August 1, 2013

Dear BRAVO! Undergraduate Applicant:

BRAVO! is a program designed to provide research-experienced students the opportunity to become involved in biomedical or behavioral research at selected foreign research institutions. Applicants must have a minimum of six months of research experience prior to traveling abroad. More is preferred. A GPA of 3.0 or greater at the time of application is required. Applicants also should be scientifically sophisticated and emotionally mature. A complete application consists of:

1) BRAVO! application cover page.
2) Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended.
3 a) A proposal describing the project the applicant will do at the foreign site. This should be developed in close collaboration with the University of Arizona faculty sponsor and foreign mentor, but written by the applicant.
   b) A letter of endorsement from foreign scientist stating that s/he is willing to have the applicant conduct the proposed project at the proposed time.
4) A letter of endorsement from the student's UA faculty sponsor. This letter should be returned to the UBRP office, in a sealed envelope, along with the application and transcript(s). It is wise to provide the UA faculty sponsor with a copy of the application and these instructions at the time the recommendation is requested. The sponsor should address in his/her comments, an assessment of the applicant’s maturity and ability to adapt to new situations.

Students can travel at any time and must work at the foreign site for a minimum of 10 weeks. What follows are the deadlines for applications.

For students planning to travel for the summer (leaving on or after May 15)

   December 1 -- complete proposal with supporting documentation due in UBRP office/copies circulated to BRAVO! selection committee

   The day before spring semester classes start – interview with the committee. Applicant should prepare a PPT presentation on the project to be done abroad and be prepared to field questions from the committee.

For students planning to travel for the fall (leaving on or after July 15)

   March 1 -- complete proposal with supporting documentation due in UBRP office/copies circulated to BRAVO! selection committee

   Before April 1—Interview (see instructions above) with applicant takes place and decision is made

For students planning to travel for the spring (leaving on or after January 15)
October 1 -- complete proposal with supporting documentation due in UBRP office/copies circulated to BRAVO! selection committee

Before November 1 – Interview (see instructions above) with applicant takes place and decision is made

Students selected will be required:

1. to attend monthly "Datablitzes" prior to traveling.
2. to present at a Datablitz during the following academic year,
3. to keep a reflective journal during the time they are at the foreign site and to share this with the program director upon their return
4. to provide an evaluation of their experience
5. to write an article for the UBRP newsletter about the experience within 2 weeks of return
6. to make a presentation about the experience to an off campus group

Funding for the BRAVO! is provided primarily by grants to the University of Arizona from the National Institutes of Health and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. For additional information, please see: https://ubrp.arizona.edu/bravo/default.html.

Students supported on the NIH MHIRT grant must be US citizens or permanent residents of the US and Hispanic American or Latino, Black or African American, Native American or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, or low income as defined by the US Bureau of the Census, or rural as defined by the US Office of Management and Budget. Students supported on the HHMI grant must be UA undergraduates.

After reviewing the website, students with questions should contact the UBRP Office at 621-9348 or 621-8510.

Sincerely,

Carol Bender,
Director, UBRP & BRAVO!

Attachments
BRAVO! COVER SHEET

Student’s Name: ___________________________________________________________

Title of Proposal: ___________________________________________________________

Does the proposal address a problem that could contribute to reduction of health disparities among populations in the US?  _____ yes  
                                           _____ no

If yes, explain how:

Is the applicant low income as defined by the US Bureau of the Census? 
_____ yes  
               _____ no

Is the applicant from a rural area as defined by the US Office of Management and Budget?  
_____ yes  
               _____ no

Is the applicant a first generation college student (i.e. parents do not have a college degree):  
_____ yes  
               _____ no

UA Faculty Sponsor:  _______________________________________________________

Foreign Faculty Sponsor (Host):  _____________________________________________

Foreign Institution:  _______________________________________________________

Dates of Travel:  ___________________________________________________________

Why did you select this site for research?
I. Personal

Name: ___________________________________________ Student ID # ________________________

Local Address: ________________________________________________________________

Street City State Zip

E-Mail address: ________________________________________________________________

Ethnicity (check one): ___ Black ___ Amer Indian (tribe: ______) ___ Hispanic ___ Pac. Islander

___ Asian ___ Caucasian

Gender: ___ male ___ female Birthdate: ________________________________

Employment Eligibility (check one): ___ U.S. Citizen ___ Permanent Resident

Phone number: ____________________________ Parents’ phone: ____________________________

Parents’ address: ________________________________________________________________

Street, City, State, Zip email address

Person to notify in an emergency: __________________________________________________

Relationship to you: ______________ Telephone (including area code): ________________ Email: __________

Have you participated in the Undergraduate Biology Research Program before? ______ Yes ______ No

Did you participate in any of the following UA summer enrichment programs?

____ UA High School Biology Research Apprentice Program ____ Med Start _____ Horizons Unlimited

II. Education

High School: ___________________________ HS Graduation date: __________________________

College/University: ___________________________ Expected date of graduation: __________ / __________

Major: ___________________________ GPA in science/math courses: __________

Year (circle one): Fr / So / Jr / Sr Overall GPA: __________

III. Transcripts

Please attach a copy of your transcript from all institutions of higher education you have attended.
IV. Research Area/Previous Laboratory Experience

A minimum of 6 months research experience is required to participate in BRAVO!. More is preferred. Please provide a brief description of the research in which you have been involved. Include:

* a statement of the question being investigated,
* the current status of the project (i.e. how far along are you?), and
* the techniques with which you are familiar.

Give the name of your faculty sponsor and the date you began working with him/her. If you have worked with more than one faculty sponsor, please provide this information on each.

V. Proposal

Please describe the project you would like to do abroad, including the question to be investigated, why it is advantageous to do the project at the designated foreign site, and how it fits with collaborative projects already underway between UA researchers and those at the proposed site. This proposal must be shared with your faculty sponsor and with the collaborating scientist at the proposed site prior to submission for consideration by the BRAVO! selection committee.

The proposal should be no longer than five pages and should include the following:

A. Title

B. Abstract, not to exceed 150 words

   The abstract should include what you intend to do, how you intend to do it, and why it is important. Write this section last.

C. Specific Aims

   What are the objectives of your project? What hypotheses will you test?

D. Background Information

   Relate your project to the current state of knowledge in the discipline. How does it relate to the work in which you are currently involved in your current lab? Provide bibliographical references in the reference section of the proposal.

E. Project Description

   What do you intend to do? State clearly what work you plan to undertake.

F. Methodology
How are you going to do the work you described in your project description? Outline your experimental
design including methods to be used for data collection, analysis and interpretation.

G. Potential Impact

Why is this work important? Where does it fit in with the ongoing work in your current lab and what would
you contribute to the work being done in the foreign lab? What impact might this work have on our
knowledge in the area of biomedical or behavioral sciences?

H. Time Frame

Be sure that the work you propose can be reasonably accomplished in the amount of time you will spend
abroad. The minimum length of time a BRAVO! student can spend in the foreign lab is 10 weeks. A
three month stay is preferred. Please give a scientific justification for any stay that is projected to be longer
than three months.

I. References cited from the pertinent literature

J. Budget

See attached page for budget format. Funds are not available for dependents. This proposal should be
developed in close collaboration with your faculty sponsor.

VI. Personal Statement

On a single attached page, submit a well-organized essay in which you describe what
motivated you to apply for this experience and your career goals as they relate to this
experience. Discuss the area(s) of biomedical or behavioral research you are most interested
in pursuing and why. If you have traveled abroad please mention where you went, what you
did and when you were out of the country. In a separate paragraph you may add any
additional information you feel the selection committee should have in considering your
application.

VII. Letters of endorsement

Attach a letter of recommendation from your current faculty sponsor and one from the faculty
sponsor at the foreign site. At the bottom of the final page of your proposal, please type the
following statement and have your UA faculty sponsor sign the document:

I have read this proposal and find it to be of good quality. The student has my full
endorsement to conduct this work.

__________________________________________
(student's UA faculty sponsor) 

The entire application must be TYPED.
Please be sure to paginate the application.
Proposed budget for BRAVO! applicant ____________________  
(Your name)  
(______________________ to ____________________)  
deptature date  
return date  

Request from  
BRAVO!  
Contributed from  
other sources  

1. Housing*  
(cost/month x number of months)  

2. Food*  
(cost/month x number of months)  

3. Transportation  
(cost of round trip ticket on an American carrier-call a travel agent and get an estimate of the cost)  

4. Stipend**  

5. Research supplies***  
(itemize costs)  

6. Miscellaneous****  
(itemize costs)  

Total Cost:  

Notes:  
* The maximum allowable amount for room and board together is $1,600/month. The figures you use for room 
should come from estimates you receive from the foreign faculty sponsor on the cost to live in the foreign site you 
would visit. If the cost of room and board will exceed $1,600/month, please indicate in the far right hand column 
how much you will receive from other sources for these expenses and what other sources you will tap (this could 
include but is not limited to your own personal savings).  
** A stipend of up to $1000/month can be requested for the time the student works in the foreign lab. Depending 
several factors, however, this amount can be reduced or eliminated at the discretion of the selection committee 
and/or program director.  
*** Up to $850/month may be allowed for research supplies to be used in the foreign lab. Please itemize these 
supplies and give dollar amounts for each. The check for supplies may be signed over to the foreign sponsor as a 
bench fee, used to purchase a small piece of equipment to be left in the foreign lab, or used to purchase research 
supplies used in the project. In any case, however, receipts are required for all purchases made using these 
funds. Research supplies are primarily for those traveling to developing countries. The selection committee and 
/or program director have the discretion of disallowing funds for research supplies.  
**** Miscellaneous expenses can include only such as supplemental health insurance to cover you in the foreign 
country; passport and visa fees, tuition for courses taken in the foreign country that are related to the research or 
language courses; etc., not to exceed a total of $1,800. Some or all of these expenses may be disallowed at the 
discretion of the selection committee and/or program director