

**Summer 2016  
Undergraduate Research Opportunities  
Mesoscale & Climatological Studies**

Hobart & William Smith Colleges  
Summer Research Program  
June 13– August 5, 2016

**Deadline for Applications: January 30, 2016**  
Multiple Student Positions Available



For questions, application, or more information contact:

Professor Neil Laird  
Department of Geoscience  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
(laird@hws.edu; (315) 781-3603)

*Student positions sponsored by*



**Summer 2016 Undergraduate Research Opportunities  
June 13 – August 5, 2016**

**Mesoscale & Climatological Studies**

**Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY  
Funds provided by the National Science Foundation**

***Program Description***

Summer research positions are available for undergraduate students to investigate several aspects of mesoscale weather systems using a variety of meteorological data sets. Accepted students will conduct research investigations in close collaboration with Dr. Neil Laird, Dr. Nicholas Metz, and Dr. Eric Hoffman (atmospheric science professors) during an 8-week summer program at Hobart & William Smith Colleges (HWS) from June 13 through August 5. Students will receive a summer salary of \$4,400 (\$550 per week), free housing on the HWS campus (with kitchen facilities, full utilities, and internet), and reimbursement of travel costs to and from Geneva, NY.

A variety of projects are being planned for student researchers to work independently and in small groups during the summer research program. Projects will use a combination of operational data sets (radar, satellite, surface), Ontario Winter Lake-effect Systems (OWLeS) field project data sets, historical reanalysis data sets, and computer model simulations. Students will develop or enhance skills related to working with meteorological software and large databases, statistical analysis techniques, and scientific writing and presentation. In most cases, students will have opportunities for funded travel to present their research results at upcoming regional or national scientific meetings, such as the AMS Annual Student Conference.

This research is funded by the National Science Foundation and HWS. Students will have the opportunity to interact closely with Dr. Neil Laird, Dr. Nicholas Metz, Dr. Eric Hoffman, and several visiting researchers during the program, as well as forecasters at National Weather Service forecast offices in Buffalo and Binghamton, NY. There will be opportunity to collect atmospheric measurements of local/regional weather conditions and participate in a group trip to the Mt. Washington Observatory. Additionally, several visits are planned to graduate programs in the northeastern United States.

***Eligibility***

Undergraduate students (first-year through graduating senior) working toward a degree in meteorology, atmospheric sciences, geoscience, physical geography or other related degree program are encouraged to apply. Background coursework in meteorology is essential. Prior experience with meteorological data, radar analysis, weather models, statistical methods, GIS, and established computer skills would be beneficial, but is not necessary. Applicants should have excellent oral and written communication skills and be willing to work both within a group setting and independently.

***Application Procedure***

Submit the completed application form (including a carefully composed statement of interest) and a copy of your college transcript to: Dr. Neil Laird, Department of Geoscience, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, 300 Pulteney Street, Geneva, NY 14456. **The 2016 application form is available at <http://people.hws.edu/laird/>** along with information on past summer research students. For additional information please contact Dr. Neil Laird (laird@hws.edu).

***Deadline***

Completed application materials for these positions must be received by January 30, 2016. Applicants will be notified of decisions by February 20, 2016.

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

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University currently attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_ (example, May 2018)

Current undergraduate status (circle one): First-Year / Sophomore / Junior / Senior

Provide a statement of interest that includes the following items.

1. Describe your interests in atmospheric science.
2. How would this research experience benefit your undergraduate education and connect with your career goals?
3. Describe any background you have relevant to this program (science courses, research or work experiences, conference or meeting presentations, etc.)

Provide information for two faculty / research mentors that may be contacted to discuss their interaction with you. **Please ask their permission before listing them as a reference.** No letters of recommendation from mentors are necessary for submission of application.

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this application form (with statement of interest) and a copy of your college transcript to: Dr. Neil Laird, Department of Geoscience, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, 300 Pulteney St., Geneva, NY 14456

For more information email laird@hws.edu or call (315) 781-3603

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