
Main Office
The Pennsylvania State University
Environmental Health and Safety
6 Eisenhower Parking Deck
University Park, PA 16802-2116
Phone: (814) 865-6391

Other Important Phone Numbers:
University Health Services: (814) 865-6556
Centre Community Hospital: (814) 231-7000
Centre Community Hospital Emergency Department:
(814) 231-6110
Participants will receive one-fourth of the program stipend at the end of the first week of the program. Thereafter, payments will be released on every third Friday, with the fourth payment dispersed and sent to the participant, after the completion of the program. All program events must be attended and requirements fulfilled before payment can be dispersed.

**Dates of stipend disbursement:**

1st: June 6, 2014  
2nd: June 27, 2014  
3rd: July 18, 2014  
4th: Second week of August, will be mailed after program completion

Students will have an opportunity to meet with local bank representatives, to have local access to their stipend payment, if needed.

*variations may occur dependent on individual agreements of participation, some participants may be paid as wage-payroll.

**Housing**

Eligible scholars will be housed in Nittany Apartments on west campus. Each apartment is equipped with twin long beds, table, chairs, internet hookup, phone hookup, stove and refrigerator.

Parents may telephone the Materials Science and Engineering in the event of an emergency at (814) 865-5765.

Laundry facilities and ironing boards are located in the residence area. Students are advised to bring a drying rack if they prefer not to dry their clothes in a dryer.

**Registration is from 8:00-10:00 AM at the Nittany Community Center. If you check in after that, you will go to the Pollock Commons Desk.**

**Room keys will be issued at registration.**

**Scholars are required to bring:** pillow, bed linens, toiletries, towels, alarm clock, “formal clothes for presentation,” sunscreen, work/play clothes, rain gear, umbrella, laundry detergent, insect repellent, pens, pencils, blank notebooks

**Other suggested items:** favorite munchies, bedspread, blanket, iron, swimsuit, camera.* clothes hangers.

*at your own risk!
WELCOME TO NITTANY APARTMENTS!

There are three Community Assistants living in the Nittany Apartments ready to assist you. Their photos, names and telephone numbers are posted in the Community Center above the lobby phone and in the outside bulletin board near Building 21.

MAINTENANCE and FACILITIES

If you have a maintenance request, a question about your apartment, housing policies, etc., call the Nittany Community Center Desk at 863-2577. For emergencies after the Community Center is closed, call the Community Assistant on duty at 814-883-7270.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Nittany Apartments and Suites residents must provide their own phones. For off campus, local calls, dial 8 before the seven-digit number. To make long distance calls, prepaid phone cards may be purchased on the Web from the Penn State Computer Store [ http://moc.cac.psu.edu ] or local vendors. If you suspect a telephone line problem check first by borrowing and testing another phone to make sure it is not a problem with your phone. If it is not the phone, then report the problem to TNS at 865-4662.

RECYCLE!

It’s everyone’s earth, it’s everyone’s responsibility.

Check the bulletin board in Community Center for recycling information.

LAUNDRY

The Nittany Apartments and Suites Laundry are located inside the Community Center. The laundry is for the use of residents only. Please read the posted operating instructions carefully before using the machines. The machines are activated by the ID+ card. You can add money (also known as Lion Cash) to your ID+ card at any Commons Desk.
PARKING AND HOUSING

PARKING, CAR AND BICYCLE REGISTRATION
Registration, parking information and permits may be obtained by visiting Parking Services at 1 Eisenhower Parking Deck, 865-1436 or [http://www.transportation.psu.edu]. Mention the REU program.

Bicycles must be registered at any visitor booth or at Police Services in the Eisenhower Parking Deck. Registration is free. Bicycles must be placed in designated bike racks, not chained to posts or stored on apartment porches. Nittany community walkways are for pedestrian traffic – vehicles are not permitted on these walkways. Only authorized vehicles are permitted inside the complex.

MAIL INFORMATION
Mailbox Keys: Pick up your mailbox key at the Campus Post Office, located in the McAllister Building (in alley beside the HUB).

Mailing Address:
Your name
600 E. Pollock Road
Nittany Apt. No. ___
State College, PA 16801

Mailbox Locations: Your mailbox is located at the cluster boxes near the Community Center for those in the 1000, 2000, 4000 and 5000 series of apartments. For those living in the 3000 series, your mailbox is located near Building 31 near the parking lot. There is one mailbox per apartment, 2 (TWO) KEYS PER MAILBOX. These keys may be duplicated. The bank of mailboxes near the Community Center has “outgoing mail” collection slots. This is where you mail your outgoing mail.

REPLACEMENT APARTMENT KEYS
If you lose or misplace your key, a replacement key is available at the Pollock Commons Desk. The replacement key must be returned within 2 hours or the key core(s) will be changed and you will be charged a fee. As many as four cores may have to be changed if a resident loses a key and the fee is based on the number of cores changed. PHOTO ID MUST BE SHOWN TO SIGN OUT A REPLACEMENT KEY.

Remember: The replacement key must be returned within 2 hours to avoid a fee to re-core the lock(s). If you fail to return your key when departing at the end of the summer, you will incur charges for re-coding lock(s) which will be deducted from your last stipend.
ALCOHOL

University Park is officially a dry campus. and alcohol is forbidden anywhere on campus. If any participant is found to possess or consume alcoholic beverages University Park Campus, that participant may jeopardize participation in the program. If you are of age, there are several locations off campus to exercise your adult rights.

DESK SERVICE HOURS

Services such as issuing vacuum cleaners, cleaning supplies, etc., are available at the Community Center Desk Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to Noon, 1 to 4 p.m., and 6 to 11 p.m. Photo ID must be shown to sign out items. Summer and holiday hours differ. Check postings in Community Center. A fax machine (814-865-0706) is located in the Center. There is a charge to send or receive faxes. Vacuums, moving carts, bicycle pump, jumper cables, various tools, an assortment of cleaning supplies, and an iron (for use in laundry only) may be signed out for a two-hour limit at the Nittany Community Center Desk. Items borrowed MUST BE RETURNED TO AN EMPLOYEE WHEN THE DESK IS OPEN.

TRASH REMOVAL

Regularly remove household trash to the dumpster that is located closest to your apartment. Trash should not be stored inside or outside your apartment. Trash, bicycles, or furniture may not be stored on front or rear porches at any time. A charge can be assessed for trash that Housing must remove that is not placed in the dumpsters. Residents are required to keep apartments in a sanitary and orderly condition.

FURNITURE

- University provided furniture and furnishings may not be removed from the apartment. You will be billed for any missing/damaged furniture at the end of summer.
- Mattresses are to be used on the bed frames provided and not on the floor. Additional Furniture is restricted.
- Candles, halogen lamps, electric space heaters, kerosene heaters are not permitted in University housing because of the fire hazards they pose.
- Only University-owned refrigerators and stoves may be used in the apartment. Weight-lifting equipment is not permitted in apartments because of noise and potential damage to floors. Liquid-filled beds and other liquid-filled furniture are not permitted due to excessive weight and potential for damage.
- Charcoal grills, lighter fluid and charcoal briquettes are not permitted.
- Small propane grills may be used outside the apartments.

Microwave ovens are not provided.

PETS: Pets, other than fish in a small tank, are not permitted in Nittany Apartments and Suites to reside or to visit.
If you will be keeping a car here, please read the following information about parking on campus:

Each participant that brings a vehicle onto campus must follow the parking guidelines. These guidelines state that anyone utilizing University parking facilities must purchase a parking permit. This permit must be displayed from the rearview mirror facing forward while the vehicle is parked on campus.

http://www.transportation.psu.edu/forms/StudentParkingMap.pdf

PARKING, CAR AND BICYCLE REGISTRATION

Registration, parking information and permits may be obtained by visiting Parking Services at 1 Eisenhower Parking Deck, 814-865-1436 or http://www.transportation.psu.edu. Mention the REU program.

*You must get your parking permit Monday and be at 113 Deike Building by 9:00 am

Bicycles must be registered at any visitor booth or at Police Services in the Eisenhower Parking Deck. Registration is free. Bicycles must be placed in designated bike racks, not chained to posts or stored on apartment porches. Nittany community walkways are for pedestrian traffic – vehicles are not permitted on these walkways. Only authorized vehicles are permitted inside the complex.

Payment may be made via cash, check or money order made payable to the Pennsylvania State University.

Directions to University Park:

The Campus is located within driving distance of many major cities including Harrisburg (1.5 hrs., 90 mi), Pittsburgh (3 hrs., 137 mi), Philadelphia (3.5 hrs., 194 mi), Baltimore (3.5 hrs., 155 mi), Washington D.C. (4 hrs., 190 mi), New York City (5 hrs., 250 mi) and Toronto (6.5 hrs., 304 mi).

From New York City, the suggested route is via the George Washington Bridge to I-80. In Pennsylvania, exit I-80 at exit 161 (Bellefonte) and follow PA Route 220 south to State College. Take exit 74 for Innovation Park/ Penn State University.

From the Philadelphia area, take Philadelphia Schuykill Expressway to the Pennsylvania Turnpike, leave the Turnpike at exit 247 (Harrisburg East), and follow I-283 to I-83 and proceed north on I-83 to the I-81 interchange. Then follow I-81 south to Route 322, 22 West exit. Proceed west on Route 322 through Lewistown to State College exit #74.

From Pittsburgh, follow Route 22 East to Duncansville, I-99/Route 220 North to Route 322 East to Mt. Nittany Expressway/State College exit #73, OR

Follow Route 22 East beyond Duncansville to Water Street, Route 45 East to Pine Grove Mills and Route 26 North to State College.

From the west, take I-80 to exit 123 (Woodland) just east of Clearfield, then US Route 322 east to State College, or exit I-80 at exit 161 (Bellefonte) and follow PA Route 220 south to State College.

From Washington, D.C., take Route 270 to Frederick then Route 70 to Breezewood - PA turnpike (exit 12) - and go one exit West to Bedford (exit 11); Take I-99 north to Route 220 to Route 322 East to State College exit #74, OR

take I-95 or the Baltimore–Washington Parkway to Baltimore, west loop I-695 to I-83 north. Continue on I-83 north to the I-81 interchange. Then follow I-81 south to Route 322, 22 exit. Proceed west on Route 322 to Lewistown and State College.
**Maps**

- Nittany Apartments
- Pollock Halls (sign in for keys and ID)
- Deike Building (Orientation/workshop location)

**Bus Transportation**

The CATA Bus system runs free “Loops” and free “Links.” The Loops can help you get to downtown State College, and the Links access the Penn Stater Hotel, Nittany Lion Inn, and Creamery.

For more information about bus schedules, routes, and times, please see the following link: [http://www.catabus.com/sslooplink.htm](http://www.catabus.com/sslooplink.htm)
2014 REU Calendar

WEEK 1

(5/31) Saturday: Students arrive at Penn State

(6/1) Sunday:
- Brunch at Pollock Dining Hall 11:00 AM
- Shaver's Creek Outing 1:00-4:00 PM

**Please wear sneakers and clothing that you do not mind if it gets dirty or ruined.**

(6/2) Monday:
- Student Orientation 9:00 AM– 341 Deike Building
  
  Guided Walking Campus Tour –11:30 AM– 1:00 PM- Meet at Shields Building by 11:20 AM

  Access Accounts and ID’s -1:30-2:30 PM

  Child Abuse Prevention Training, 3:00-4:30 PM- 113 Deike Building Computer Lab

(6/3) Tuesday:
- Laboratory Safety Training Safety Exam.
  9:00-11:00 AM- 113 Deike Building  Computer Lab

  *Meet faculty at 2:00 p.m. in faculty member office

  (unless you are given a different time)

(6/5) Thursday:
- STEM Welcome Orientation
  8:30 – 11:00 AM- The Founders Room of the Bryce Jordan Center

(6/6) Friday:
- First Stipend– Pick up from Jenn in 113 Deike Building

WEEK 2

(6/10) Tuesday: Millennium Café 10:00AM-11:00AM - 3rd Floor Commons area in the MSC Building

(6/11) Wednesday: Professional Development Seminar:
  Library Tour: 4:00 PM- Meet inside of the Paterno Library Entrance

WEEK 3

(6/17) Tuesday: Millennium Café 10:00AM-11:00AM - 3rd Floor Commons area in the MSC Building

(6/18) Wednesday: Grad School 101: 4:00 AM- 541 Deike
  (Snacks and drinks will be provided)
WEEK 4
(6/24) Tuesday: Millennium Café 10:00AM-11:00AM - 3rd Floor Commons area in the MSC Building

(6/25) Wednesday: STEM Welcome Picnic: Check in at 4:00 PM at Sunset Park
Location: http://goo.gl/maps/QCwTW
The Park is in the vicinity of 824 McKee Street, off E. Park Ave.

(6/27) Second Stipend- Pick up from Jenn in 113 Deike Building

WEEK 5
(7/1) Tuesday: Millennium Café 10:00AM-11:00AM - 3rd Floor Commons area in the MSC Building

(7/2) Wednesday: Professional Development Seminar-Oral Presentations: 4:00 PM- 541 Deike Building

(7/4) Independence Day HOLIDAY: ENJOY THE DAY OFF!

WEEK 6
(7/9) Tuesday: Millennium Café 10:00AM-11:00AM - 3rd Floor Commons area in the MSC Building

(7/10) Thursday: Millennium Mash Up: Tour of the MSC building and facilities
4:00-5:30 PM- 3rd Floor Millennium Science Complex Café

WEEK 7
(7/16) Wednesday: Professional Development Seminar- 4:00 PM- 541 Deike Building
*Presentation titles emailed to me by 8:00 AM (jms885@psu.edu)

(7/18) Friday: Third Stipend payment- Pick up from Jenn in 113 Deike Building

WEEK 8
(7/23) Wednesday: Posters Due *Posters Due on angel drop-box by 8:00 AM

(7/24) Thursday: Millennium Mash Up Science Communication presentation
4:30-5:30 PM- 3rd Floor Millennium Science Complex Café

WEEK 9
(7/28) Monday: Oral Presentation Slides uploaded to Angel Drop Box by 8:00 AM

Oral Presentations in Wartik Building (schedule sent later) 8:00 AM.-12:00 PM

(7/31) Thursday: Research Symposium: Poster Presentation Awards Ceremony 1:00-3:00 PM–
The Bridges in Life Sciences Building

(8/1) Friday: Students depart from Penn State * Final Stipend sent in mail
Volunteering Opportunities

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County

http://www.tricountyhabitat.com/index.php
814-353-2390

State College Area Food Bank
http://www.foodbank.centreconnect.org/
814-234-2310

Centre Communities

http://centre.redcross.org/
814-237-0999
Policy HR99 Background Check Process

PURPOSE:

This policy establishes a process for ensuring background checks are completed for any individuals, age 18 and over, (paid or unpaid) who are engaged by Penn State in any work capacity effective on or after the date of this policy. This includes, but is not limited to, employees; volunteers working with minors; adjunct faculty; consultants and contractors who conduct their work on Penn State premises or who represent Penn State at non-Penn State locations; visiting scholars; graduate assistants; or other similar positions. In addition, it establishes a process requiring individuals engaged by the University, including those engaged prior to, as of, or after, the effective date of this policy, to self-disclose criminal arrests and/or convictions as outlined in the Penn State Arrest and Conviction self-disclosure form within a 72-hour period of their occurrence.

Background checks will be used solely to evaluate candidates’ eligibility to be engaged in any work capacity by the University, and will not be used to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, gender, disability or handicap, age, genetic information, veteran’s status, gender identity or sexual orientation.

Criminal convictions will be reviewed with respect to the nature and gravity of the offense(s); time since conviction; completion of sentence or any other remediation; relevance to the position for which the candidate is being considered/employee is performing; and discrepancies between the background check and what the candidate/employee self-reported. When a finding adversely impacts eligibility to be engaged by the University in a specific position, the candidate will be notified of the decision and given associated information required by law.

(Note: Nothing herein is intended to contradict or lessen application of applicable federal or state laws or regulations.)

OVERVIEW:

Penn State strives to provide the safest possible environment for its students, faculty, staff and visitors; to preserve University resources; and to uphold the reputation and integrity of the University. This policy supports the University’s efforts to minimize institutional risk, provide a safe environment, and assist hiring authorities in making sound hiring decisions. For more information and a complete view of the Policy, please visit: http://guru.psu.edu/policies/OHR/hr99.html
POLICY:

Pennsylvania law requires certain individuals to report child abuse, whenever they have reasonable suspicion of child abuse. However, ANY person may report abuse if they have reasonable suspicion that a child has been abused.

Pennsylvania law requires the following individuals to make a report about the suspected child abuse:

- A person who, in the course of employment comes into contact with children, and the person has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is a victim of child abuse.
- Specifically named professionals include, but are NOT limited to: any licensed physician, osteopath, medical examiner, coroner, funeral director, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, intern, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons, Christian Science practitioner, member of the clergy, school administrator, school teacher, school nurse, social services worker, day-care center worker or any other child-care or foster-care worker, mental health professional, peace officer or law enforcement official. Two exceptions are made in the law for reporting requirement which involve confidential communications to a member of the clergy, and for confidential communications made to an attorney (23 Pa.C.S. § 6311).

Penn State University requires all University employees who have reasonable suspicion of abuse to make a report, with an exception to any confidential communications made to a University-employed attorney, or confidential communication made to University-employed member of the clergy. The Penn State Hershey Medical Center campus (including the College of Medicine), the client representation clinics of the Dickinson School of Law, the Psychological Clinic, and University Health Services will follow separate policies that reflect their unique activities.

As Penn State University is committed to research, Penn State policy (RA14) provides for ethical treatment and protection of human research participants. All human subjects research is safeguarded by the Institutional Review Board. The research environment presents unique circumstances related to reporting of child abuse, and reporting procedures must be reviewed, approved, and monitored by the IRB. The Principal Investigator is responsible for all aspects of the research, including reporting any child abuse identified through the research.

http://guru.psu.edu/policies/AD72.html
https://guru.psu.edu/policies/AD39.html
How to make a report of suspected child abuse:

1. If you suspect child abuse, immediately contact ChildLine, which is operated by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare at 1-800-932-0313. This hotline is staffed at all times of day and night. If the call is not answered, then immediately contact the county child welfare agency in the county in which the incident occurred. If you do not reach an individual either through ChildLine or through the local county child welfare office, the reporter must continue calling until they reach an individual to complete the reporting process. For the avoidance of doubt, regardless of the current age of the victim of suspected or reported abuse, a report should be made to ChildLine if abuse occurred.

2. If a child is in immediate danger, the employee should contact police at 911 to obtain immediate protection for the child.

Finally, if you are considered to be an Authorized Adult as defined in policy AD39, follow the reporting procedure as described in AD39.

Liability

As per Pennsylvania law, any person or institution participating in good faith in the making of a report or testifying in any proceeding arising out of an instance of suspected child abuse shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise result by reason of such actions.

Any person or official required by law to report a case of suspected child abuse who willfully fails to do so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree for the first violation and a misdemeanor of the second degree for subsequent violations. Most importantly, without making a report, a child may continue to be at risk. 23 Pa.C.S. §6318 and §6319.

Compliance

All University employees will be required to complete Reporting Child Abuse training each calendar year through the Office of Human Resources, Center for Workplace Learning and Performance.

If any University employee willfully fails to report a case of suspected child abuse, it will result in disciplinary action, up to and including, dismissal.
Research Experience for Undergraduates

In Soft Materials

113 Deike Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-5765/865-0016
reu@matse.psu.edu