RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADUATES (REU) in Ethiopia
Explore the Church Forests of South Gondar ♦ Summer 2015

In summer 2015, a new REU Site at Colby College in Waterville, Maine will offer eight undergraduates the opportunity to conduct path-breaking interdisciplinary research on the ecological, economic and cultural roles of church forests in South Gondar, Ethiopia. During the 8-week program (approx. June 29-August 19), students will receive training at Colby College in social survey research, ecological methods, spatial analysis using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and written and oral communication. They will then travel to South Gondar, Ethiopia to conduct fieldwork with mentors from Colby College, the California Academy of Sciences, and local academic and government partners.

The National Science Foundation will provide each student researcher with a stipend of $4,000, as well as all housing costs and round-trip travel expenses.

To apply, visit our website at www.colby.edu/reu-in-ethiopia and complete the online application form. Completed applications including two letters of recommendation are due by January 30th, 2015.

Our REU Site program integrates social, ecological and geospatial methods allowing students to conduct independent research in the areas of:

- Interviews/surveys exploring church forest values and forest threats
- GIS analyses of forest extent and species composition over time
- Exclusion experiments studying grazers’ impacts on forest regeneration
- Ecological surveys of church forest pollinators and insect biodiversity
- Estimation of church forest impacts on water flows and water quality
- Restoration experiments studying opportunities for church forest regrowth

Applications open December 1st, 2014
Apply online at www.colby.edu/reu-in-ethiopia

The REU Site Program is supported by the National Science Foundation