

June 10, 2011

RE: Rotations

Dear BBSP students,

We are all very excited that you will be joining BBSP this August! As you know, Orientation week will be August 15-22nd with classes beginning August 22th. During the next few months, and also during Orientation week, we encourage you to be thinking about the labs you might want to rotate in during the coming year. Feel free to begin contacting faculty now to learn more about their research and availability for a rotation. You will also have many opportunities to meet faculty during Orientation and to learn about research and rotation opportunities then as well. We encourage you to fully learn about and explore the opportunities available at UNC before deciding on all of your rotations. Therefore, we have put in place the following guidelines:

- **Prior to arriving** (or during Orientation week), faculty and students should only make a commitment to the first (i.e. Fall rotation). The last day to start the Fall rotation is September 6 and the rotation ends December 2nd.
- **If you take the opportunity to do a Summer rotation** (begin anytime in June and continue through August 14th) then you are eligible to set up your second (and if you like your third) rotation during Orientation week.
- **If you do your first rotation in the Fall**, then you can select your second (and if you like your third) rotation anytime after Nov 18th. The Winter rotation runs January 3rd - March 9th and the Spring rotation runs March 12th-May 11th.
- **Thesis Lab Choices:** While students and their rotation faculty are encouraged to have a discussion with each other about the possibility of returning to the lab for thesis work, commitments between faculty and students should not be made and are not binding until the following dates. For students that start their first rotation in the Fall, then this date would be May 7th, 2012. For students that did a full summer rotation then this date would be March 1st, 2012. The reason for this is to encourage both students and faculty to keep an open mind and fully explore all their options.

We hope that you are looking forward to an interesting new year with a group of highly motivated colleagues. We look forward to working with you and the faculty to help make the best possible connections between you and potential mentors. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,



Virginia L. Miller
Director BBSP