

# Animal Sciences and Agronomy Summer Research Internship Program

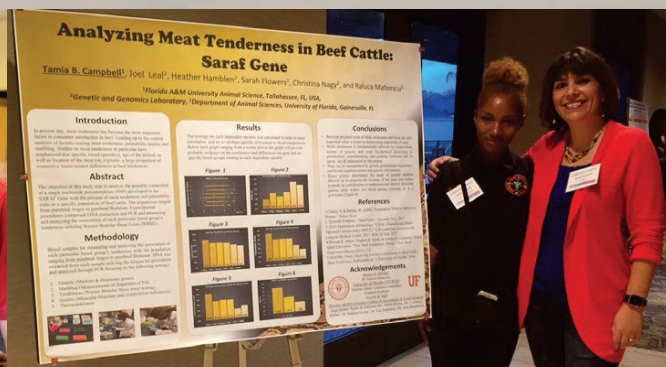
## Why You'll Love It

- Paid 6-week program May-August
- Earn \$560 per week
- Research opportunities with renowned professors
- Hands-on at the farm and in the lab
- A free lunch with the team
- Possible housing opportunities

## How to Apply

Send an email to Renee Parks-James at [rpf@ufl.edu](mailto:rpf@ufl.edu)  
by April 15th and include the following:

- 100 words describing your interest
- Current CV



# Animal Sciences and Agronomy

## Summer Research Internship Program

### Example Opportunities

#### Dr. Samantha Brooks (ANS)

##### **Summer Internships in the Brooks Genetics Lab.**

Summer students have the opportunity to participate in several research projects utilizing genomic techniques to investigate health issues in the horse. This summer's projects will focus on neurological and behavioral phenotypes in the horse.

Responsibilities will include assisting in sample collection, DNA extraction, conducting computational analyses for our phenotypes, maintaining records or databases, PCR amplification of DNA, genotyping, and DNA sequencing. Most work is conducted in the Brooks lab, located in the Cancer and Genetics Research Complex, though periodic trips to research and private farms are required.

#### Dr. Antonio Faciola (ANS)

##### **Summer Internship in Animal Nutrition.**

The Faciola Lab ([www.faciola.com](http://www.faciola.com)) does research on cattle nutrition, with the goal of improving the efficiency of nutrient utilization to enhance production and minimize the environmental impact of livestock operations. Summer interns would have the opportunity to be involved in research projects aimed at testing feed additives for enhancing nutrient digestion and feed utilization by gut microbes. Responsibilities would include assisting in sample preparation and collection, helping conducting experiments, lab analyses, data collection, scientific literature review and discussion and results presentation. Most of the work will be conducted at the Animal Sciences Building, but farm visits for sample collection may be required. Transportation will be provided for farm visits. In addition, it will be required participation in weekly lab meetings for project and manuscript discussion.

#### Dr. Raluca Mateescu (ANS)

##### **Summer Internship in the Animal Genomics Lab - Genetics of thermotolerance in beef cattle.**

Summer students have the opportunity to participate in a research projects utilizing genomic techniques to investigate several traits in beef cattle. Interns will participate in data collection to describe the tolerance to heat stress. Interns will learn basic molecular biology techniques and will apply them to evaluate the association of genetic markers with thermal tolerance. Responsibilities will include assisting in sample collection, DNA extraction, conducting in lab assays for our phenotypes, maintaining records or databases, PCR amplification of DNA, genotyping, and DNA sequencing. Most work is conducted in the Mateescu lab, located on campus in the ANS building.

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### Example Opportunities

#### Dr. Diwakar Vyas (ANS) & Dr. Esteban Rios (AGR)

##### Summer internship in Vyas/Rios group:

Summer students have the opportunity to participate in an interdisciplinary research project evaluating forage production (Agronomy) and determining forage nutritive value of alfalfa and bermudagrass samples (Animal Sciences) to provide livestock with high-quality feed.

The student will be trained on forage sample collection and processing to predict nutritive value using near-infrared reflectance spectroscopy. The student will be trained on data analysis, interpretation and dissemination of results. This is a collaborative project between Agronomy and Animal Sciences and student intern will work with Dr. Esteban Rios and Dr. Diwakar Vyas.

#### Dr. Marcelo Wallau (AGR)

##### Internship with the Forage Team

This summer will be full of opportunities for research and extension with the Forage Team. My research program focus on finding alternative forages and establishing management practices that can help producers in Florida. We are currently evaluating multiple bahiagrass under grazing, as part of a collaboration with Dr. Sollenberger, and interactions of herbicides and new bermudagrass genotypes during establishment, with Drs. Rios and Sellers. For those interested in row crops, silage and animal nutrition, we have a large corn and sorghum hybrid trial, in partnership with Dr. Vyas in Animal Science. For more information, contact Dr. Marcelo Wallau at [mwallau@ufl.edu](mailto:mwallau@ufl.edu).

#### Faculty contact information

**ANS:** <https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/people/>

**AGR:** <https://agronomy.ifas.ufl.edu/people/>

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For information on Assistantship and Fellowship opportunities available for graduate programs in Animal Sciences at UF, visit the Graduate School webpage:

<https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/>