Undergraduate Research

Research at BU
- With BU faculty member
  - UROP funding
  - Other funding from Professor

Research somewhere else
- other universities
  - companies (in Boston and not)
  - US government in Washington, DC
With BU faculty member

Step 1: Inform yourself about opportunities
read website of department and faculty members
ask your TFs, particularly graduate students
ask your professors

Step 2: Find out about opportunities in a particular group
email TFs or professors individually with your interest
offer to send CV, transcript, and names of references

Step 3: If there is interest in you, offer to apply for UROP funding

http://www.bu.edu/urop/ (summer deadline already past)

Ask about other options for funding (will vary)
Research somewhere else

National Science Foundation – Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)

http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.cfm

Astronomical Sciences  
Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences  
Biological Sciences  
Chemistry  
Computer and Information Science and Engineering  
Cyberinfrastructure  
Department of Defense (DoD)  
Earth Sciences  
Education and Human Resources Engineering

Ethics and Values Studies  
International Science and Engineering Materials Research  
Mathematical Sciences  
Ocean Sciences  
Physics  
Polar Programs  
Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

• Check individual institutions for deadline dates

• Consider less “cool” places to go which will receive fewer applications

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Research somewhere else (con’d)

National Institutes of Health

https://www.training.nih.gov/programs

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Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP)

Summer Internship Program (SIP)

http://www.ninds.nih.gov/jobs_and_training/summer/

Summer Program in the Neurological Sciences and Other Neuroscience Research Training and Funding Opportunities

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Research somewhere else (con’d)

Other Summer Programs at the NIH

https://www.training.nih.gov/other_summer_programs_at_the_nih

Biomedical Engineering Summer Internship Program (BESIP)
Introduction to Cancer Research Careers (ICRC)
Werner H. Kirsten Student Intern Program (Frederick, MD)
Cancer Research Interns (CRI) Summer Program
Summer Internship Program in Biomedical Research for Veterinary Medical Students

Diversity in Vision Research & Ophthalmology (DIVRO)
NIDDK Office of Minority Health Research Coordination (OMHRC) Summer Internship Program
NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award
Office of Research Facilities Summer Intern Program (opportunities in trades, architecture, and physical sciences)
Recruitment and Training for Underrepresented Populations (RTURP) Program (NIDA, Baltimore, MD)
Research somewhere else (con’d)

Department of Defense REU – ASSURE
(Awards to Stimulate and Support Undergraduate Research Education)

http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/list_result.cfm?unitid=10023

Ask around:

• more senior undergraduates, TFs and other graduate students

• family, friends who are PhD scientists employed somewhere

• Google search on “summer research internship”

• contact local Boston companies (find via LinkedIn)

Linda H. Doerrer
General Points

• Rising juniors are most desirable, then seniors, then sophomores
• Don’t plan on taking a class and doing research, if at all possible
• This is a BIG opportunity for you so if you get a spot, throw yourself into it.
• Regardless of your grades, you are a newbie researcher and the more senior members in the lab deserve your respect.
• Do even the most menial tasks well and be a team player.
• Most undergraduates don’t get a publication in 10 weeks.
• Undergraduates can get publications in 1-2 years. The more you work like a graduate student, the more you will publish like a graduate student.
• Maintain good communication with the professor (PI = principal investigator) and don’t burn any bridges.