



Program Background:

The Big Ten Academic Alliance and the FIGURE Network have partnered together to create the International Research Experience Partnership (IREP). IREP allows students enrolled in a FIGURE Network CMI program to apply for short-term, non-credit bearing, unpaid research opportunities at participating Big Ten Academic Alliance universities.

The CMI degrees include a broadly defined STEM focus, including such disciplines as: Aeronautics; Agrosiences, Biotechnology and Health Sciences; Chemistry; Civil Engineering; Computer Sciences and Computer Engineering; Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Acoustics; Environment; Geosciences; Material Sciences and Material Engineering; Mathematics; Mechanics; Physics; Sport; Transportation and Mobility. The concept is also extended in Economy and Finance; Geography and Territory Planning; Information and Communication; Tourism and Heritage.

Program Details:

- ¶ Research positions should be non-credit bearing and 3-6 months in duration.
- ¶ All research opportunities are unpaid. Individual scholars are financially responsible for their travel, housing and living costs. In addition, they are not expected to pay any tuition to the host University.
- ¶ Participating universities are responsible for working with matched scholars to memorialize the terms and details of the research position as they deem appropriate.
- ¶ It is understood that no applicant is entitled to a research opportunity under this program, regardless of their individual interest.
- ¶ The scholar's home institution will confirm IREP applicants have sufficient language proficiency and is not under any academic or conduct restrictions as part of the application process.
- ¶ The Big Ten Academic Alliance will set annual timelines for application periods, provide an application process, and share information on interested universities and faculty to the FIGURE Network for dissemination to those CMI scholars eligible for the research positions.





Background Information

The FIGURE network is a not-for-profit association of French universities which has accredited more than one hundred *Cursus Master en Ingénierie* (CMI) in different domains related to product and service engineering. CMI is a selective, 5-year programme, based on innovative training including projects and internships, with strong links with research organizations. The participants are awarded a master's degree from their own French university plus a CMI label jointly delivered by the university and the network. International mobility (at least 3 months, 6 months, or a semester recommended) is compulsory in order to get the label.

Recognizing the excellent quality and breadth of related research at the Big Ten universities, as well as an overall interest in creating global opportunities for all students, FIGURE has partnered with the Big Ten Academic Alliance to create a process for students to find short-term research opportunities at affiliated universities.

For more information, please contact: Laurel Rosch laurel.rosch@btaa.org