The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at Florida State University is announcing a competition for Latin American Student Education and Research (LASER) Fellowships. The competition is directed at strengthening connections between FSU and Latin American Universities and establishing new opportunities for educational and research.

**Program Description.** The Fellowships will be awarded on a competitive basis. The winners will spend 2 months in summer of 2015, carrying out collaborative research activities in research laboratories at the FSU Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry. Students who have successfully completed the LASER program will be given an admission priority when applying to the PhD program in our department.

**Eligibility.** Students from any Latin American country are eligible to participate in the competition. The preference will be given to students who are interested in pursuing graduate studies in chemical and biochemical sciences. Good English-speaking skills are highly desirable. A limited number of Fellowships for faculty are also available. Interested faculty should send a separate inquiry directly to lac@chem.fsu.edu.

**Application.** The following items should be provided by the applicants:

1. The application form (www.chem.fsu.edu/laser).
3. A statement of purpose, describing applicant’s research interests and the justification to participate in the LASER Internship program.
4. Selection of two (2) faculty from the list of faculty members participating in the LASER program. Select professors whose research is most appealing to you. We will try to do our best to make sure you carry out research with one of the selected professors.

To fill out the application form and upload the required documents, please, visit www.chem.fsu.edu/laser/

**Selection Process.** The Fellowships will be awarded in a two-stage process:

- Stage I. Selection of candidates based on the submitted application.
- Stage II. Skype interviews with the finalists followed by selection of awardees.

**Note:** If selected as the winner of this competition, you will be required to present an official grade transcript from your current university.

**Deadlines.** Applications will be accepted between January 31 and **February 28, 2015**. The evaluation of all applicants will be completed by March 10. Successful applicants will be interviewed via Skype prior to March 28. The Fellowship winners will be announced on March 31, 2015. All notifications will be sent by e-mail.

**Number of Awards Anticipated.** The competition will sponsor 4-5 Fellowships, covering up to $1,600 in travel costs, providing free housing and meal plan, and an additional monthly allowance of $500.

All questions about the LASER program should be submitted by e-mail to lac@chem.fsu.edu.