

# RIVER BASINS RESEARCH INITIATIVE

## 2008 SUMMER PROGRAM

### FOR UPPER LEVEL MAJORS IN BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, and EARTH and ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

#### **The Program**

Fifteen Earth Science, Biology, and Chemistry majors will join eight faculties in a research project to understand the impact of urbanization on the biogeochemistry, biodiversity, geomorphology and hydrology in two large watersheds in the Piedmont of South Carolina. Students between their junior and senior years will be given preference but rising juniors should not hesitate to apply.

Students will work in multi-disciplinary teams on all phases of the broad research problem, but will focus with a faculty mentor on one aspect of the problem. This will enable the student to experience all phases of the research and to interact with faculty and students from disciplines outside of their own.

The program will run for 10 weeks (June 2 - August 6) and will be located on the Furman University campus. Students will be housed in apartment-style facilities on the campus.

#### **Stipends and Housing**

Each student will receive a stipend of \$3,500 for the 10-week period. Housing will be furnished by the university. The 2008 *River Basins Research Initiative* Summer Program is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program. Additional support comes from Furman University.

#### **How to Apply**

Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States and its possessions and must be enrolled in a degree program leading to a bachelor's degree in biology, chemistry, or the earth and environmental sciences. Students who will receive their degree prior to August 2008 are not eligible.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit applications online at: <http://rbri.furman.edu> or download the PDF version (attached below) and mail the completed application to the address specified. An undergraduate transcript and letters of recommendation from two faculty members in your major department are required. Application from women and minority groups are encouraged. The deadline for submission is March 14, 2008. Selection and notification for the program will be made by March 28.

**APPLICATION FORM - SUMMER 2008 RIVER BASINS RESEARCH INITIATIVE  
FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAM**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Campus Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Male  Female

Ethnic Background:

African American

Caucasian

Pacific Islander

Native American

Hispanic

Other

Highest level of college completed as of May, 2008. \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

SAT scores: verbal \_\_\_\_\_ math \_\_\_\_\_ or ACT score: \_\_\_\_\_

**References:** Please list below the names, institutions, and office phone numbers of two former or current professors who can provide recommendations what will help us make our decision. If submitting electronically, please have them send their recommendations by E-mail to [brannon.andersen@furman.edu](mailto:brannon.andersen@furman.edu). If submitting by mail, ask each of them to provide you with a recommendation in a sealed and signed envelope and submit along with your application.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of a faculty member in your major department who would be willing to serve as a mentor if you chose to continue with the watershed research during the next academic year:

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn of this program?  Faculty Member  NSF Website  CUR Announcement  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Please include the following with your application package

1. An official transcript (or a photocopy of it) of your college record including the courses you are taking this term.
2. A brief written statement explaining: a) The reasons why you are interested in participating in our research program, and b) How this experience will enhance your career goals.

**The deadline for receipt is March 14, 2008**

Submit the completed application with necessary information to:

Dr. Brannon Andersen

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Furman University

Greenville, South Carolina 29613