UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Position posting for: Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Project Title:	Defining a role of the locus coeruleus in stress-induced pain susceptibility
Faculty:	Dr. Erika Harding
Department:	UCVM

Position posting date	11/30/2026		Position start date:	05/03/2027
Application deadline	01/05/2027		Position finish date:	08/27/2027

Summary of research project and specific role of trainee:

This project is expanding on an ongoing project within the lab investigating how stress alters susceptibility to development of chronic pain conditions. Clinical and preclinical research studies indicate that chronic stress experiences increase the likelihood of developing chronic pain later in life. The locus coeruleus is an area in the brain responsible for release of the majority of noradrenaline throughout the central nervous system. Changes in function of the locus coeruleus occur after chronic stress, and may contribute to pain susceptibility.

The undergraduate trainee can expect to work closely with a graduate student on this project, led under the guidance of Dr. Harding. The trainee will learn research skills such as experimental design and establishing and verifying experimental protocols, as well as experimental techniques such as tissue histology, light and confocal microscopy, and immunofluorescence.

Is this position contingent on receipt of external funding? yes
If not, what salary would be provided (source, amount)?

*****we encourage all students to apply for external funding*****

Are any special skills required? Yes ○ No ◉
Is this position specific for a Veterinary student? Yes ○ No ◉

Interested individuals should submit a current curriculum vitae and an outline of their areas of research interest along with the names of three references to:

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