APPLICATION PACKET

DARTMOUTH - MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
MUNICH/MARTINSRIED INTERNSHIP

2009

Contents:
1. A description of the internship
2. An application form
3. Two copies of the faculty recommendation form
4. A Dickey Center Travel Budget Proposal form

The attached forms should be accompanied by a 2-3 page written proposal stating

• how the internship relates to your academic and intellectual interests, as well as your personal goals and

• what qualifications you bring to the requirements of your project.

Recommendations should be sent before November 14 to the Department of German Studies, HB 6084, Dartmouth Hall, Room 333.
Dartmouth - Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology
(Munich/Martinsried) Internship

Through the initiative of Leonard Jones ’91, an annual one-term internship at the Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology, Theoretical Institute, located in Martinsried (near Munich) is available to Dartmouth students. Undergraduates with a strong interest and appropriate background in biology can work at this outstanding German research institution, developing individual research projects in preparation for their senior thesis at Dartmouth. At least some German language skills are required, although the lab itself uses English.

THE MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR NEUROBIOLOGY

The Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science maintains 85 Max Planck Institutes for various disciplines within the Natural Sciences in Germany. These prestigious institutes are independent research institutions that do not grant degrees but are affiliated with universities. The Theoretical Division of the MPI Munich is not only one of the oldest institutions for brain research in the world, but was also ranked No. 3 worldwide in a recent American survey. Dartmouth students are placed in the Department of Neurophysiology under the leadership of Dr. Tobias Bonhoeffer. The department focuses on research in development and function of cortical maps; plasticity of the visual system in higher mammals; the cellular basis of synaptic plasticity; and the role of neurotrophins in activity-dependent plasticity.

The Dartmouth intern is integrated into one of the research groups as a full working member. After some familiarization with the lab, the student chooses a manageable individual project for which he/she is fully responsible, under the mentorship of a doctoral student and the supervision of the senior researcher. At the end of his/her stay, the student is expected to give a formal presentation of that work to the department. The goal is to introduce students to the full range of research in cell and molecular biology conducted at the Institute, including identification of an individual project, strategic planning, scientific tools and instrumentation, organization, computer skills, statistics, scientific communications, oral presentations, and exposure to the daily progress and setbacks inherent in scientific research. MPI also maintains a research program for a small group of qualified undergraduate students from the University of Tubingen, which gives Dartmouth interns the opportunity to interact with their German counterparts.

Student Qualifications and Selection
Students having junior standing and majoring in biology are preferred (qualified sophomores will be considered); an inclination toward cellular and molecular biology is especially welcome. A minimum of one lab course each in chemistry and biology is required. At least some German language skills are required, although the lab itself uses English. The optimal time period for an internship is the Dartmouth Spring or Summer term. In order to allow enough time for familiarization with facilities and ongoing research as well as pursuit of an independent project, a stay of at least 3 months is recommended. The Departments of Biology and German Studies will select qualified students from the applicant pool.

Funding
MPI offers a stipend to cover living expenses and health insurance (interns may be housed in the Institute’s guest house in Schwabing, Munich’s university quarter). The Dickey Center funds travel to and from Munich.

Additional Information can be found at the MPI Munich/Martinsried home page at http://www.neuro.mpg.de/english/instUeberInstitut/index.html
APPLICATION

DARTMOUTH - MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE MUNICH/MARTINSRIED INTERNSHIP

Original AND FIVE COPIES, and all supporting materials are to be completed and submitted to the Department of German Studies, HB 6084, Dartmouth Hall, Room 333, by November 14.

Name_________________________________________ Class_______ Graduation________

College Address___________________________________ Tel.______________ HB__________

Home Address_______________________________________ Tel.______________

Citizenship_____________ Permanent Resident? ______ Soc. Sec. #_________________

Major __________________________________________

Courses taken which fulfill minimum requirements and provide particular background for Internship

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Work experience________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Extracurricular Activities __________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Honors/Awards________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________
Term internship will be taken____________________

Dates in Germany: From (date) ___________ to (date)____________

Remaining Dartmouth Plan_____________________________________________________

Faculty Recommenders

(1) ______________________________________________________________________

(2) ______________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________  __________
Signature                                                                  Date

This form should be accompanied by a 2-3 page written proposal stating

• how the internship relates to your academic and intellectual interests, as well as your
  personal goals and
• what qualifications you bring to the requirements of your project.

Please provide a copy of your transcript.

Recommendations should be sent before November 14 to the Department of German Studies,
HB 6084, Dartmouth Hall, Room 333.
DARTMOUTH - MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE INTERNSHIP
CONFIDENTIAL FACULTY RECOMMENDATION

To be filled out by the applicant:

I ____ waive / _____ do not waive any right I may have to read or obtain copies of the endorsement that I am receiving from Prof. ________________________________

Signature of Applicant: ________________________________ Date: _____________

________________________________________________________________________

To the Recommender: Please comment on the student’s qualifications to carry out an internship at the Max Planck Institut in Martinsried and send your recommendation to the Department of German Studies, HB 6084, Dartmouth Hall, Room 333, by November 14. Feel free to use the other side of this form as well or to attach a letter. Thank you.

Signature of Recommender: ______________________________________________

Position: _______________ Date: ____________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________
DARTMOUTH - MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE INTERNSHIP
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Signature of Recommender: _____________________________________________

Position: _______________ Date: __________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________
TRAVEL BUDGET PROPOSAL

THE DICKEY INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

DARTMOUTH - MAX PLANCK INSTITUT MUNICH/MARTINSRIED INTERNSHIP

Applicant Name ____________________________________________ HB__________

Estimated total cost of travel: $________________________

Total requested from the Dickey Center (not to exceed $750) $________________

(Note: all awards are considered taxable income by the Internal Revenue Service)