**REU-CAAR:** You're Here!

Origin of this talk

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In 2010 a Univ of MD Cybersecurity REU produced a 20-page document:

Cybersecurity Scholars Handbook.

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Auguste: Why are you telling them all that? Bill: In academia its very important to credit past work!

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1. Who are the mentors?



- 1. Who are the mentors?
- 2. What are the projects?

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- 3. What is expected of you?

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- 3. What is expected of you?
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- 5. Nuts and bolts of how the program works.

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- 3. What is expected of you?
- 4. What should you expect of us?
- 5. Nuts and bolts of how the program works.
- 6. Advice on how to get the most out of this summer!



**REU:** Research Experience for Undergradutes.



## **REU-CAAR**

### **REU:** Research Experience for Undergradutes. **CAAR:** Combinatorics, Algorithms, and Al for Real Problems.

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Discuss Find a topic within CS that this title does not cover?

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**REU:** Research Experience for Undergradutes. **CAAR:** Combinatorics, Algorithms, and AI for Real Problems.

Discuss Find a topic within CS that this title does not cover?

Systems, HCI, Software Engineering, anything else?

# REU-CAAR: TEAM!

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## 1. Classical and Quantum Error Correction: Victor A and Phillip F.



- 1. Classical and Quantum Error Correction: Victor A and Phillip F.
- 2. Improved Machine Translation for Wikipedia: Marine C and Eleftheria B.

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- 5. Exploring the Hilbert Geometry: Auguste G. and Dave M.
- 6. Using Markov Dec. Processes to Mitigate Climate Risk. Aviva P.

**REU-CAAR Director:** William Gasarch.

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- Lots of Stuff: Auguste Gezalyan.
- Airport, Amtrak Pickups: Rob, Clyde, Auguste.
- Help with Final Presentations: Clyde.

REU-CAAR: Very Brief History

# **The Original Grant**

In 2013 Samir K. and Bill G. applied to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for an REU grant titled

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Crypto and Security

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- Ramsey + Something more Applied (AI, ML, SAT-Solvers)

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- Crypto and Security
- Data Science
- Ramsey + Something more Applied (AI, ML, SAT-Solvers)

- Applied Algorithmic Graph Theory (e.g., Scheduling)
- Algorithmic Game Theory

Big change. Projects in the fields above but also

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Quantum Computing



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- ► AI-fair allocation (e.g., Kidney Exchange)

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AI-NLP

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- 4. We will share some activities with these REU programs

**Program Goals** and **Expectations** 

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#### 1. Research! What is Research? Discuss!

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 Research! What is Research? Discuss! Work on problems where the answers are not already known.

2. Expose you to a variety of career paths. Discuss!

 Research! What is Research? Discuss! Work on problems where the answers are not already known.

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3. Build skills

- Research! What is Research? Discuss! Work on problems where the answers are not already known.
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3. Build skills

Team Work,

- Research! What is Research? Discuss! Work on problems where the answers are not already known.
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3. Build skills

Team Work, Communication,

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3. Build skills

Team Work, Communication, Project Management.

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3. Build skills

Team Work, Communication, Project Management.

4. Build a network with faculty and students.

- Research! What is Research? Discuss! Work on problems where the answers are not already known.
- Expose you to a variety of career paths. Discuss! Grad School, Industry, Government, Writer for the Simpsons, Hobo, Other.

3. Build skills

Team Work, Communication, Project Management.

4. **Build a network** with faculty and students. Useful for the future!

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1. Show up every weekday.

1. Show up every weekday. On time and sober.

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1. Show up every weekday. On time and sober. 10:00AM-4:00PM

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This is the Wrong Way To Look at the program



- Show up every weekday. On time and sober. 10:00AM-4:00PM
- This is the Wrong Way To Look at the program
  - I Invite you to talk about jobs you've had. I'll go first.

 Show up every weekday. On time and sober. 10:00AM-4:00PM

This is the Wrong Way To Look at the program I Invite you to talk about jobs you've had. I'll go first. Upshot

- Show up every weekday. On time and sober. 10:00AM-4:00PM
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  - I Invite you to talk about jobs you've had. I'll go first.

#### Upshot

1. This program should not be seen as a **job** where you put in your 8 hours a day and then you're free to to what you **want**.

- Show up every weekday. On time and sober. 10:00AM-4:00PM
- This is the Wrong Way To Look at the program

I Invite you to talk about jobs you've had. I'll go first.

#### Upshot

 This program should not be seen as a job where you put in your 8 hours a day and then you're free to to what you want.

2. You are here **because you care** about **Quantum** or **AI** or **Bias** or **Geometry** or **Mitigating Climate Change**.

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#### Upshot

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- 2. You are here **because you care** about **Quantum** or **AI** or **Bias** or **Geometry** or **Mitigating Climate Change**.
- 3. So you should **want** to keep working on your projects, perhaps on a lower level, after you go back to the dorms.

- Show up every weekday. On time and sober. 10:00AM-4:00PM
- This is the Wrong Way To Look at the program

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#### Upshot

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- 2. You are here **because you care** about **Quantum** or **AI** or **Bias** or **Geometry** or **Mitigating Climate Change**.
- 3. So you should **want** to keep working on your projects, perhaps on a lower level, after you go back to the dorms.
- 4. Talk to each other in the dorms about your projects!

#### What the Program Expects of You: Restart

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1. Show up every weekday.

#### What the Program Expects of You: Restart

1. Show up every weekday. On time AND sober.

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First letters spell **SPACE AGE**.

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First letters spell SPACE AGE. Better for an astronomy REU.

1. Role modeling: Their experiences offer clues for your own professional success story.

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- 1. **Role modeling:** Their experiences offer clues for your own professional success story.
- 2. **Communication:** Explain the project, answer questions, listen to your concerns and ideas, etc.

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- 3. **Background:** Explain **why** the research is important! How it fits into other things!

- 1. **Role modeling:** Their experiences offer clues for your own professional success story.
- 2. **Communication:** Explain the project, answer questions, listen to your concerns and ideas, etc.
- 3. **Background:** Explain **why** the research is important! How it fits into other things!
- 4. **Connection:** Help connect you to their colleagues, graduate assistants, others.

1. Communication:



1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm.

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1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.

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2. Assertiveness:

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
- 2. Assertiveness: Think for yourself and support your own ideas.

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3. Maturity:

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3. Maturity: Be reliable for what your mentor asks you do do.

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- 4. Enthusiasm: Be interested in the project, field, and topic.

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- 4. Enthusiasm: Be interested in the project, field, and topic.
- 5. Responsible:

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
- 2. Assertiveness: Think for yourself and support your own ideas.

- 3. Maturity: Be reliable for what your mentor asks you do do.
- 4. Enthusiasm: Be interested in the project, field, and topic.
- 5. **R**esponsible: Tell your team changes that affect your participation.

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
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- 3. Maturity: Be reliable for what your mentor asks you do do.
- 4. Enthusiasm: Be interested in the project, field, and topic.
- Responsible: Tell your team changes that affect your participation.
- 6. Adaptability:

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
- 2. Assertiveness: Think for yourself and support your own ideas.

- 3. Maturity: Be reliable for what your mentor asks you do do.
- 4. Enthusiasm: Be interested in the project, field, and topic.
- Responsible: Tell your team changes that affect your participation.
- 6. Adaptability: Be flexible and open minded.

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
- 2. Assertiveness: Think for yourself and support your own ideas.

- 3. Maturity: Be reliable for what your mentor asks you do do.
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- 6. Adaptability: Be flexible and open minded.

First letters spell out CAMERA.

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
- 2. Assertiveness: Think for yourself and support your own ideas.

- 3. Maturity: Be reliable for what your mentor asks you do do.
- 4. Enthusiasm: Be interested in the project, field, and topic.
- Responsible: Tell your team changes that affect your participation.
- 6. Adaptability: Be flexible and open minded.

First letters spell out **CAMERA**. Better for a Vision REU.

- 1. Communication: Be clear in verbal & written comm. Seek clarification, ask questions, provide suggestions.
- 2. Assertiveness: Think for yourself and support your own ideas.
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First letters spell out **CAMERA**. Better for a Vision REU. **Credit Auguste** thought of making the first letters spell words.

Issues that Probably Won't Arise But Need to be Discussed

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### **Sexual Harassment and Discrimination**

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# Sexual Harassment and Discrimination

 If you feel uncomfortable, seek advice and guidance from others. Bill, Auguste, or Furong. (One of the REU-CAAR mentors) can offer assistance and direct you to campus resources for help. Note that in the United State there is Mandatory Reporting: if a mentor or director hears about a case of sexual harassment, they must report it.

# Sexual Harassment and Discrimination

- If you feel uncomfortable, seek advice and guidance from others. Bill, Auguste, or Furong. (One of the REU-CAAR mentors) can offer assistance and direct you to campus resources for help. Note that in the United State there is Mandatory Reporting: if a mentor or director hears about a case of sexual harassment, they must report it.
- 2. While this slide is about Sexual Harassment and Discrimination, feel free to talk to **Bill**., **Auguste** or **Furong** about **any** issue, even if it is uncomfortable.

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### Good News That You Know:

1. You get a stipend.



### Good News That You Know:

- 1. You get a stipend.
- 2. You get free room and some meal money.

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### If you do not do your part

### Good News That You Know:

- 1. You get a stipend.
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### If you do not do your part

you could be asked to leave, which will mean you get less of your stipend. This is RARE! (once in 2014 and once in 2016).

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What is 'your part':

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What is 'your part': SPACE AGE and CAMERA

Better to get a problem resolved EARLY, whatever they are.

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Better to get a problem resolved EARLY, whatever they are.

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Key to a good relationship:

Better to get a problem resolved EARLY, whatever they are.

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In any problem or dispute that arises the important thing is

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In any problem or dispute that arises the important thing is

not fixing it and making things work out

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Key to a good relationship:

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its finding whose to **Blame** :-)

# **Schedule and Activities**

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You should all know about each others projects:

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You should all know about each others projects:

For all projects p



You should all know about each others projects:

For all projects p

there exists a mentor m for project p and a day d such that

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You should all know about each others projects:

For all projects p

there exists a mentor m for project p and a day d such that

mentor m gives a talk on project p on day d.

You should all know about each others projects:

For all projects p

there exists a mentor m for project p and a day d such that mentor m gives a talk on project p on day d.

In symbols

 $(\forall p)(\exists m, d)[MENTOR(p, m) \land TALK(p, m, d)].$ 

1. Monday 12:00-1:00 lunch in IRB.



- 1. Monday 12:00-1:00 lunch in IRB.
- 2. This lunch you will play telepictionary!

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- 1. Monday 12:00-1:00 lunch in IRB.
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- 3. Tu,We,Th,Fr- Lunch in the union or IRB from your meal card.

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4. Bill will join you for lunch some of the first week.

## **First Week**

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1. **Red** Tape stuff (hopefully ends Tues).



## **First Week**

- 1. **Red** Tape stuff (hopefully ends Tues).
- 2. Every day of the first week, at 4:00, a talk by a mentor on their project.

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## **First Week**

- 1. **Red** Tape stuff (hopefully ends Tues).
- 2. Every day of the first week, at 4:00, a talk by a mentor on their project.

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3. Research-Every day.

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- 9. Some of these items may change (e.g., lunches, talks may be a diff day).

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Upshot: Visit President Biden and other DC sights in June.

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**Upshot**: Visit **President Biden** and other DC sights in June.

**Upshot**: There are websites that have metro information- check them before any excursion.

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(Is that a paradox? A project for Summer 2024 REU.)

# Summary of Projects and People

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**1. Classical and Quantum Error Correction** 

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2. Elevator Pitch

#### 1. Classical and Quantum Error Correction

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Alice wants to send Bob a string  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ . But the channel is noisy! There are ways to send x such that errors will be detected and corrected (if there aren't to many of them.) One way is to send xxx. There are better ways CLASSICALLY.

## Victor and Phillipe Quantum Project

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3. Students Michael, Cella, Milan

1. Improving Machine Translation for Wikipedia

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This project will use translations of Wikipedia pages to understand and evaluate different Machine Translation Services. The goal is to see when they do badly and find ways to make them better.

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3. Students Linh, Grace, Angela

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1. Parallel Algorithms for High-Dim Clustering

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- Elevator Pitch Clustering is taking a set of data and grouping it in meaningful subset. EXAMPLE: take the set of students at UMCP and group them by major and by GPA and by GPA-in-the-major. For a very large dataset this is slow. What to do?

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3. Students Papa, Mohammad, Andrew

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1. Fair Division Making



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#### 1. Fair Division Making

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At one point it was hoped that automating decisions would **decrease** human bias. But instead there are times when it **inherits** human bias.

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3. Students Selena, Amy, David

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1. Exploring Hilbert Geometry



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Computational Geometry asks questions like **Given a set of lines find all of the points of intersection**. It is assumed they mean lines in the plane or perhaps  $R^n$ . What if you are in another space? A curved space? What can you do?

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3. Students Zofia, Sally, Daniel, Carlos.

# 1. Using Markov Decision Processes to Mitigate Climate Risk

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3. Students Nick, Jasmine

# Funding

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6. 3 unpaid local students Great!.

- 1. National Science Foundation (NSF). Great!.
- 2. Google/An Zhu (An Zhu was an undergrad at UMCP who worked in Theory). Great!.
- 3. Ocular/Brendan Iribe (A Virtual Reality Company). Great!.
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Bill Gasarch's Mother is Pearl (Nee Winkler) Gasarch

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Pearl Gasarch's Brother is Irwin Winkler

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Pearl Gasarch's Brother is Irwin Winkler

Irwin Winkler is a producer in Hollywood.

Bill Gasarch's Mother is Pearl (Nee Winkler) Gasarch

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Irwin Winkler is a producer in Hollywood.

- 1. Produced over 50 movies
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Why am I telling you this?

## **The Winkler Foundation**

# **Irwin Winkler** has established a charitable foundation that gives money to

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## **The Winkler Foundation**

**Irwin Winkler** has established a charitable foundation that gives money to (a) many worth causes and (b) our REU!

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Adam Winkler is Irwin's son who administers the foundation.

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It is deeply shocking that We the Corporations is not boring.

Also, the last book was a nominee for the National Book Award.

## Where Does the Winkler Money Go?

Things the NSF won't pay for:



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Money for housing for non-citizens.

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Things the NSF won't pay for:

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- The REU Lunches.
- Misc.

## Does Where You Got Your Funding Matter? NO

- 1. Some of you are NSF funded.
- 2. Some of you are KAUST funded.
- 3. Some of you are Iribe funded.
- 4. Some of you are Google/Zhu funded.
- 5. Some of you are funded by your own school/Winkler/UMCP.

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#### All REU students are created equal.

None of this will matter except:

1. Google/Zhu & Iribe students will write letters of thanks.

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- 2. KAUST may ask their students to fill out forms.
- 3. Unpaid students: no emails about travel or forms.
- 4. Non-citizens can't get ID cards.

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Joe Biden's Senior Thesis was not on Exploring the Hilbert Geometry.

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It was on



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#### **Classical and Quantum Error Correction.**

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**Questions from You?** 

#### I welcome questions now and anytime!

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