SOCHE Strategy

Vision
An educated, employed, and engaged citizenry.

Mission
Founded, in 1967 SOCHE is the leader for higher collaboration, engaging with colleges, universities, and industries to transform the economy through education and employment.
Vision: An educated, employed, and engaged citizenry

22 Colleges and Universities

Cross Registration

College Navigator
23 colleges, over 700 majors and one site
SOCHE has multiple ways to support the Air Force with student work-based learning:

- DAGSI Research Fellowships
  - ODHE funded - AFRL/DAGSI Ohio Student-Faculty Competitive Research Fellowship Program
  - AFRL funded - AFRL/DAGSI Student-Faculty Research Fellowship Program

- SOCHEIntern Cooperative Agreements (All Technology Directorates)
AFRL/DAGSI Ohio Student-Faculty Competitive Research Fellowship Program (ODHE funded)

Program Background:

- Program initially funded by Ohio in 1999, with 453 projects sponsored to date
- State funding totals $44.5M since 1999
- 1999-2003 ($16.2M in State funding): 48 collaborative projects funded, with approximately 200 Ohio faculty and 230 students involved
- 2004-present (~$1.6M/yr): 330 projects funded, each project supports one student and one faculty member
AFRL/DAGSI Ohio Student-Faculty Competitive Research Fellowship Program (ODHE funded)

Program Information:
- Research by student and faculty team on topics defined by AFRL, using AFRL and university facilities and resources
- Program is open to MS and PhD teams from the seventeen university members of the ODHE Research Officers’ Council (ROC)
- A ⅓ cost share is required, which can come from the university or AFRL
- The fellowship term is one year, renewable for 2 years if a MS and 3 years if a PhD
- Students can receive up to 5 years of fellowship support funded by ODHE
- MS students must recompete for PhD awards
- Faculty can hold up to 3 ODHE awards at a time
- Students must be US citizens
- Topics are posted by October 1 with proposals due in February. Selections are made by AFRL and DAGSI jointly with award announcements made in March
- Projects begin May 1 - October 1 with a minimum of 8 weeks of research by the student conducted at AFRL or remotely at the student’s university, based on the researcher’s project needs/requirements
- No project can exceed 3 years
AFRL/DAGSI Student-Faculty Research Fellowship Program (AFRL funded)

Program Background:

- The first AFRL/DAGSI Cooperative Agreement was signed in August of 2012, providing a cost-share vehicle for ODHE projects. Approximately $3M was been obligated by AFRL (54 projects)

- The new AFRL/SOCHE Cooperative Agreement was signed in January of 2019, providing a vehicle to cost-share or fully fund projects and an additional SOCHE funding opportunity for graduate and undergraduate interns across AFRL (AFRL/RX CA has been in place since 1986)

- More than $5.2M has been obligated for research projects (over 70 projects)
Program Information:

- Projects are based on AFRL needs and renewable based on TD funding availability and needs
- Projects can occur at any time of year and have a timeline specified by AFRL
- AFRL can choose projects that didn’t receive ODHE funding
- AFRL can choose universities outside Ohio
- Research is performed by student (MS or PhD) and faculty team on topics defined by AFRL, using AFRL and university facilities and resources.
- Cost share is not required
- A student stipend and tuition coverage are required
- Students working at AFRL must be US citizens
- Fully remote projects can be non-US citizens at AFRL discretion
Program Background:

- STEM internships supporting Freshmen through Post-Doc students
- Internships can be part- or full-time, seasonal or year round
- Internships can be in-person or remote based on AFRL needs
- Students can be pre-selected by AFRL researcher or SOCHE can recruit
- Student must be US citizens for in-person internships; Non-US citizens are eligible for remote positions at the discretion of AFRL
- Funding is DoD R&D funds
- To date, ~$980K has been obligated by AFRL in AFRL/RG, AFRL/RY, AFRL/RH, AFRL/RQ; supporting over 60 internships; and over $12M has been obligated by AFRL/RX supporting over 1,000 interns
Program Information:

- **AFRL POC**
  - Defines student intern needs - major, skillsets, timeline, etc
  - Mentors student throughout internship

- **SOCHE**
  - Recruits students for open internship opportunities as defined by AFRL
  - Makes official internship offer and in-processes student
  - Processes bi-monthly payroll, bonuses, and travel expenses
  - Invoices AFRL monthly and keeps AFRL POC informed on budget balances
  - Conducts regular check-in with student and AFRL POC
  - Out-process the student at end of internship
  - Works with AFRL POCs on budget balances
  - Develops student during internship through Individual Development Plan
Benefits

- Strengthen AFRL relationships with academic science and engineering community throughout US
- Develop next generation of high-tech workforce for AFRL
- Increase diversity of scientists/engineers at AFRL
- Stimulate collaboration between Ohio universities and AFRL
- Leverage Ohio research funding with AFRL and university funding
- Increase utilization and exposure to AFRL facilities
- Student mobility between funding sources and programs to best accommodate student and researcher needs
- 70% of graduates through the DAGSI Programs are employed in Ohio industry, academic, and government positions
Kim Marshall, Executive Program Manager (until 10/28)

Defense Associated Graduate Student Innovators (DAGSI)

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www.soche.org

https://www.soche.org/programs-and-services/employers/dagsi/

Kim will be leaving SOCHE effective 10/28 and Mackenzie Lawson will be the new DAGSI Program Manager and her email is mackenzie.lawson@soche.org