INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS (IRES)

Supported by the National Science Foundation
Organized by
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Announcement
Undergraduate and graduate students interested in optimization and its applications are invited to apply to participate in the workshop on discrete and nondifferentiable optimization to be held at Glushkov Institute of Cybernetics in Kyiv, Ukraine. This workshop will provide a unique international research experience for the U.S. students, who will spend three weeks in Ukraine working with Ukrainian researchers and students on mini-projects in the areas of discrete and nondifferentiable optimization. The participants of the program will also attend 3rd Yalta Optimization Conference (http://www.yaltaconference.info), which will take place on August 2-4, 2010 in Yalta, Ukraine.

Eligibility
Full time undergraduate and graduate students majoring in areas related to optimization (engineering, operations research, computer science, mathematics) in the U.S. universities are eligible to participate. Students from groups underrepresented in engineering are especially encouraged to apply.

Financial Support
Airfare, living expenses (housing, meals, ground transportation), and any other related expenses of all selected participants will be reimbursed by the program. In addition, a stipend will be provided.

Application and Selection Procedures
To apply please submit your CV (including contact information), current academic records (list of courses taken with grades), and a one-page statement of purpose describing your background, interests and relevance of this project to future career plans. Preference will be given to candidates whose qualifications and interests match the best with the topic and merit of the workshop. For undergraduate students, a demonstrated interest in graduate studies in a relevant area is a plus. Nominations and letters of recommendation are not required but will be taken into consideration. Please send your application to Oleg Prokopyev (droleg@pitt.edu) or Sergiy Butenko via email (butenko@tamu.edu) before May 1, 2010. The final group of six students will be selected and notified no later than May 10, 2010.

Timeline
May 1, 2010 Application deadline
May 10, 2010 Acceptance notification
July 20 – August 10, 2010 Trip to Ukraine

Kyiv, Ukraine.
Founded in the 5th century, Kyiv is the historical capital of Kievan Rus, the Slavic super-state that was in the origins of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. The modern capital of Ukraine, Kyiv is a scenic city of close to 3 million people.

Yalta, Ukraine
The city is located on the site of an ancient Greek colony in Crimea, a peninsula on the northern coast of the Black Sea. Due to its warm Mediterranean climate Yalta is a popular summer resort for Ukrainian and Russian tourists.