Each summer, a group of talented college students come to Tucson to participate in astronomical research at Kitt Peak National Observatory (KPNO) under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program. Like the parallel program at Cerro Tololo, the KPNO REU program provides an exceptional opportunity for undergraduates considering a career in science to engage in substantive research activities with scientists working in the forefront of contemporary astrophysics.

Each REU student is hired as a full-time research assistant to work with one or more NOAO staff members on specific aspects of major on-going research projects at NOAO. These undergraduates gain observational experience with KPNO telescopes and develop expertise in astronomical data reduction and analysis as part of their research activities. They also take part in a weekly lecture series and a field trip to New Mexico to visit the National Solar Observatory at Sacramento Peak and the Very Large Array in Socorro.

At the end of the summer, the students share their results with the Tucson astronomical community in oral presentations. As part of their internship experience, all six of our 2009 REU participants will present posters describing their astronomical research projects at the January 2010 American Astronomical Society meeting in Washington, DC.

We will have six REU positions during the summer of 2010. Student participants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States to meet NSF requirements. The KPNO REU positions are full-time for 10–12 weeks between June and September, with a preferred starting date of early June. The salary is $650 per week, with additional funds provided to cover travel to and from Tucson. Further information about the KPNO REU 2010 program, including the online application form, can be found at www.noao.edu/kpno/reu. Completed applications (including official transcripts and at least two letters of recommendation) must be submitted to KPNO no later than Friday, 29 January 2010.