

IPAC Program Description

Name of Program

IPAC Interdisciplinary Research Apprenticeship Program

Contributor

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Brief Description of the Program

Occasionally faculty associated with IPAC (IPAC Fellows, IPAC Advisory Board members, IPAC Administrators, sponsors of programs and activities that are currently in the IPAC Mix) may wish to work with students on particular interdisciplinary research projects. Faculty/student collaboration of this nature will facilitate the faculty member's work and provide the student with an opportunity to engage in authentic interdisciplinary research under the guidance of an experienced researcher. Encouraging interdisciplinary research apprenticeships within the Center will not only benefit the interdisciplinary aspirations and pursuits of students and faculty, but it will also strengthen the identity of the IPAC as a beacon of interdisciplinary scholarship on campus.

This program was designed with students in mind. These may be graduate students or undergraduate students. An IPAC Interdisciplinary Research Apprentice must have an institutionally recognized relationship with SUNY Oswego. Students do not apply for this program. Consequently, there will be no pool of applicants for the program. Rather, they are recruited by an IPAC affiliated faculty member for the program. Written IPAC Director approval is required in order for a student to be awarded an IPAC Interdisciplinary Research Apprenticeship. The duration of an IPAC Interdisciplinary Research Apprenticeship will be explicitly specified in terms of a start date and end date.

Interdisciplinary Nature of the Program

Students will only be granted an IPAC Interdisciplinary Research Apprenticeship if the research project that will be the center of their attention is very clearly of an *interdisciplinary* nature. Typically the project will feature either a complex real world problem that cannot be adequately addressed from a single disciplinary perspective, or it will feature an imaginative integration of results from two or more disciplines in pursuit of an enhanced cognitive understanding of some problem or phenomenon. Either way, *interdisciplinarity* will be a most salient characteristic of the work that the

interdisciplinary research apprentice will engage in while associated with the Center.

Relationship to Interdisciplinarity at Oswego

The IPAC Interdisciplinary Research Apprenticeship program will typically relate to interdisciplinary research that the sponsoring IPAC affiliated faculty member is presently engaged in. Moreover, the faculty member's interdisciplinary research will generally relate to one or more interdisciplinary programs or activities on campus. These programs or activities will be enriched by virtue of the apprentices working on research within the realm of the program.

IPAC Support

IPAC will provide shared space for research meetings and, if feasible, other research related activities.

IPAC will provide secretarial support for maintaining the clerical files associated with the program. This will include a set of documents for each interdisciplinary research apprentice admitted to the program.

IPAC will provide some secretarial support for the interdisciplinary research projects on which the mentor/apprentice collaboration is focussed.

Relevant Dates

For the foreseeable future, starting with the Fall 2013 semester.