The College of Natural Sciences Newsletter is designed to serve CNS students. It is delivered online every Sunday.

Dean Kopp’s weekly email includes a link to access the newsletter, as well.

Items in **BLUE** are new; Items in **RED** are last chance.

If you would like to submit news to CNS Newsletter, send the information to cnsnewsletter@austin.utexas.edu. Include a contact person phone number and email, date or deadline, write in complete sentences, text must be fewer than 150 words. Submit by 11:59pm Friday to be included in that week’s newsletter.

Edited by: Nicole Kruijs

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February 23rd- March 1st
3. CNS Town Hall on Diversity and Student Success  
Wednesday, February 26th; 5-6pm; WCH 1.120  
Join Dr. Kopp to discuss issues affecting student success in college. The college is committed to supporting students regardless of family background, socioeconomic status, or ethnicity. Students are invited to join the conversation and discuss challenges that affect students’ success.  
There will be two follow-up Focus Groups, as well:  
Thursday, February 27th at 5PM in SAC 1.118  
Wednesday, March 5th at 5PM in SAC 3.112

2. Exploring Research and Careers  
Thursday Feb 27; 12pm; PCL 1.124  
The Vick Center and UT Libraries are co-sponsoring an Exploring and Researching Careers workshop on Thursday February 27 at noon in PCL 1.124. The workshop will include resources for exploring majors, careers and internships as well as how to research different companies.

If interested, students must RSVP at MyUGS: https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/ugs/my/

3. Global Professional Training  
Deadline: March 1st, 2014  
Register now to participate a two-day event offering professional development training to students at The University of Texas at Austin who are interested in working and living in the Middle East and North Africa. This opportunity is open undergraduate students with an interest in the Middle East and North Africa and to students from the region who want to share their unique perspectives.

To apply or for more information, please visit: http://world.utexas.edu/globalinitiatives/gpt

4. Undergraduate Research Forum Abstract  
Friday, April 11, 2014 in Welch  
All CNS undergraduate students who have participated in research with CNS faculty or with faculty in other colleges or at other institutions (e.g. summer REU participants, internships at state health agencies, internships in companies, etc) are encouraged to present. The event will feature poster presentations by our top student researchers as well as cash awards for research and presentation excellence. The Undergraduate Research Forum Web Site is found HERE.

If you are considering participating please fill out the short Intent to Submit an Abstract form as it will give us an idea of the size of the event. Intent to Submit an Abstract – Due February 26, 2014 https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C3BXK5Z

For more information, questions or comments, please contact: Lynda Gonzales in the CNS Office for Research and International Studies, tel. 512-232-8345, email lyndag@austin.utexas.edu

5. INSPIRE Women’s Leadership Program Applications  
Due May 2nd online  
Women in the class of 2017 of any major are encouraged to apply for the INSPIRE Women’s Leadership Program, a three-year program that helps you develop the skills necessary to achieve the highest levels of success in your chosen field. Apply here:

URL: http://calendar.utexas.edu/event/inspire_womens_leaderhip_program_is_accepting_applications?source=newletter

6. McNair Scholars  
Application due Friday, April 4th, 2014  
McNair Scholars is a federally funded program under the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement with the goal of increasing the number of students earning doctoral degrees who are both low-income and first-generation and/or traditionally underrepresented in graduate education.

All McNair Scholars obtain a faculty mentor who will help them identify a research topic and develop a research project, while at the same time actively engaging in program workshops, GRE prep, seminars, research conferences, and individual and academic advising. Students will also be eligible for a $1,000 scholarship each semester they are active in the program and a stipend of up to $2,600 when they participate in the Summer Research Institute.

Information sessions will be taking place on Tuesday, February 25th from 6:00-7:00 pm in SSB 3.406 and March 18th from 6:00-7:00 pm in the SSB-Glenn Maloney Room. More information and the application can be found at www.utmcnairscholars.com.

7. EVS Transfer Information  
Applications are due March 7th
The Environmental Science (EVS) degree program at The University of Texas at Austin brings together Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degrees from the College of Natural Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Jackson School of Geosciences. EVS is small, restricted, and very competitive, and focuses on science, including calculus, chemistry, biology, geology, and physics.

EVS accepts internal transfer applications (from students currently enrolled at UT) each spring for program entry the following fall. About 10-15% of the EVS cohort comes from internal transfers. That means about 5-7.

The applicant’s grades in basic science course sequence of Calculus (M 408K, M 408N, or M 408C), Chemistry (CH 301) and Biology (BIO 311C); The applicant’s overall grade point average at the university and any applicable transfer hours; students per year. EVS typically receives 40-50 applications for those spots.

• Applications are available on the EVS Program website at www.esi.utexas.edu/EVS. No late applications will be accepted. The difficulty of the applicant’s course load, any course repetitions, and proven mathematical ability; The applicant’s interest in environmental science and in the EVS Program; and the applicant’s previous lab or field experience, and any environmentally-related volunteer work.

8. CompeteUT Competition
Friday, April 4th

CompeteUT, formerly known as the UT Horizon Fund Student Investment Competition, is a venture creation and investment competition that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship from students, medical residents, and trainees throughout all 15 University of Texas System Institutions. Open to all UT undergraduates, graduates, PhD Candidates, post docs, medical interns, and trainees, the competition gives sixteen finalist teams a chance to vie for a $100,000 Investment Award.

For more information, visit our website www.uthorizons.com. If you have any further questions, please contact Tiffany Kindred at tkindred@utsystem.edu or Jeet Vijay at jvijay@utsystem.edu.

Scholarships

1. Pickle and PAL awards
Applications and Nominations due February 28 in UNB 4.124

We invite you to submit nominations for two University Unions student awards: the 2014 J. J. "JAKE" PICKLE CITIZENSHIP AWARD and the 2014 PAL-MAKE A DIFFERENCE AWARD. The recipient of the Pickle Award will receive a $5000 check, a certificate, and a copy of Congressman Pickle’s autobiography, JAKE. The Pal Award recipient will receive a $1000 check and a certificate.

The Pickle Award is presented annually to a student at the university whose contributions to UT campus life best exemplify the high standards of leadership and service that were the hallmarks of Congressman Pickle’s life and career. It recognizes a student’s cumulative public service contributions over a period of time (e.g., holding leadership positions in student organizations, or coordinating multiple projects that benefit the campus community). Candidates for the Pickle Award must be in good academic standing and be currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student.

The Pal Award was established in 2006 by UT alumnus Jaspreet Singh Pal (BBA ‘95) to inspire students to engage in a lifelong commitment to public service. The award recognizes a student whose significant, individual program or initiative "makes a difference" to UT campus life or to the broader community.

Nomination forms are available online at:
https://www.utexas.edu/universityunions/pickle-award
https://www.utexas.edu/universityunions/pal-award
If you have questions contact Megan McMillin at megan.mcmillin@mail.utexas.edu.

2. CNS Continuing Students Scholarship
Deadline: April 15, 2014

The 2014-2015 College of Natural Sciences scholarship application is now available. The common application is used to award college-level scholarships as well as the Health Professions Scholarships (for pre-medical students) and Out-of-State Tuition Waivers. Current CNS students can access the online application at https://www.utexas.edu/cns/scholarships.

In addition to the online application, students must submit at least one (1) faculty letter of recommendation. Students may have up to two faculty letters submitted on their behalf, however only one is
required. Applications will not be considered complete until at least one letter of recommendation has been received. Instructions on who are eligible to write letters of recommendation and how to submit them can be found on the application.

3. **Armed Forces Scholarship**

The Army offers one of the most generous and comprehensive scholarships in the Health Care Field. It is called the F. Edward Hebert Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP). If you qualify and are selected for this program, you will receive a full-tuition scholarship for Medical School. You will also receive a monthly stipend while attending your Medical School, get paid as a Commissioned Officer during your residency (over $65,000), and have a guaranteed job working in your trained specialty after residency.

The HPSP can be applied to any accredited school in the United States or Puerto Rico. Besides tuition, the Army will also make sure your required books, nonexpendable equipment, and most academic fees are paid as well.

**HPSP Benefits in the Army:**

- Commissioned Officer
- 100% TUITION, BOOKS, FEES, and MORE
- $2,157.00 Monthly Stipend
- No Basic Training
- $20,000 Sign-On Bonus Available

Apply for both the Army & the National Residence Match Program
Contact:
Luis G. Merino
SGT, USA
U.S. Army Health Care Recruiter
San Antonio MRS
2040 Babcock Rd, STE 406
San Antonio, TX 78229

Office: 210-692-7376
Cell: 210-385-5621 / 877-570-8059
email: luis.g.merino.mil@mail.mil

4. **Texas Exes Scholarship Application**

**Due March 1**

The Texas Exes Scholarships for continuing students application is now open. Please see [http://www.texascholarships.org/app/apply/continuing/CSA.html](http://www.texascholarships.org/app/apply/continuing/CSA.html) to apply.

5. **Continuing and Transfer Scholarship Applications**

**Due April 1**

UT's Continuing and Transfer Scholarship application is now open. See [http://finaid.utexas.edu/spotlights/CSA140.html](http://finaid.utexas.edu/spotlights/CSA140.html)

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**Internships and Employment**

1. **Sanger Learning Center now hiring for Fall 2014**

Info session; Tuesday Feb 25th; 4pm; JES A121A

Hiring tutors, work study, academic coaches, and outreach assistants. Application deadline is March 28th.

2. **White House Fall Internship Application now open**

Deadline to apply: April 13, 2014

We are writing to announce that the application for the Fall 2014 White House Internship Program is now open. The White House Internship Program provides a unique opportunity to gain valuable professional experience and build leadership skills. This hands-on program is designed to mentor and cultivate today's young leaders, strengthen their understanding of the Executive Office of the President and engage them in public service opportunities.

A complete application includes: short answers, two essay questions, a one-page resume, and two letters of recommendation.

For more information and to apply, please visit [http://www.whitehouse.gov/internships](http://www.whitehouse.gov/internships).

3. **NASA Internship**

**Deadline: March 1**

NASA is still actively recruiting interns for its paid summer internship program! Internships are available in a wide variety of disciplines including engineering, physics, astronomy, life and earth sciences, and even some business and finance. Visit [http://intern.nasa.gov] to complete your base application and apply for up to 15 specific internship opportunities.

4. **DC Summer Internship**

Applications due March 18th

Spend a summer interning in the nation's capital and gain that competitive edge. Taking advantage of a Washington, DC internship is a valuable investment in your future that will set you apart after college. The comprehensive programs sponsored by The Fund for American Studies include a guaranteed internship placement, courses for transferable credit from George Mason University in government and economics, and furnished housing conveniently located just steps from the White House in downtown Washington. Students also benefit from networking events, exclusive briefings, and guest speakers.

THE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

We’ve been creating academic internship experiences for over
Research and Volunteering

1. Junior Fellows
   Application due March 21st
   The Junior Fellows Program was begun in 1959 by Harry Ransom as a means of encouraging academic excellence in the College of Arts and Sciences. At that time it was essentially an honor society to which students were elected at the end of their freshman year. Over the years, the Junior Fellows has evolved into a society of juniors and seniors from the University at large who are engaged in independent research projects under the direction of members of the faculty.

   Fellows are required to attend meetings of the group, held every other week in both the fall and spring semesters. Besides project presentations, meetings feature discussions led by eminent scholars from on and off campus. Fellows have the opportunity to participate in field trips, seminars, and other academic activities. It is possible to earn academic credit for work done as a Junior Fellow, by enrolling in the appropriate conference course with the supervising professor. For example, Humanities and Plan II majors usually use their senior theses as their Junior Fellows projects. Students pursuing Special Honors in their major use the honors thesis number. Other non-honors courses are also available, for example ARH 376, E 367C, CH 475K, RTF 336. Fellows should register for the course that is approved by their advisers, fits into their degree plans, and has the right format for the chosen topic. Funds are available to assist Fellows with expenses involved in their research.

   Application is open to any qualified student from any program on campus who will have completed 60 hours prior to the Fall semester. Junior Fellows normally have a GPA of at least 3.75, but outstanding students whose abilities are manifested in other ways should not hesitate to apply. Although administered by the College of Liberal Arts, the program is open to all qualified students on campus. Many students from outside Liberal Arts are presently members.

   For more information contact Dr. Larry Carver (carver@austin.utexas.edu) in the Liberal Arts Honors Office by email or phone at 471-3458.

2. The Undergraduate Research Awards
   Applications are due June 2nd
   The University Honors Center is pleased to share The Undergraduate Awards, an opportunity for undergraduate students to have their best research essays or special projects recognized and published as part of a program celebrating top students from around the world. We encourage you to share this information with interested students and faculty in your department.

   The Undergraduate Awards recognize the world's top undergraduate research projects from a variety of academic disciplines spanning the humanities, sciences, and visual arts. Open to final and penultimate year undergraduates, students are invited to submit research essays or special projects completed as part of their coursework that have received a grade of A and present fresh ideas and new arguments. Winning students will have their work published in the Undergraduate Awards Journal and be invited to attend the UA Summit—a 3 day conference in Dublin, Ireland.

   A sample announcement for your website or newsletter is attached, as well as template for announcement to departmental faculty members.

   Students should visit www.utexas.edu/ugs/uhc/awards/undergraduate.

3. Research 2014 SRF Summer Scholars Program
   Applications due March 3rd
   The SENS Research Foundation is pleased to announce its 2014 SRF Summer Scholars Program. The SRF Summer Scholars Program is open to undergraduate students interested in research internships with world-renowned leaders of the regenerative medicine field. Paid positions are available at:
Pre-Professional

1. **Health Professions Fair**
   Wednesday, February 26, 2014, 10:00am - 02:30pm

   The Health Professions Fair is held each spring. Approximately 600 students, alumni and community members attend. In addition, 75+ professional schools are generally in attendance. This event is an opportunity for anyone who attends to meet and talk with admissions representatives from practically every health professions school in the state and many from across the country. We know it would be impossible for most of us to visit every school, so we bring the schools to you!

   All UT Austin students, alumni and any community members who are interested in finding out more about the health professions career pathway are welcome to attend. This is your chance to come and speak to representatives from the schools you may be considering. Find out about health professions opportunities and programs that may be a good fit for you.

   Please dress business casual.

   Additional information at: http://cns.utexas.edu/health-professions

2. **Suture Clinic**
   February 26; 3-4pm; UNB 3.304

   Do you want to learn about sutures? This clinic is co-sponsored by the Army and the Health Professions Office. It will be held following the Health Professions Fair. You will see a demonstration by a physician and learn suture techniques. This event has limited space and an RSVP is required, please click the link below to RSVP: https://utexas.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cHdb1uidkRKOlqN

Organizations

The Friar Society, the university’s oldest and most prestigious honor society, is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Friar Centennial Teaching Fellowship (FCTF).

This Fellowship, which is awarded annually to one outstanding undergraduate professor, is the largest undergraduate faculty award at the university with an annual award of $25,000.

We invite you to nominate a professor who is deserving of this honor. The nomination form is available online at The Friar Centennial Teaching Fellowship Nomination Form. Please note that only tenured or tenure-track faculty who teach at least one undergraduate course this semester are eligible to receive the FCTF.

Please submit all nominations through the link by Friday, March 21, 2014. Late submissions will not be considered. Nominations may also be sent to 2014FCTF@gmail.com

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at jordan.metoyer@gmail.com or kennon.kasischke@gmail.com. We look forward to receiving your nominations!