Department of Computer Science
Undergraduate Research Assistantships
(URA)

What is a URA?
A URA is an opportunity for an exceptional student to assist a professor in conducting research. It may involve such activities as programming, algorithm design, literature search, generation of examples, and search for counter-examples. The amount of the assistantship is $600 per term in exchange for an average of six hours of work per week over a period of ten weeks.

What is in it for the student?
The student has the opportunity to taste research and earn some pocket money. The experience should be very useful when the student decides whether or not to pursue the graduate studies in Computer Science.

Who is eligible?
Any student who has completed year 2 in the Faculty of Mathematics with an average of at least 80% may apply. A student may hold at most one URA per term. Preference will be given to students enrolled in computer science major programs.

What does the professor have to do?
A professor can submit a three-line description of each project to the Administrative Coordinator for Undergraduate Studies (ACUS) for posting on the website. This should be done at least one week before the beginning of lectures in each term. The professor commits to supporting the student with $600.00 of his/her research funding.

What does the student have to do?
The projects available are posted on the website maintained by Cheryl Suitor: 
http://www.cs.uwaterloo.ca/current/enrichment/ura.shtml
Students should make an appointment with the professor(s) during the first two weeks of the term. The student should make a resume and recent mark report available to the professor.

The Agreement
The student and the professor will reach a joint agreement concerning the details of the project. After verbal agreement is reached, sign and return the forms provided by the ACUS (DC3102) who will arrange the payment of the stipend through Human Resources.

Questions?
Contact Caroline Kierstead at ext. 32191 (DC3102) or email: cs-uops@cs.uwaterloo.ca