MEMORANDUM

To: Chairs (and Faculty via Department Chairs) of the Departments of Physics and Astronomy, Chemistry, Mathematics, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Astronautical Engineering, and Computer Science

From: Leana Golubchik, WiSE Program Director
Mallory Redel, WiSE Program Manager

Date: November 3, 2020

Subject: Call for Nominations – WiSE Aerospace Corporation Research Fellowships and Internship Employment for Students

The Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Program is happy to announce, with generous support from The Aerospace Corporation, the establishment of **WiSE Aerospace Research Fellowships** for undergraduate, Masters, and PhD students. Recipients will be awarded $2,000 and will commit to participating in year-long professional development programming that includes workshops on communicating science, interview preparation, entrepreneurship and technical leadership. Students will also secure **internship employment** with The Aerospace Corporation during Summer 2021.

We invite the departments of **Physics and Astronomy, Chemistry, Mathematics, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Astronautical Engineering, and Computer Science** to submit nominations for these fellowships, for awards beginning Summer 2021. High-level requirements for this award are below:

- US Citizen preferred. Green card holders can be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- For *undergraduate students*, a minimum completion of Freshman year; completion of Sophomore year preferred

Nominations should include the following:

**Undergraduate Students**
- Student CV
- Student’s statement of technical interest and statement outlining interest in graduate school
- Letter of recommendation from an instructor or research mentor
- Letter of support from the department chair indicating how the nomination will contribute to the goals of the WiSE program and/or to broadening participation in general, with optional ranking of students

**Master’s Students**
- Student CV
- Student’s statement of technical interest and noting whether student is interested in attending a PhD program
- Letter of recommendation from an instructor or research mentor
- Letter of support from the department chair indicating how the nomination will contribute to the goals of the WiSE program and/or to broadening participation in general, with optional ranking of students

PhD Students
- Student CV
- Student’s statement of technical interest
- Letter of recommendation from the student’s advisor
- Letter of support from the department chair indicating how the nomination will contribute to the goals of the WiSE program and/or to broadening participation in general, with optional ranking of students

More information about the opportunities and skillsets Aerospace is looking for can be found below:

**Undergraduate Research Opportunities**: Specific experience in the area of interest is not required. Students will be matched with a research area and will be given hands-on experience with active researchers, with the goal of a publication opportunity.

**Master’s and PhD Research Opportunities**: Some experience is required related to the research field or area (course or research based). The Master’s opportunities are tailored toward students who are seeking employment after the completion of their degree or those seeking to continue in a PhD program. The PhD opportunities focus on research, publication and PhD level training.

Your nominations should be sent to the WiSE Program Manager, Mallory Redel, at wiseprog@usc.edu by **November 24, 2020**.

A committee of senior faculty from the Viterbi School of Engineering, the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, and the WiSE Advisory Board will make the recommendations. Students will be required to participate in a matching process with a panel of Aerospace Corporation representatives, as part of the selection process. **Additionally, a virtual information session with representatives from The Aerospace Corporation will be held on Thursday, November 12 at 5:00pm.** Please RSVP for the event at https://forms.gle/WSVjzLgiRHBXfNLv7. Zoom details will be sent to registrants prior to the event. We encourage all interested parties to attend.

For questions regarding nominations, please contact the WiSE Program Director, Leana Golubchik, at leana@usc.edu.

Cc: Charles Zukoski
    Elizabeth Graddy
    Yannis Yortsos
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