SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
FOR V. U. PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY STUDENTS

There are a variety of interesting and rewarding research opportunities for Valparaiso University students in physics and astronomy. Students can take advantage of undergraduate research opportunities during the academic year and especially during the summer months.

Some students participate in front-line research activities here at VU. Others carry out research at other universities and laboratories during the summer. These are highly competitive opportunities with ratios of applicants to available positions ranging from 10:1 to 25:1. Getting into these programs is a mark of distinction for the student and for Valparaiso University. Students receive a stipend (summer salary), a place to live, and a chance to work directly with research scientists.

So, what is the report for the past three summers, 2004-2006?

VU physics and astronomy students participated in summer programs at:

- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in physics education research
- University of Texas McDonald Observatory in observational astronomy
- University of Notre Dame in environmental physics
- Valparaiso University in observational astronomy
- Valparaiso University in experimental surface physics
- Valparaiso University in atmospheric physics
- Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA) in atmospheric physics
- Valparaiso University and Argonne National Laboratory in computational materials physics
- Valparaiso University and Brookhaven National Laboratory in nuclear and particle physics
- Chicago Public School System in physics education

Every summer our students participate in competitive positions such as these; they do well and are enthusiastic about their summer research activities. Most of them later give oral presentations of their research at our weekly physics and astronomy colloquium, sharing what they have learned with other students.

We think that this speaks well of the quality and preparation of our students, their determination and perseverance in competing for these positions, and their performance in summer research. They represent themselves and the Valparaiso University Physics and Astronomy Department well. These opportunities could be yours here as well. Call 1-888-GO VALPO to arrange a visit.