**Muth Lab, University of Texas at Austin.**

[www.beecognition.com](http://www.beecognition.com)

If you’re an undergraduate and interested in gaining experience doing research, there are number of possible avenues for you to work in lab. Students usually begin by assisting someone else with an existing project, before proceeding on to independent research once they are ready and motivated to do so. Simply being a part of a lab environment can be educational in terms of learning about how research is done and careers in research. After students have gained some experience in lab, they have the option to work for credit, and/or do an honors thesis. After beginning their own project or helping with a component of a larger experiment, students are encouraged to present their findings in lab meetings and to prepare small grant proposals to fund their work, which they would be assisted with.

A common progression is: volunteering-> receiving research credit-> (when possible) being supported by a fellowship or work study. Undergraduates are encouraged to attend weekly lab meetings, where we discuss journal articles, give informal presentations (e.g. practice for an upcoming poster session), and troubleshoot experiments.

More information about current personnel and projects, in addition to downloadable copies of our publications (many of which students have co-authored), can be found at our lab website, [www.beecognition.com](http://www.beecognition.com)

FAQ

1. What time of year do you do your research? We conduct research year round, so often volunteering begins mid-semester or even during a break.

2. Will I get stung? We get perhaps one sting/semester. It could be you! But it is very unlikely you will have an allergic reaction; if so, we have a safety protocol in place.

3. What kinds of things would I be doing? This depends on the particular mentor (grad student, postdoc, or professor) that you are paired with. We usually have some folks who are doing a mix of greenhouse/field/lab work, and others that focus more on behavioral experiments (in lab and field). The time of year and researcher/student interest determines the amount of fieldwork.

4. How many hours per week do you require? We recommend at least 6 hrs/week to get full benefit of spending time in a research lab.

We strongly suggest you spend some time on our lab website [www.beecognition.com](http://www.beecognition.com), reading about projects and skimming over some of our recent publications (all are available to download).

1. Name, major and expected graduation date:
2. Relevant coursework and grade/s:
3. Have you spent time in any other research labs?
4. Why are you interested in joining our lab? Are there any projects or topics that you are particularly interested in?
5. How many hours/week would you be available (during normal work hours)? (*chunks of time at least 2 hrs long work best)*

FINAL STEP: Email this as an attachment to [fmuth@unr.edu](mailto:fmuth@unr.edu)