

## **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Submission for 2012 DHS Summer Internship Program**

### **1. Facility Description**

NIST has been hosting undergraduate students for the DHS Summer Internship Program since 2005. A total of 35 students have been hosted, with six students participating at NIST this past summer (2011), at NIST-Gaithersburg and NIST-Boulder.

In addition, NIST has been hosting summer students through the NIST Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program since 1983, and so has a history of successful experience with summer students at NIST.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is the national metrology institute for the U.S., and is part of the Department of Commerce's Technology Administration. NIST has unique measurement and research facilities to develop and promote measurements, standards and technology, with the primary goals to enhance productivity, facilitate trade and improve the quality of life. NIST's staff of 2800 includes a technical staff of 1500 at two primary campuses in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and Boulder, Colorado, and at several joint institutes with universities. Unique facilities include the Advanced Measurement Laboratory, Advanced Chemical Sciences Laboratory and the NIST Center for Neutron Research.

As a non-regulatory federal agency founded in 1901, NIST's mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve quality of life. NIST's particular role in homeland security is to provide measurements, standards, and expert guidance needed to support the Nation's homeland security needs. NIST measurement and standards support current activities and potential future advances in key homeland security areas including chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive (CBRNE) threat detection and remediation; safety of structures and occupants; safety and effectiveness of emergency responders; transportation system safety; information security and Critical Infrastructure Protection; and biometric identification.

Additional information about NIST and its programs can be found at

NIST in general: [http://www.nist.gov/public\\_affairs/nandyou.cfm](http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/nandyou.cfm) and

<http://www.nist.gov/programs-projects.cfm>

Homeland Security at NIST: <http://www.nist.gov/homeland-security-portal.cfm>

SURF Program at NIST: <http://www.nist.gov/surfgaithersburg/> and

<http://www.nist.gov/surfboulder/index.cfm>

### **2. Additional Information**

Housing is arranged by the student, assisted through information furnished by the International and Academic Affairs Office at NIST. The list of available housing in the area includes a range of options from single rooms to apartments. Additional housing possibilities may also be furnished through the student's NIST mentor.

It is strongly recommended that the students begin their NIST Internship on May 21, 2012. This start date coincides with the start date of the NIST SURF program, and will

provide students with opportunities to take advantage of the range of activities that the SURF program offers for the students. The students should attend the general NIST orientation that is held on May 21, 2012 to begin their internship. In the event that the student is not able to start on May 21<sup>st</sup>, the student should contact Dr. Heller-Zeisler at the International and Academic Affairs Office at NIST to discuss another approved start date.

The students are welcome to join the scheduled SURF activities throughout the summer, which include seminars, weekly socials, tours, and other networking opportunities. There are additional possibilities for lectures and seminars at NIST to which the students can elect to take advantage, and the DHS Summer students would also be welcome to attend the NIST-wide seminars that are held regularly during the summer.

A Security Clearance will be required for the summer students, as they will be official guest researchers at NIST. As soon as their selection as DHS Summer Interns is confirmed, they should be receiving forms to fill out and return, which will facilitate their arrival and start of their internship.

### **3. Point of Contact**

The primary point of contact at NIST for the DHS Summer Internship Program is

Dr. Susan Heller-Zeisler  
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