SUMMER 2014
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS (REU)

Organizational Background:
The Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA) within the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently awarded a grant to establish a University Transportation Center for Railway Safety (UTCRS). The Center for Railway Safety, which is headquartered at the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA), operates as a consortium with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) and the University of Nebraska Transportation Center (NTC).

The UTCRS aims to reduce the number of accidents and equipment failures experienced in rail transportation systems. This will result directly in reduced fatalities and injuries in addition to reduced economic losses to stakeholders. New technology and associated workforce development will lead to improved safety assessments, safety counter measures, decision-making tools, and greater long-term safety gains. With these goals in mind, the UTCRS offers the following summer research experience opportunity:

Research Experience Details:
The UTCRS will provide undergraduate engineering students the opportunity to participate in a research-intensive ten-week program. Selected applicants for this program will work closely with faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate mentors on current research projects, make short presentations to their peers during program meetings, make a formal poster presentation of their research experience at the end of the program, and submit a written, final report describing the results of their research.

Duration: Ten Weeks
June 2, 2014 - August 8, 2014

Financial Support:
The UTCRS will provide the selected summer research interns with a $6,000 stipend ($600/week) to cover living expenses, and will reimburse up to $500 in travel expenses.

To apply:
If you are an engineering student, at any of the above consortium member institutions, interested in participating in this rewarding and educational opportunity you must submit a complete application packet. See application for detailed submittal instructions.

The University of Texas-Pan American / 1201 West University Drive / ENGR 1.216 / Edinburg, Texas 78539-2999
+1 (956) 665-3510 Phone / +1 (956) 665-2428 FAX / railwaysafety@utpa.edu / railwaysafety.utpa.edu

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University Transportation Center for Railway Safety (UTCRS)

Applicant Information	
Last Name:	
First Name:	
Home Address 1:	
Home Address 2:	
City/Zip:	
Email Address:	
Phone No:	
Alternate No:	
Citizenship:	☐ U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident **By checking this box you certify that you are a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident**

Academic Information	
Student ID Number:	
Grade Point Average	
Academic Major (1)	
Major (2) or Minor	
Anticipated Graduation Date:	

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Statement of Purpose and Career Goals:
Why are you interested in a summer research experience within the UTCRS consortium?
What specific skill-set do you hope to gain through this summer research experience?

Describe your long-term career goals and how this experience will help you achieve these goals?
Upon completion of your undergraduate studies, do you plan to apply to graduate school, enter a profession, or other? Give specific details.

Where did you learn of this UTCRS Research Experience for Undergraduates opportunity?
☐ UTCRS Website ☐ Professor ☐ Fellow student ☐ Poster Board Presentation/Brochure ☐ Other: _____

Professional References			
Name	Contact Info (phone number)	Contact Info (e-mail)	Relationship

Research Interest	
Participants in the program will collaborate with faculty, students, and staff of the consortium universities on ongoing research in the field of railway safety and, more importantly, will gain a better understanding of the role STEM plays in modern society. This collaboration is established to foster an intellectual climate and physical environment capable of supporting the increasing need to improve safety and reduce risk on the multi-modal transportation system.	
• Structural Analysis • Materials Engineering • Transportation System Operations • Multimodal Transportation • Intelligent Transportation Systems • Railway Safety Research • High Speed Railway • Movement of Hazardous Materials • Evaluation of Innovative Technologies • Railway-Highway Grade Crossing	From the topics listed in bullets, list the top four research areas of interest to you, in the order of preference (with 1 being your first choice). Should you be awarded a summer research internship, every effort will be made to place you in one of your preferred research areas. (1)(Select One) (2)(Select One) (3)(Select One) (4)(Select One)

Research Institution		
The UTCRS consortium is comprised of three universities. Should you be awarded a summer research internship, would you be willing to travel to:		
University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, Texas	☐ YES	☐ NO
Texas A & M, College Station, Texas	☐ YES	☐ NO
University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska	☐ YES	☐ NO

Disclaimer and Signature	
I certify that all the information I provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. If this application leads to an internship assignment, I understand that false or misleading information in my application may result in the forfeiture of the REU.	
Signature:	Date:

A complete application packet should be emailed to railwaysafety@utpa.edu, which consists of one PDF file that contains the following, in the order as they appear below:

1) A completed and signed application form,
2) Your current resumé,
3) One letter of recommendation from one of your professional references, and
4) Your official transcript. You can use your unofficial transcript for submitting your PDF application file but you must have the *Office of the Registrar* mail a current official transcript on your behalf to:

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University of Texas Pan American
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