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Building the Future of Safety Science



Recognizing the successes and contributions of
UL Research Institutes and UL Standards & Engagement
interns and fellows



Research
Institutes

Research Experiences
& Education

Introduction

The Institute for Research Experiences & Education engages undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, and early career professionals to encourage persistence in STEM.

Internships and fellowships allow students to discover and explore different career paths, network, and gain confidence in the workplace. IREE strives to help students gain access to those internships and creates awareness of STEM careers they may never have encountered in their coursework.

At UL Research Institutes and UL Standards & Engagement, interns have a major impact every year and leave behind a legacy in their departments and across both organizations.

Persistence in STEM is supported by IREE at the graduate and doctoral levels through our participation and support with the National GEM Consortium.

The Institute for Research Experiences & Education leads ULRI and ULSE’s employer membership with the GEM Consortium and supports GEM Fellows working with teams across ULRI-ULSE. ULRI became a GEM Employer Member in 2021, hosting paid summer interns finishing their graduate programs starting in 2022.

IREE developed and piloted the Intern Engagement Initiative in 2023 to support and engage interns and early career professionals across ULRI and ULSE through professional development, mentorship, and connection building. Renamed the Student Engagement Program, this program seeks to increase connection between the interns and fellows, and the larger ULRI-ULSE organizations as well as to support relationship building, networking, and confidence in the workplace.



28
Interns
in 2026
Cohort

GEM
Employer
Member
since 2021



"It feels rewarding knowing that the work we do here directly impacts people's lives and safety. I also just graduated high school, so this internship gave me the idea of what to expect to learn in college coursework and how to adjust to post-high school life."

Gavin Bardsley

Engineering Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute

"It's been a hands-on experience, connecting the content I've learned in class like understanding audiences and marketing plans, and taking those concepts from the classroom to the real world. It's been transformative and insightful — I feel trusted by my team, who meets me where I'm at but also expects me to go even higher."

Maya Bond

Marketing Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute



"Throughout the internship, I had the opportunity to apply concepts I learned in school to real-world situations. I gained important hands-on experience, developed stronger analytical skills, and learned the importance of attention to detail in professional settings. I got to work with a supportive team and manager who was open and willing to answer questions and help me learn."

Bianca Bil

Tax Intern

ULRI-ULSE Shared Services

"This internship shaped the way I think about what career path I want to go down, or companies I want to work with. Being at FSRI and seeing the impact they have on the fire service and the public, the safety science messaging that ULRI spreads — it makes me want to work in the nonprofit space. I realized I have a lot of passion for work that makes a positive impact on the world, and the internship has shaped my mindset about making sure I'm considering and prioritizing my values in a workspace that's making an impact on the world."

Ashlyn Bonner

Marketing Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute

 **GEM Fellow**

"This internship has confirmed what I thought about my future in the exposure science and toxicology realm. This is only just the beginning of my work, and I've done so much so far. I'm very motivated to continue this work, and increase my curiosity to understanding how my work can transition into a career. The work I'm doing is going to be meaningful for generations to come — science never stops evolving, so what I start, someone else may make better."

Jared Bailey

Toxicology Intern and GEM Fellow

Chemical Insights Research Institute

“I love analyzing data and I genuinely feel that my work will be something that can help a lot of people. Going into this internship, I was leaning toward a career in data analysis, and this experience reinforced that even more. From the very first day, my internship has been filled with advancement opportunities and I was wowed from the moment I entered the building lobby.”

Joshua Bradley
Standards Development Intern
UL Standards & Engagement

“Everyone here is very warm and welcoming. Comparing where I started to now, I’ve learned a lot of skills, especially relevant job skills. Knowing my input was valued and that my ideas have been taken into account has helped me build confidence.”

Vee Cheegati
Finance Intern
ULRI-ULSE Shared Services



“I always aspire to contribute to research that has societal impact. This is my first experience where I really realized the work I’m doing has real impact. My internship has allowed me to better understand the differences between research in academia and industry, which has helped me reflect more clearly on my career goals.”

Suin Choi
Research Intern
Materials Discovery Research Institute



“It feels good to know the company trusted in an intern to do important research, and seeing that they’re putting so much effort into putting safety measures in place is great. I’m relieved to be a part of work that’s making sure standards are in place and that the community feels safe and aware. I was able to connect with a lot of smart people, deepen my learning, and create meaningful relationships with others that will last beyond my internship.”

William Corey
Standards Engineering Intern
UL Standards & Engagement



“UL Research Institutes is intentional with everything they do. I like that it’s accessible for every intern to succeed in the work environment here, and I’ve never felt at home so fast before I started here. I’ve had three other internships, and none could compare to the work-life balance and culture here.”

Sydney Cumby

Social Media Intern

UL Research Institutes



“This internship has been the most pivotal moment in my career so far. I experienced career growth and had an amazing support system. This is the most involved I’ve been in actual work that full-time employees do in an internship. It makes me feel important and trusted.”

Ashley DeHaas

Project Management Intern

Institute for Research Experiences & Education

“Returning this summer as an intern, I’ve been able to be more of a leader and help bring the other interns out of their shell and be a helping hand or a listening ear. I’ve been given more flexibility and freedom, which allows me to expand on my research skills and explore new ideas.”

Chukwudalu Dumebi-Kachikwu

Data Science & Engineering Intern

UL Standards & Engagement

“It feels good to work on a clean water project that could have a worldwide impact. It’s been a lot of learning, and a lot of fitting all of the pieces in the puzzle. I’m going into my sophomore year of college so this is a cool experience, and it’s crazy to me to be a part of something with such major impact.”

Maya Grubba

Research Intern

Materials Discovery Research Institute

“I’ve been around the firefighter space since I was little so it’s cool to have an impact in this space. I’ve had a great experience, my project allowed me a lot of autonomy and freedom to tackle however I see fit. It’s cool to actually have a real impact on something, and know that I’ll eventually see my work out in the real world.”

Will Hart

Research Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute

“In my internship, I get to help the people who help other people, which is rewarding coming from a computer science background. I get to be a part of the research, even without research experience. This internship has solidified that I do want to be in the tech space, it’s been rewarding and eye-opening and I’m grateful to have so many colleagues guiding me on my path.”

Shuroq Hussein

IT Operations Intern

ULRI-ULSE Shared Services

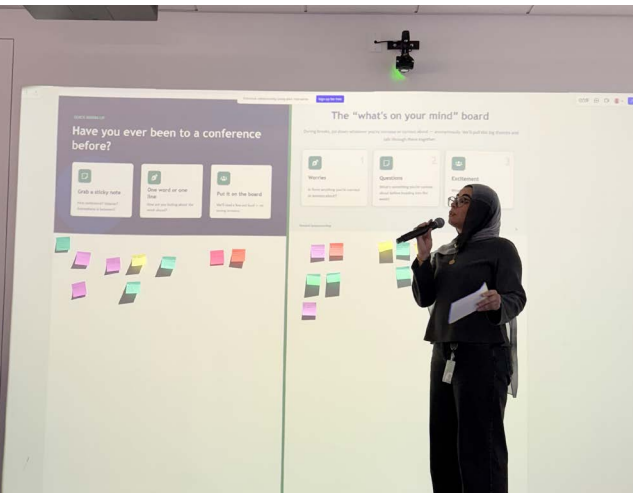


“The experts I’m working with will be able to use the research I created directly in their work. I feel that ULRI manages growth and development very well — typically interns don’t get much important work, but interns at ULRI are nurtured as people, and I have a good understanding of how my work connects to the work of the other institutes.”

Victor Jeong

Research Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute



“I’ve learned that at UL Research Institutes, we have the ability to work on things that can have a significant impact on the scientific and industrial world. I’m one of the few chemists at ESRI, and my hands-on experience has allowed me to build my understanding of processes, and have a contribution that I’m proud of.”

Eric Hsu

Research Intern

Electrochemical Safety Research Institute



“This internship has steered me toward a future in sustainability and engineering. I’ve developed a passion for transparency and product development infrastructure. UL Research Institutes is a diverse company that helps you find your niche of what you want to do and what projects you can join, which feels rare when it comes to internships.”

Natalie Landsem

Standards Engineer Intern

UL Standards & Engagement

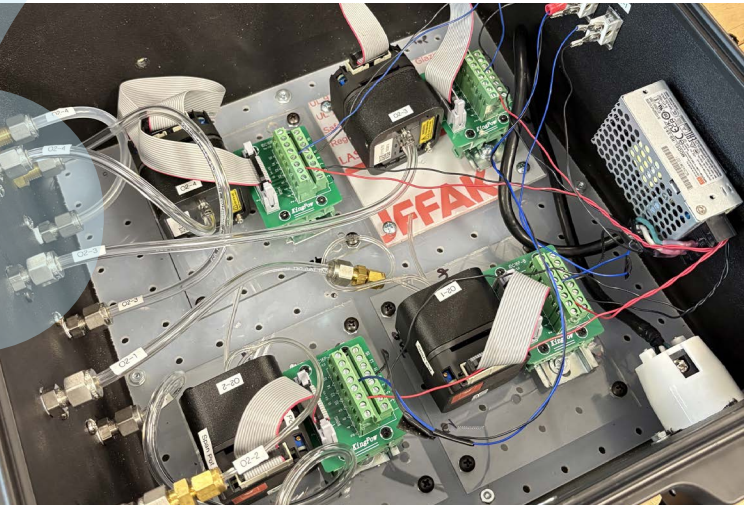


“It’s important to be in a mission-driven space. My peers and people who’ve worked here for years talk about the importance of the impact of our work. Maybe my impact won’t be seen right now, but eventually we can continue to work toward the goal of safety and the importance of understanding safety standards.”

Olivia Lee

Strategic Initiatives Intern

UL Standards & Engagement



“It’s empowering to be able to amplify the research that’s guiding us toward a safer world. Being able to incorporate video to evoke emotion in people is inspiring for me. It’s a hands-on experience that I could not be more grateful for, and I don’t know where else I could have gained this kind of experience.”

Sydney O’Clery

Multimedia Design & Media Production Intern

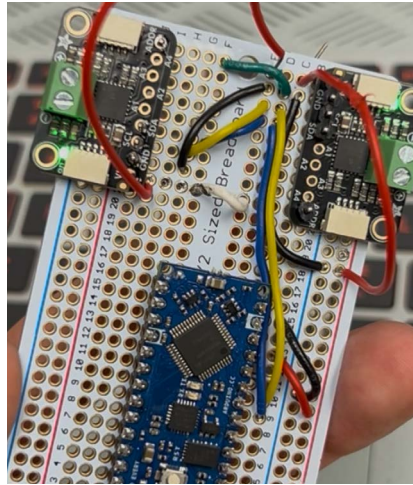
Fire Safety Research Institute

“My dad is a firefighter, so it’s impactful knowing that my work can help families and prevent firefighter harm. Before this internship, I hadn’t considered fire protection engineering, but through this opportunity, it’s changed what I want to do with my future. The impact of this work is significant, and aligns with my goals of improving safety for firefighters and the general public.”

Jameson Pinthiere

Research Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute



"I liked learning how my coursework really transfers into real life experiments — I get to actually see what happens with the math and science and how it translates back to fire modeling. I realized that I do want to get into fire safety research, and it's leaned me toward getting my master's degree."

Elio Raimundo

Engineering Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute

"I've assisted with a first-of-its-kind experiment for FSRI. With my work, hopefully one of the solutions I've come up with will make the work easier and more convenient. I hope that my work has aided their process and allowed the team an extra set of hands to help the work transition from an idea to a fully implemented experiment."

Yuval Ravin

Engineering Intern

Fire Safety Research Institute

"It makes me feel important as an intern to work on projects with such impact. I take my work seriously, and I feel like I can use the work I've done here in my future. People are nothing but kind and supportive in our organization, and I feel very comfortable going into work."

Kate Sheeran

Governance Risk & Compliance Intern

ULRI-ULSE Shared Services



“My internship experience was defined by good mentorship, impactful projects, and a focus on safety. It’s exciting to work with other researchers working toward the same goals to get their expertise in solving the same problems at a faster rate. We all come from different places, and we use that wide knowledge base to solve problems in a more holistic way.”

Dhananjay Swaamy

Research Intern

Electrochemical Safety Research Institute

“It’s really rewarding to be able to have a direct impact on the water decontamination project, especially seeing something I’m contributing to having a noticeable impact. Working with other researchers and scientists in the field has been really good experience. I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do when I graduated, but this has opened me up to the fact that impactful research can be done at a company level outside of academia, which I didn’t know was possible.”

Deborah Silverstein

Research Intern

Materials Discovery Research Institute

“This internship felt meaningful, and reaffirmed the skills and knowledge that I have and my interest in going into private research librarianship. I had the opportunity to work on so many cool projects. This is the most hands-on learning experience I’ve had, and I felt like I had a lot of value to bring my team and the organization.”

Gillian Tran

Library Researcher Information Services Intern

UL Research Institutes



“This internship opened my eyes to the fact that I could combine my tech background with creative projects, which made me think of other career paths I could go down that I didn’t consider before. My experience at UL Research Institutes has been extraordinary, I feel supported in a way that I’ve never experienced before. The people around me look at me as a collaborator and a colleague, and I feel so supported in my role.”

Christina Truszkowski

Immersive Classrooms Intern

Institute for Research Experiences & Education

2026



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Learn more at UL.org/IREE