

Why do we encourage our students to apply for External Summer Research Experiences?

- 1) It helps us fund more scholars when some of our scholars find funding for an external REU.
- 2) It creates a more diverse research experience for our students: they get to have worked with a very high quality Truman faculty member as well as a researcher from another school, often a Research 1 school (where most graduate programs are found).
- 3) It helps spread our strong reputation (McNair and Truman) when they see the quality of our students.
- 4) It gives you an opportunity to make connections with faculty and graduate students at other schools to make comparisons.
- 5) You can network and obtain strong letters of recommendation from faculty outside of Truman which may enhance your ability to get into competitive graduate schools (since letters from two campuses would seem more robust).
- 6) You make connections and have an edge in getting into that particular graduate school or one which knows that faculty member, beyond your connections at Truman.
- 7) You may work on an existing project funded by the National Science Foundation and be part of a research team.