2023 Summer internship in 3D food printing at the US Army Combat Feeding Division

Job Title: Food science or Engineering student intern

Job Description: Imagine a future where every college student has access to a 3D food printer to personally cook them meals. Foods would be prepared to address each student’s individual nutritional requirements, flavor preferences, and food allergies. For example, a student pulling an all-nighter might appreciate an extra boost of caffeine while cramming for finals. An athlete may benefit from customized nutrition to maximize her physical performance on game day.

The US Army’s Food Additive Manufacturing program is looking for a talented student who will help research the development of nutritionally tailored ration components for the military. Personalized nutrition will help to maximize cognitive and physical performance, as well as aid in a warfighter’s recovery during field training and operational missions.

Student tasks will include the following:
- Develop printable food formulations in a pilot plant.
- Design 3D food objects using CAD software.
- Operate several advanced 3D food printers in the Food Innovation Lab.
- Characterize mechanical properties of food using rheology and/or texture analysis.
- Other tasks may include:
  - Characterize pulse-based protein prints for a USDA project.
  - Simple programming (e.g., G-code, Python, etc.)
  - Help with presentations and/or contribute to research publications.

Qualifications:
- US citizen with a minimum GPA of 3.0
- Undergrad and graduate students must have completed at least one year in a degree program. All candidates must return to school in the Fall. (i.e., Recent graduates are not eligible.)
- Students will ideally major in Food Science or an Engineering discipline.
- Ability to conduct experiments, analyze data, and write reports.
- Strong interest in working on the future of food.
- Recommended but not required:
  - One semester of high school or college computer programming coursework.
  - Experience operating a 3D printer and/or working in any research lab.

Misc. Information:
- Salary depends on class standing (e.g., Undergrad ~$18 to 21/hr)
- Accommodations (Natick, MA) are not provided. Past interns have found summer sublets.
- Internship is 40 hrs./week for 12 weeks.
- Access to a car is recommended. Or the commuter rail is a 24-minute walk away.

Mentor Contact Information
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Please send your resume and unofficial transcripts by 3/31/2023 to michael.t.okamoto.civ@army.mil