Student Internship Programs

Program Description

The objective of the Laboratory’s student internship programs is to provide students with opportunities for meaningful hands-on experience supporting educational progress in their selected scientific or professional fields. The most significant impact of these internship experiences is observed in the intellectual growth experienced by the participants. Student interns are able to appreciate the practical value of their education efforts in their chosen scientific disciplines or career fields.

What they learn in the process is extremely valuable to help them appreciate why their education matters. The Laboratory also benefits from the contributions that the students make while they are here. Some of the students will eventually work at LANL as regular employees, so this program serves as an important workforce pipeline resource.

The high school co-op program focuses on providing opportunities for students from northern New Mexico. While the undergraduate program draws students from across the country, a significant portion of the undergraduate interns are enrolled in New Mexico colleges and universities. The LANL graduate student program includes internship opportunities in scientific fields as well as business and operational disciplines.

FY12 Data/Impacts

Program Cost: $25,717,926.48 (salaries)
Student participants: total 1,206
Undergraduate students: 551
Graduate students: 391
High school co-op students: 27
Student guests: 237
Program duration: May vary from a few weeks to 12-month, full-time appointments
Cost per participant: May range from approximately $5,000 for a summer high school student to $75,000 for a Ph.D. student working full-time for a year.

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