

Application for Toll Summer Research Fellowship Dr. Jennifer Wanat

You should complete pages 2 – 4 of this application and turn it by email. I do not need this cover sheet. Do your best to be concise. I do not need any additional documents. Please be honest with me (and with yourself) in your answers. We will be spending the entire summer together, so it is important that we start off on the right foot.

Application Deadlines and Submission Details:

- **Due no later than:** Monday, March 13, by 4:00 PM.
- **Submit completed application via email:** jwanat2@washcoll.edu
- In-person interviews for finalists will take place between **3/20 – 3/31**.

Additional Information:

- Students are strongly encouraged to apply to the Cater Society of Junior Fellows for additional financial support.
- Students are required to give a presentation as part of the Toll Fellows Summer Program.
- **Compensation:** stipend + housing allowance through Toll Fellows Program.
- **Hours:** M-F approximately 10:00-6:00 (minimum)

Research:

My research is currently focused on the molecular bases of aging. I study how telomeres affect meiotic chromosome segregation and cellular senescence. Since both telomere biology and meiotic chromosome segregation are well conserved from yeast to humans, I use the model organism *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (baker's yeast) for this research. This summer we will be examining the role of telomeric gene expression (TERRA) on chromosome pairing during meiosis. You will learn techniques such as: RNA extraction, quantitative real-time PCR (qRT-PCR), gene deletion strategies, time course analysis, and many standard yeast growth and manipulation protocols.

What I'm looking for in a summer student:

- Required – A GPA above a 3.0 to qualify for the Toll Fellows Program.
- **I plan to choose someone who is excited to do research with me, who wants to read primary literature, and who wants to become independent in the lab.**
- I would prefer to find a student who wants to continue working with me for a research SCE, has not previously done research, and has already taken genetics, but I am likely to select a student who lacks one or more of these characteristics.

Name:

Preferred name:

Current Year:

Cumulative GPA:

Relevant college coursework in math, chemistry, and biology (including genetics, if taken):

Do you have any previous research experience? YES NO

If YES, please explain why you would like to gain more experience with me:

Do you have alternate summer work or internship plans? YES NO

If YES, please explain:

What previous experiences do you have (including extra-curricular) that you think would enhance your ability to adapt and learn from full-time work in a laboratory?

Are you unavailable during any portion of the summer? YES NO

If YES, please include dates (it is OK to have a planned vacation!):

Research is unpredictable. On occasion you may need to stay late, come early, or work on a weekend. Do you have any regular time constraints (including classes)? YES NO

If YES, please explain:

Why are you interested in working in my lab in particular? What do you hope to gain from work in a laboratory?

What are your current long-term career plans? How do you see this position helping you to achieve these goals?

Do you have any additional questions, concerns, or information you would like share?