

Misasa International Student Intern Program 2018

About the institute

The Institute for Planetary Materials (IPM), located in Misasa, a well-known hot-spring resort, is a leading joint-use/research institute in the field of Earth and planetary materials science, with a diverse range of forefront experimental and analytical facilities and expertise. Active researches are being conducted, by IPM members alone or in collaboration with researchers from around the world, in the areas of isotope and trace element geochemistry, high-resolution geochronology, and high-pressure and -temperature materials science, aimed at understanding the origin, evolution and dynamics of the Earth and other planets.

For more information, please visit the IPM website (<http://www.misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp>).

About the program

The annual Misasa International Student Intern Program for advanced undergraduate (3rd to 4th year) and graduate students, first initiated in 2005, is designed to promote international collaborative research and education. During the intern program, each student will work on an active IPM research project under the supervision of IPM faculty members and their research groups.

Successful applicants will participate in one of the following intern projects described below. The goal of the program is for participants to become acquainted with research activities and the state-of-the-art research facilities at the IPM, and to gain first-hand scientific research experience. At the conclusion of the program, an intern symposium will be held for each participant to give an oral presentation of his/her intern research in English.

List of projects

(1) Geochemical probing: comprehensive analyses of carbonaceous chondrites (Supervisors: E. Nakamura*, K. Kobayashi, R. Tanaka, T. Kunihiro, and H. Kitagawa / Students: up to 6)

(2) Testing the outer Solar System origin of asteroid 1-Ceres with experimental petrology (Supervisors: M. Izawa*, T. Okuchi, and S. Yamashita / Students: up to 2)

(3) Can hydrous sediments supply water to the deep mantle? (Supervisors: T. Yoshino*, A. Yoneda, and D. Yamazaki / Students: up to 2)

(4) High-pressure and high-temperature study of amino acids by spectroscopy: Toward new insights for prebiotic chemical evolution (Supervisors: M. Kanzaki* and X. Xue / Students: up to 2)

Eligibility

The program is open to advanced undergraduate

(3rd to 4th year) or graduate (1st to 2nd year, including master course) students majoring in earth sciences, physics, chemistry, materials sciences, or related fields, who have a strong interest in a career pursuing scientific research. Students from either within or outside Japan, regardless of nationality, are eligible to apply. Communication skill in English is required.

Date and period

Six weeks from July 2 (Mon) to August 10 (Fri).

Financial support

Travel expenses and daily living expenses will be fully covered, and accommodation in the Misasa Guesthouse will be provided.

Number of total participants

Maximum 12

Application procedure

All application materials except reference letter must be submitted by April 22 (24:00, JST) to be considered. Notification of acceptance will be made by the middle of May. The application should be prepared in English and applicants should do the following:

1. Arrange to have one reference letter, preferably from your current supervisor or departmental head, and ask him/her before the application. During the registration process (see next), his/her academic institution's official e-mail address is necessary.
2. Arrange to have an official transcript of your academic record, from the institution you currently attend, and make it ready for upload (image file). Successful applicants may be asked to send the original official transcript later.
3. Then go to Submission site by clicking "Submission" link in this page. Please follow the instructions in the Submission page. Your supervisor will also receive the e-mail about instruction for submission of the reference letter (deadline: April 29).

Contact information

For inquiries about the program, contact Associate Prof Tak Kunihiro:

Associate Prof Tak Kunihiro (Chair of the MISIP2018 organizing committee)

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