College of Engineering
Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates Program

Request for an Engineering Student for Summer 2011 Research

Faculty Name _____Lixin Gao________________________________________________
Phone _______545-4548___________________________________________
Department _______ECE______________Email: ________lgao@ecs.umass.edu_________

Brief description of Summer Research Project (please explain the interdisciplinary nature of this project).

This summer research project focuses on collecting data from online social networks and analyzing the massive datasets using a large cluster of computers. The project aims to trace people location and travel speed of people on the move. We will collaborate with researchers in the transportation area to investigate how to discover congested area as well as popular locations people gather.

Brief description of what the student will be doing:

The student will gather location information from online social networks, and uses efficient algorithms to gather statistics about people movement and hot spots. In addition, the student will use a large cluster of computers to perform the computation using parallel data intensive computing framework.

Is this a CASA-related project? Yes ___ No X__

Preferred background of student (major(s), class, GPA, pre-requisites, etc.):

Students major in CSE, junior or senior. GPA >3.3.

Did you mentor a student last summer in the College REU Program? Yes_____ No _X__

If yes, please describe the outcomes for that student (i.e. Honor’s thesis, conference presentations, manuscripts, papers, etc. Describe accomplishments to date as well as plans for the spring semester if the work has continued):
Please return this form to:

Lorraine Robidoux,
REU Program Coordinator
129 Marston Hall

By Friday, February 15, 2011