The Chemistry-Biology Interface Predoctoral Research Training program provides research training in chemical approaches to the solution of biological problems. The program promotes the training of predoctoral students pursuing careers in bioorganic, bioinorganic, and biophysical chemistry by teaching the skills they need to succeed in modern molecular biology. Funded by the NIH, students selected to participate in this program are trained in the language and techniques of biological and chemical sciences, and gain experience as members of multidisciplinary teams working on frontier research.

Program Components

The major components of the training program are (1) the core course “Introduction to the Chemistry of Biology”; (2) a one quarter internship in an area complementary to the student’s central research area; and (3) the Chemistry of Biology Seminar program that includes presentations by students as well as outside speakers. A stipend is provided by the NIH which will be supplemented to the level of a Research Assistantship, plus tuition and fees, including health insurance. Trainees are also given a travel allowance and participate in the yearly Lake Arrowhead retreat.

Trainee Selection

The Program is open to students enrolled in Ph.D. programs in Biological Chemistry; Chemistry and Biochemistry; Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology; Molecular and Medical Pharmacology; and Physiology. Students are typically selected for participation at the end of their first year of graduate study. Selection is based on progress and achievement in the first year, academic record, recommendations from the student’s research advisor and two additional faculty members, and a statement of purpose.

To apply

Application forms may be obtained from the Graduate Affairs Office in the member Departments and from the program office in 4006 Young Hall. For further information and a list of training faculty, see the CBITP website www.chem.ucla.edu/dept/Faculty/houk/chembiointerface.html. Or, contact Professor K.N. Houk, Program Director, houk@chem.ucla.edu