GEAR-UP

Get Experience in Aging Research – Undergraduate Program

MPIs: Norma B. Coe
Hans-Peter Kohler
Rachel Werner
Special thanks:

• School Support:
  • Dean Fluharty & Dean Jamison, Penn First Plus, CURF

• Advisory Board:
  • Adriana Perez, Atheen Venkataramani, Marc Lo, Robert Ghrist, Tukufu Zuberi

• Joanne Levy; Claudio Luccarelli; George Demiris, 47 potential mentors; PARC staff; and MEHP Business office
GEAR-UP

• Build on the 20+ years of success in SUMR
  • 322 undergraduate students have participated in SUMR and 85% have gone on to have careers in health care.

• Add a Hybrid Academic year program
  • “Experience Aging” series – George Demiris’ Lab, access to clinical settings, financial simulations, caregiving simulations
  • Speaker events, panels, information sessions

• Include 2nd summer of mentored research
  • Potential for international field work
Learning Objectives

(1) Career Socialization, Leadership and Networking
   • Exposure to diversity, inclusion and equity in academia
   • Regular interactions with academic leaders, researchers, and experts
   • Attending national conferences with the opportunity to meet others in related fields
   • Strong peer networks through academic and social activities
   • Leadership-building through experiential learning

(2) Research and Academic Skills Development
   • Two summers of targeted training and hands-on experience in research with Penn faculty aligned with GEAR UP themes
   • Statistical programming sessions on an as needed basis, e.g., Stata, R, and statistics
   • Exposure to presenting scientific results in oral presentations and written manuscripts
   • 6-month on-line GRE prep course

(3) Presentation and Writing Skills Development
   • Presentation of self, resumes, and cover letters
   • Coaching in presentation skills
   • Opportunity to present mentored research at campus-wide and national conferences
   • Receive training to write blogs and Op Eds via the Penn Critical Writing Program and LDI’s team
Student Eligibility

• 10 undergraduates per year

• *Not* limiting to Penn Undergrads

• NIH’s definition of URM for undergraduates:
  • US Citizens
  • Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.
  • Individuals with disabilities
  • Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds
First Cohort (so far)

- **Augustine Cassis Boateng**, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, May 2022
  - Ari Friedman

- **David Wilborn**, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, May 2024
  - Steve Joffe

- **Ana Glassman**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Meghan Lane-Fall

- **Taussia Boadi**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Julia Lynch & Yehoda Marte

- **Nino Owens**, University of Louisville, May 2024
  - Julia Lynch

- **Ashley Duchey**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Adriana Perez

- **Jovan Mann**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Hans-Peter Kohler and Iliana Kohler
Let’s work together!

• Advertising/Recruiting

• Mentoring

• Lectures, Skill-building

• Programmatic synergies and cohort building