

Intern	Program strengths	Program weaknesses	Recommend program to friend?	Other comments
#1	<p>1. choice of internship site - liked people and location easy to get to</p> <p>2. Friday meetings useful part of process - pulled things together</p> <p>3. mentors' Friday talks gave broad view of the field</p> <p>4. Dr. Warter-Perez very patient, flexible, gave of her family time to help us</p> <p>5. Beach party - fun, bonding experience</p>	<p>1. Didactic portion assumed a certain background beyond what was reflected in the application, so I struggled</p> <p>2. Dr. Momand's lectures not enough to bring me up to speed on the biology</p> <p>3. Not enough time to reflect on/internalize concepts from workshops</p> <p>4. 1st stats workshop was good, but "I was lost" in 2nd; could use practical applications versus just theory and might not need Probability</p> <p>5. Microarray lecture needed improvement - guest lecturer took all the time, was disorganized and material wasn't applicable; Dr. Sharp tried to fix it, but not enough time; could expand this lecture and include clustering</p> <p>6. In the beginning of the internship there was competition to get attention of the mentor - "I versus we" attitude but then the team process worked when the problem got more difficult</p> <p>7. I had to adapt to American culture, but I appreciated how open people in the company were about their feelings.</p>	<p>1. YES, with reservations associated with identified weaknesses; would definitely recommend her mentor - mentor defined a project that was at an appropriate level</p>	<p>1. very happy with whole experience despite "challenges"</p> <p>2. "real life" experience</p> <p>3. would like to see her evaluation</p>
#2	<p>1. Didactic training - specifically biology training and the programming review</p> <p>2. Faculty - very pleased with them overall and how supportive they were of interns</p>	<p>1. Statistics workshop could have had more practical, specific examples; applied as well as theoretical information</p>	<p>1. YES, great for computer science people looking for applications in the sciences</p>	<p>1. Out of town colleagues are struggling due to housing issues and stipend disbursements (stipend amounts were subject to change)</p>
#3	<p>1. Didactic phase</p>	<p>1. Ranking/choice of intern-</p>	<p>1. YES, particularly good if you</p>	<p>1. I wasn't really sure what to</p>

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		<p>ship sites - hard to tell what each site had to offer; some inaccuracy in information given in Dr. Sharp's presentation</p> <p>2. Need more time to visit possible internship sites - site visits might be useful</p> <p>3. Need more time to prepare for our University visits</p> <p>4. A longer internship would be useful</p>	<p>want to learn about bioinformatics careers</p>	<p>expect at the beginning of the program.</p>
#4	<p>1. Internship - really enjoyed</p> <p>2. Didactic phase gave good background for project</p> <p>3. Programming work good refresher, although seemed like a lot of work at the time</p> <p>4. Overall "great experience" - learned a lot and met great people</p>	<p>1. Hard for out of towners -</p> <p>a. no info re what to bring with us until ~1 week before program began (and only because I called and asked)</p> <p>b. housing arrangements produced stress - did not like 1st night with professor (uncomfortable), then moving to USC for a week, then finally into CSULA housing, i.e. too much moving around</p> <p>c. apartments without linens and dishes, etc. are a problem when come by plane</p> <p>d. stipend payments - hard with out of town bank (direct deposit would be nice) and when amounts change weekly</p>	<p>1. YES, to determine future career path, or, if you already know that you want bioinformatics as a career</p>	
#5	<p>1. Didactic phase - gained lots of knowledge for internship so able to immediately start my project</p> <p>2. Choice of work sites</p> <p>3. Overall happy with my work site</p>	<p>1. Unexpected obligations for Friday sessions during the internship put extra strain on my time</p> <p>2. 2 hour commute each way to UCLA was a burden, but I had a flexible schedule</p>	<p>1. YES, "great program and experiences"</p>	
#6	<p>1. Very impressed with quality of the mentors</p>	<p>1. Out of state students had several problems-</p>	<p>1. YES, with reservations -</p> <p>a. Had a car and had never been to</p>	

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	<p>2. Didactic phase - learned a lot, although not used in project</p> <p>3. Luncheons and seminars were very useful</p> <p>4. Beach party - nice bonding experience</p>	<p>a. housing - staying at professor's house uncomfortable and general arrangements</p> <p>b. did not receive enough info prior to start of program</p> <p>c. lack of transportation if no car</p> <p>d. stipend payments varied so problem to pay bills - we need to know the schedule ahead of time</p> <p>2. Programming material not well presented - instructor not knowledgeable enough about programs, i.e. demos often did not run or suggested code did not work</p> <p>3. Had to switch projects mid-stream to accommodate lack of support from lab personnel, "I lost a whole 2 1/2 weeks"</p>	<p>LA (so could experience it)</p> <p>b. wouldn't recommend for the 1st few years, until work out problems</p>	
#7	<p>1. Compensation very good relative to other programs</p> <p>2. Organization very impressive</p> <p>3. Didactic training</p> <p>4. Student population - both diverse and from across the nation</p> <p>5. Overall a great idea to have this Institute</p> <p>6. Friday updates</p> <p>7. Development of friendships and professional network</p>	<p>1. Friday updates could be moved to Wednesday - then we would get a break in the middle of the work week</p> <p>2. Internships - at this point in our careers we need more direction to get anything done; lack of organization at worksite meant that we wasted first 3 weeks, then made an effort to get our mentor involved for the next 2 weeks so we started to get stuff done, most of our work accomplished during the last 2 weeks; internship was not well planned, in contrast to the didactic phase</p>	<p>1. YES, "need hands on experience for the real world"</p>	<p>1. In the end, satisfied with internship experience</p> <p>2. Logical order of events, but could be expanded timeline</p>
#8	<p>1. Overall organization</p> <p>2. Didactic phase</p> <p>3. Choice of internship sites</p>	<p>1. Lack of communication prior to start of program - not clear program was actually set up</p>	<p>1. YES, particularly for people who are not sure of career paths, i.e. gives broad background in biosta-</p>	<p>1. "Reinforced my goal to work in the bioinformatics industry"</p> <p>2. Perhaps need to select more</p>

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	<p>4. The internship experience</p> <p>5. Mentors at ViaLogy - helpful and supportive</p> <p>6. The SoCal BSI PIs - also helpful and supportive</p>	<p>2. Hard on out of state people - housing was a problem, did not mind staying with professor for first night, but the 1 week at USC and then moving to CSLA was inconvenient; also only 6 weeks of guaranteed housing was stressful</p> <p>3. Lack of coverage in program office - please return calls within 24 hours or have message explaining hours</p> <p>4. Interns tended to interact as in versus out of state cohorts</p> <p>5. Microarray analysis - would be useful to have more training in analysis of the massive data sets</p>	<p>tistics and bioinformatics</p>	<p>students from across the nation</p>
#9	<p>1. Didactic phase -</p> <p>a. Phylogenetics</p> <p>b. Coverage of probability</p> <p>2. Internship experience</p> <p>3. Good relationship between the didactic and research phases</p>	<p>1. Could have used even more probability</p> <p>2. Selection process for internships - felt "targeted" due to prior experience into something not really interested in; perhaps selection happened too quickly - maybe have a chance to talk directly to the mentors so can see pros/cons</p>	<p>1. YES, because bioinformatics cannot be taught in solely a didactic fashion</p>	<p>1. Some interns might do better with a more structured internship</p> <p>2. It would be nice to get to visit all sites prior to internship selection</p>
#10	<p>1. Network establishment - other interns in didactic phase, program PIs and mentors</p>	<p>1. Partner was a problem, but everyone else was really nice</p> <p>2. Teaming on a programming project can be difficult</p>	<p>1. YES, with reservations -</p> <p>a. would not be appropriate without prior programming experience</p> <p>b. not appropriate if had already</p>	<p>1. "Overall a really good program"</p>

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	2. Professional development - Friday meetings really helped	3. 7 weeks is too short to accomplish anything significant 4. Would have liked to have the time to explore the Biological significance of the project 5. Did not get to use math or statistics background in project	completed a bioinformatics project	
#11	1. Didactic phase - covered both computer science and biology 2. Choice of internships 3. Friday meetings - helps us to understand that "problems" are normal 4. Evaluation of program	1. Didactic phase not directly related to internship - only lit searches and NCBI databases 2. Introduction to internship site - need more info/detail 3. Internship project - thought I would get experience in programming, but didn't - did not allow desired development	1. YES, most friends have the appropriate qualifications; good summer "real world" experience in a company	
#12	1. Didactic phase - interesting and learned a lot; helped before going into internship; liked instructors 2. Internship mentor - very helpful and spent time with us	1. Teamwork - I didn't get along well with the other intern; perhaps we need help in dividing up the work; maybe mentors need help in developing teams 2. Pay schedule erratic	1. YES, with reservations - need background in both computer science and biology	1. "Really good...really glad I did it, put together really well"
#13	1. Organization - better than most programs; knew schedule and expectations ahead of time 2. Internship versus just didactic instruction	1. University visits - should get to chose versus being assigned; need more time to prepare for visits 2. Research sites need more detailed description of projects ; I wasted 2 weeks reading papers instead of doing actual work 3. Didactic phase could increase up to 1 week - need more time to internalize concepts (ex. Microarrays, statistics, programming)	1. YES, for knowledge of field and contacts (professors/mentors) and help with careers	
Intern 14	1. Dr. Warter-Perez started	1. Program assumed rich		1. Selection criteria should be

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	lectures with foundations of programming and built from there 2. Dr. Heubach also started with basics, but suddenly the presentation level was well above my understanding	background in bioinformatics, though program selection criteria did not - produced uneven learning environment in the didactic phase		raised
intern 15	1. Didactic instruction - was informative and interesting; intro to various tools useful 2. Instructors - Drs. Momand and Warter-Perez were patient and helpful 3. Programming projects - helped understand correlation between computer science and biology	1. Professional development sessions should not assume that interns are naive undergraduates		