**Application for Student Research Positions in the Whisner Lab**

**2018**

**Introduction**

Research in the Whisner lab centers on studies designed to better understand how nutrition impacts the intestinal microbiome, weight status, mineral metabolism and bone health in infants, children, and pregnant and lactating women. We also collaborate with a variety of accomplished faculty to explore other questions surrounding the gut microbiome’s role in health that include dietary impacts on cardiovascular health, and exercise benefits for both disease prevention and treatment. Please see our research page to view information about ongoing studies in our laboratory. <http://whisnerlabasu.weebly.com>

**What is expected from you as a member of our laboratory?**

***Attendance.*** All students must attend their scheduled work hours. If you are unable to attend, advance notice must be given to Dr. Whisner (cwhisner@asu.edu) so that others can be brought in to complete any time urgent work as needed.

***Literature meetings/presentations***. We encourage students to develop skills in discussing and critiquing published research studies on related topics in our bi-weekly lab meetings. Being able to read and critically analyze journal articles is a skill that is important for anyone interested in pursuing a career in science. This gives an in-depth perspective on all aspects of running a study and allows each student to take an active role in the laboratory.

***Recording Data***. For our lab to run efficiently and produce valid, replicable results, it is essential that we keep good records of work undertaken in the laboratory both in our sample log journals and in our computer data files. You will be asked to help keep the laboratory running smoothly which involves bringing problems to Dr. Whisner or graduate students’ attention and documenting your efforts so that others can clearly follow what you were working on.

***Replying to e-mails.*** Some of the communication in our lab will be conducted via e-mail. It is very important that you check your e-mail daily and reply as soon as possible to questions, issues, or requests that we have related to the lab. Please be prompt in your responses (preferably less than 48 hours).

**Other qualities.** Our lab group thrives on a shared appreciation of core values and behaviors. We treat one another with respect, help each other on different projects, teach one another new things, and strive to produce the highest quality work that is both ethically and scientifically sound.

Date of application:

First and Last Name:

ASURITE ID (e.g. cwhisner):

Phone Number:

Year of graduation:

Age:

Sex:

Race/Ethnicity:

Major/ College:

GPA overall:

Do you have an interest in honors projects, credit, or volunteer positions in the lab?

Number of credits you are taking next semester:

Do you enjoy crafts or other hobbies? If so, what are these and why do you engage in these activities?

Please describe any extracurricular activities you participate in and the time commitment required for each activity.

Previous research experience (please include dates, supervisor, and brief description of your responsibilities):

Please describe classes and/or labs that you have taken as part of your education which will enhance your abilities to contribute to the Whisner Lab.

Are you (or will you be) working in any other labs or jobs during the semester? If so, which one(s)?

What are your career and personal goals for the future?

Why do you want to join the Whisner lab and how does this fit in with your career goals?

Are you interested in summer research projects/experiences?

Assuming you find this position rewarding, how long are you interested in working in a laboratory setting?

Describe in detail, a difficult problem/situation that you had to overcome and explain how you overcame it.

What are your greatest strengths? How will you use these strengths to enhance the research output of the Whisner lab?

What are your greatest weaknesses or areas for improvement? How will you use your time in the Whisner Lab to improve skills in these areas?

Research is all about forging into the unknown. We ask specific questions to gain a better understanding of how things work. Tell us about a time that you were uncertain or curious about a topic. What were you curious about? How did you gain a better understanding of this topic or find answers to your question(s)? Please be detailed with your response.

Please identify times between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday, that you would be available to complete your research hours in the Whisner Lab (e.g. Monday, 9am-12pm and 3pm-5pm).

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

**Please email to** [**cwhisner@asu.edu**](mailto:cwhisner@asu.edu) **when completed.**