Jacobs’ lab undergraduate search

We research interactions between poxviruses and the immune system in hopes that we can modify the virus for use as safer, more effective vaccines.

What are poxviruses?

- The most notable poxvirus was the highly lethal smallpox which was eradicated in 1980 (we don’t work with this virus).
- Vaccinia virus was the vaccine used to eradicate smallpox (we do work with this virus).
- Monkeypox virus is endemic to Africa (Grad students do work with this virus).

How do we study them?

- We observe viral protein-protein and protein-nucleic acid interactions.
- We alter vaccinia and measure cells’ immune response to the changed virus.

Why do we need undergrads?

We have many skilled undergraduates in our lab with various levels of experience who help maintain the lab and conduct experiments. All of these students will be graduating this spring. We are looking for students to be trained now so that they are proficient and self-reliant when our senior students graduate.

Is this lab right for you?

- We work with hazardous materials and infectious human agents, which are safe for most people but do come with potential health risks.
- We ask for a commitment of at least 10 hours per week.
- Because we work with human pathogens, students must be trained in general lab techniques for 6-12 months before working on their own projects or with any viruses.
- Because of the detailed nature of the work being performed in this lab long-term commitment are preferred and provided the most beneficial experience for you.

How can you apply?

Email Jeff Liao at Jeffrey.Liao@asu.edu with a one-page resume of classes taken, GPA, work experience and a brief explanation of why you want to be involved in research.

Applications will be accepted until September 1st.