



Clare Boothe Luce Scholars Program Informational Session

OCTOBER 12, 2023

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER-
SCIENCES

CBL Scholars Program



One of the programs within the **Henry Luce Foundation**

Henry Luce Foundation

- Private, independent foundation
- Established in 1936 by Henry R. Luce, founder of *Time*, *Life*, *Fortune* and *Sports Illustrated* magazines
- Mission: “to enrich public discourse by promoting innovative scholarship, cultivating new leaders, and fostering international understanding”
- Provides funding and leadership programs in the fields of higher education, religion and theology, art, and public policy

CBL Scholars Program

Established in 1989 by **Clare Boothe Luce**

- Wife of Henry Luce
- Playwright, journalist, Ambassador, and member of Congress
- Understood that women face obstacles in their chosen profession

Goal: “to encourage women to enter, study, graduate and teach in STEM fields where there have been barriers to their advancement”

One of the most significant sources of support for women seeking to study or teach science, engineering, and mathematics

As of 2019, awarded over \$200 million in grants to more than 200 U.S. colleges and universities to support over 2,500 women



CBL@UCLA



We have had this program TWICE:

2011-2013: 7 scholars and 2015-2018: 11 scholars

18 - graduated UCLA with a Bachelor's degree

10 - accepted into top-tier PhD programs at UC Berkeley, Stanford, Northwestern, UT Austin and the University of Illinois

2 - completed MS degrees in physical sciences areas and are working in industry

2 - received the competitive NSF Graduate Research Fellowship in 2013

3 - continued to research careers by joining research teams at STSI, Bait, and RAPT Therapeutics after graduation

2 - using their scientific skills while serving as consultants in data-driven fields

8 - published a total of twelve research articles in peer-reviewed journals

Program Description

Two-year program

Provides Undergraduate Research Awards to support high-potential undergraduate women majoring in the **physical sciences or engineering committed to research careers**

Goals

- Increase the number of female undergraduates engaged **in research** in the areas of **Astrophysics, Chemistry, Chemistry-Materials Science, Physics, and Engineering**
- Engage students in the process of **discovery-based learning** and the creation of new knowledge
- **Build skills** that will enhance participants' success in their academic and research careers

Program Faculty



Dr. Tama Hasson
Program Director
URC-Sciences



Dr. Paula Diaconescu
Faculty Co-Director
Chemistry & Biochemistry



Dr. Ni Ni
Faculty Co-Director
Physics & Astronomy



Dr. Veronica Santos
Faculty Co-Director
Mechanical &
Aerospace Engineering

Program Staff



Dr. David Gray
Winter Course
URC-Sciences



Dr. Ziba Razinia
Program Mentor
URC-Sciences



RaShawna Williams
Program Representative
URC-Sciences

Eligibility Requirements

Female

U.S. Citizen or permanent resident

UCLA undergraduate majoring in one of the following:

- Astrophysics
- Chemistry
- Chemistry-Materials Science
- Physics
- Engineering

GPA: above 3.0

Have at least two years remaining at UCLA

Interested in research and currently in a UCLA research lab or have identified a potential lab to join

Benefits of being in the program

Receive **tailored mentoring** and **preparation for graduate school and research careers** via specialized curriculum, counseling and seminars

Funding:

\$16,000 two-year stipend

- \$4000 stipend paid for Winter/Spring of year 1
- \$6000 stipend paid in Summer if you stay at UCLA
- \$6000 stipend paid for Fall/Winter/Spring of year 2

\$500 supply budget

Up to \$600 per year to present research at professional conferences

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Curriculum in Research Practice:

Winter Course: Science Communication or Scientific Leadership and Ethics with Dr. Gray

Spring Course: Journal Club and Navigating the Academy with Drs. Ni, Diaconescu and Santos

Summer workshops: Meet alumni and discuss careers with Dr. Hasson

Fall Course: Applying for graduate school and graduate fellowship with Dr. Hasson

Present at the Undergraduate Research and Creativity Showcase

Present your research as a 2nd year at a Closing Symposium and Dinner in June

Summer: 10 weeks – your choice

Complete full-time lab research at UCLA or participate in an internship in industry

Those in research at UCLA will participate in weekly lab group meetings with their research mentors and present at the Summer Research Showcase

Those in an internship will write a summary of their experience and/or can present at the Summer Research Showcase.

Everyone zooms in to keep connected in the summer. Weekly workshops are available on a variety of topics.

Summary of Program Components

Spans five academic quarters and one summer term beginning in Winter 2023 and ending in Spring 2025

Engage in a research laboratory at UCLA throughout appointment

Participate in professional development courses and journal clubs

Present work at various conferences and symposiums

Let's meet some of our scholars to tell you more!

Application Components

Online application (Survey Monkey)

Unofficial university transcript

Letter of recommendation

Deadline: November 1, 2023

Unofficial university transcript should be emailed directly to
CBLuceScholars@college.ucla.edu

Online Application

SurveyMonkey application consisting of three essays:

- Personal statement detailing a commitment to a research-related career, what you plan to do following graduation
- How you will help support other women engineering and physical science students on our campus
- Description of your previous research experience including the title of the research project, aim of the project and what you have accomplished
- We recommend you prepare these first in WORD, so it is easy to cut/paste into application

Letters of Recommendation

From a **faculty member** at UCLA who can best assess your ability for academic research and your motivation for a research career

- How long and in what capacity he/she has known the applicant
- The applicant's motivation for a research or industry career (vs medical school or other non-research career)
- The applicant's qualifications and potential for research as well as academic success
- The letter should confirm a willingness to mentor the student for the next two years in research

If your research experiences have been at a different institution, you may ask your faculty mentor at that institution to write your letter of recommendation

Only one letter of recommendation is required, but additional letters may be submitted

Letters should be composed on departmental letterhead and emailed directly to

CBLuceScholars@college.ucla.edu

Selection Process

Interviews will be conducted mid-November

Faculty co-directors review and select applicants

Selection of the scholars will be made based on **eligibility criteria** and on the basis of **academic merit** and **promise of future academic/science careers**

Majors that include biology, biochemistry, biophysics and bioengineering are not eligible to apply

Students committed to a health profession will not be considered

Timeline

Applications due	November 1
Interviews	Mid-November
Decision	December
Laboratory Training Certification	Before January 2023
Start of the program	January

Questions

CLARE BOOTHE
WOLF
SCHOLARS

Contact us if you have further questions:

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RaShawna Williams, Program Representative,
rwilliams@college.ucla.edu

<https://sciences.ugresearch.ucla.edu/programs-and-scholarships/cbluce/>