

Tips on **identifying** mentors, **translating**, **CVs**, and an **example** nomination email.

Using web of science, sci finder... google to **identify optimal research groups** in Grenoble/Leuven/Toulouse/Bordeaux. Suggested lists of Grenoble, Toulouse, Bordeaux, and Leuven mentors are here (don't just go by the two-word description...use this as a start and look further). In addition, many other groups in these locations may be possible –particularly Grenoble and Bordeaux. If none of these suggestions are a good fit, then in Web of Science do a search for the best “keyword” of the US mentor’s group... and add “Grenoble” or “Toulouse”, etc in the address field... and best to limit results to the most recent five years. Similar tactics work well with other publication databases and even google

Translating a French website to English – an easy way is to open the website in “Google chrome”.... Then right click on the text and click “translate to English”

LSAMP student CVs... put research skills, publications/presentations, academic success and make sure to list advanced classes and specific skills (example – trained on 400 MHz NMR, know ELISA techniques... know vacuum glassware techniques... etc”) FIRST. Also student tutors in math, etc. Note academic excellence and awards.... Put non-science jobs such as restaurant worker and religious stuff and non-science clubs and spirit and sororities (non honors) at end

Template Example of a great nomination. See all the specifics about student skills, the fit, and suggestions for several options – several thoughtful options helps our colleagues in Europe a lot)

“Dear Randy, David, and Doug,

I write to nominate an LSAMP student from XXXX named XXXXX for the US/France/Belgium iREU.

XXX is an exceptional scientist, the single best I have yet encountered at XXX, and he is unusually well equipped for an undergraduate to take advantage of the rich and continued tradition of electrochemistry research in France and Belgium. He is independent, a quick learner, adept at electrochemistry, and is accustomed to traveling the world and finding himself working in a new place overnight; he spent much of his childhood on boats and ships and studied in countless cities around

the US and the world.

XXX has worked on fundamental and applied electrochemistry in my laboratory for several semesters in addition to a short turnaround industry-funded summer research project this past year. His current work seeks to improve upon known ion-selective electrodes for measuring hydroxide concentration and thus pOH in water across a wide range of solution conditions. He is nearly ready to write a publication; in his first 2 weeks working on this project, he was able to synthesize a ternary mixture of metal chalcogenides, successfully press a solid state electrode, and measure pOH data with higher precision and fidelity than the data in the literature. He is fully capable with potentiostatic/galvanostatic measurements and shows a grasp of two- and three-electrode electrochemistry far beyond that of many inorganic chemistry graduate students.

The best fit for a mentor for XXX within the iREU program is Dr. Sylvie Chardon of Université Joseph Fourier at Grenoble. The opportunity for XXX to contribute to Dr. Chardon's work on the reduction of carbon dioxide to formic acid with water as a proton donor and homogeneous, molecular catalysts offers the potential for powerful and durable synergies with my research group. Our interests include the heterogeneous catalytic reduction of CO₂ to fuels and the deep characterization of water as a Brønsted acid, the latter being Parker's current work. The scope of collaborative research would lead to a sequence of high impact publications, anchored by one stemming from XXXX's initial efforts in the summer of 2016. If awarded a Collaborative Research Initiation Award, we would fund student work, supplies, and travel to Grenoble to combine the ion selective electrodes from XXXX's current project at XXXXX with the reduction of CO₂ to formic acid at UJF with unique and synergistic leverage.

XXXX's CV is attached along with a pdf version of this nomination. He has my highest recommendation with no reservations. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any follow up questions."