

Iowa Sciences Academy

Director

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The Iowa Sciences Academy (ISA) is home to a range of programs that support the success of undergraduate students interested in research and scientific communication. Through ISA programs, students have access to hands-on research, professional development, and scientific outreach opportunities. The Iowa Sciences Academy strives to build a strong community of students, staff, and faculty engaged in the sciences.

The Science Alliance Internship program supports qualified first- and second-year students interested in exploring research on campus. The program aims to enrich the undergraduate experience through coursework, mentor matching, career guidance, and creating a cohort of students with similar interests in science and research. Competitive wages to carry out research in laboratories and access to a summer program for science alliance interns are provided.

The Maximizing Access to Research Careers (UI-MARC) is a National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded program that supports the academic and personal success of qualified junior and senior students committed to pursuing a PhD in science. The goal of the UI-MARC research training program is to develop a cohort of undergraduates who complete their baccalaureate degree and transition into and complete biomedical, research-focused higher degree programs (e.g., PhD). A yearly stipend, funding for conference travel, tuition support, and access to external summer research experiences are provided.

The mission of the National Science Foundation (NSF) funded Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (UI-LSAMP) program is to support and increase the nation's STEM workforce, broaden undergraduate participation in research, and create a sense of community and support for students with a declared major in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and pre-health professions. UI-LSAMP facilitates professional development and finding laboratory experiences for STEM majors transferring from community colleges. Selected students receive stipends for each term.

The Latham Science Engagement Initiative provides the opportunity for sophomore, junior, and senior students to interact with highly talented undergraduate students across science disciplines. The program prepares students to communicate science in the public sphere, work in multidisciplinary settings, and demonstrate the broader impact of scientific research. Students selected for the program complete two courses, design and implement science outreach projects, and participate in an event that highlights their achievements.