



## Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Winter-Spring/Summer 2016 Award Applications due November 20, 2015

The Office of the Provost offers semiannual awards for Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects. These awards offer financial support to enable students to participate in a mentored undergraduate research or creative project learning experience. Undergraduate students from any major or discipline are eligible to apply for a research or creative project award.

### **What are Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects?**

Research is how the academic community communicates with the world. Taking multiple forms, research includes scholarly and creative activities that can lead to new knowledge, improve our ability to solve problems, result in new theory, or in the creation of new art or an artistic performance.

Research occurs across the academic disciplines. Historians scrutinize archives, anthropologists conduct studies in the field, biologists work in laboratories, artists paint in studios, and filmmakers shoot, view, and assemble footage into films. No matter your course of study, researchers are working to expand the frontiers of knowledge and discover something new. Research is at the heart of great universities, and the knowledge research creates is part of the service to society universities provide. Research can result in extraordinary outcomes: a new, more effective medical treatment, new knowledge about our past, a musical composition, or a better understanding of some natural phenomenon.

Undergraduate Research is a unique opportunity for students to work with faculty. Some students will work on part of a faculty member's current research project. Other students may develop an independent project of their own that is guided by a faculty member. Either way, students have opportunities in a variety of disciplines to engage in original hands-on research and creative projects.

### **What are the benefits of doing Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects?**

- Research provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to move past learning from textbooks to go "backstage" to see where and how knowledge is produced.
- Learning more about your intended major/minor or exploring a field you never thought of before.
- Connecting with other undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and researchers who share similar academic and career interests.
- Applying what you learn in the classroom to actual research...learn by doing.
- Studies indicate that undergraduate researchers:
  - Develop enhanced analytical skills, improve their oral and written communication abilities (Lopatto, 2007)
  - Experience an increase in self-confidence (Russell, Hancock & McCollough, 2007)
  - Can help clarify a career focus (Seymour, Hunter, Laursen & Deantoni, 2003)
  - Would recommend the experience to a friend (Mabrouk & Peters, 2000).

### **How do I find a Faculty Mentor?**

- Talk to faculty with whom you have taken a class.
- Attend lectures on campus to familiarize yourself with other faculty members outside your courses.
- Consider your interests and identify all relevant Wayne State University departments, and read their faculty biographies. Don't limit yourself to the department of your major.
- You may also search <http://www.experts.scival.com/wayneresearchconnect/default.asp> or [UROPConnect](#)



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### **Award Information:**

- Total Award Amount up to \$3,050
- Student award of up to \$2,300 is applied directly to their Wayne State student account.
- Faculty Award of \$750 is deposited into a departmental general fund account. Department general account rules will govern how funds may be accessed, transferred, and used to cover research expenses and needs.

### **Award Requirements and Eligibility:**

- **All applications must be submitted by 4pm on Friday November 20, 2015 to the Provost's Office, 4092 Faculty Administration Building (FAB) attention Matthew Orr.**
- All applicants must be undergraduate students enrolled at least half time and in good academic standing.
- Students may not graduate prior to August 2016.
- Students may apply for only one project per award offering, and are limited to two Undergraduate Research and Creative Project Awards during their academic career.
- The final report for a previous award needs to be completed before being considered for a new award.
- The proposal must be written by the student.
- Research begins in the Winter 2016 semester and is to be completed during the Spring/Summer 2016 semester.
- Faculty Mentors are required to submit an initial student evaluation, a progress report by April 22, 2016, and a final student evaluation.
- Students are required to submit a final report of publishable quality by August 26, 2016.
- Students receiving an award are required to present at the annual WSU Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Conference which will be held in November 2016.

### **Note for Research Involving Human or Animal Subjects:**

- Research involving human or animal subjects may require additional clearance from Wayne State University's Institutional Review Board (IRB). Please discuss the IRB approval process with your faculty mentor and visit [www.irb.wayne.edu](http://www.irb.wayne.edu) for further information.

### **Note to Financial Aid Recipients:**

- The Undergraduate Research Award (URA) of up to \$2,300 is considered a source of student financial aid. As a financial aid award, the URA is considered part of the student's financial aid packages for the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 aid years. As such, the award will be applied to the student's account for the terms. If the student owes a balance the URA fund will be applied and any remaining funds will be given to the student in the form of a refund. In the event that an award is applied to the student's aid package AFTER Title IV aid has been disbursed to the student's account, eligibility for need based federal aid will be recalculated. In some circumstances OSFA will be required to reduce other awards, often loans, to make room for the award in the student's overall aid package.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, accept the above eligibility restrictions and award requirements and give permission for a hold to be placed on my student records and registration until I satisfactorily fulfill all requirements of the Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Award. I also understand all funds awarded are considered part of my financial aid package.

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects APPLICATION COVER SHEET

**Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Access ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Department in which you propose to conduct Research: \_\_\_\_\_

Research Category (circle one)

Arts & Humanities    Behavioral & Social Sciences    Life Sciences    Physical Sciences    Engineering

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By initialing in this box, I certify that I have not and will not be financially supported for this proposed project from McNair Scholars Program, College Research funding, external funding, or any other source. I also certify that I am not receiving directed study credit for this project.

**Title of Proposed Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a group project (yes or no)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ College: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Department Fund Manager Info (may be an AA, a business manager, or whomever “handles” the money):**

Fund Manager’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fund Index for Faculty Award Deposit (index should start with a 1 or 2 but **NOT BE AN ICR ACCOUNT**):

\_\_\_\_\_



# Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS AND APPROVAL SHEET

**Narrative Sections:** Visit [http://uop.wayne.edu/updated\\_rubric\\_for\\_evaluation\\_of\\_proposals\\_9-9-2013.pdf](http://uop.wayne.edu/updated_rubric_for_evaluation_of_proposals_9-9-2013.pdf) to view the rubric which will be used to evaluate the proposals. The proposal must be written by the student, reviewed and endorsed by the faculty mentor, and include proper citation for any sources referenced. In addition, the proposal must be 2-4 pages in length and contain the following headings:

### Research Projects

- Research Problem (What central question, issue, or need does this project address?)
- Project Description (Describe project hypothesis and **research methods** in sufficient detail that the reviewer can evaluate the project’s feasibility and academic validity. Describe how the research results will be presented: report, paper, exhibition, etc.)

### Creative Projects

- Project Goal (What new outcome will this project generate?)
- Project Description (Describe how this project will be developed and evaluated. Describe how the material developed will be presented: report, paper, performance, exhibition, etc.)

### All Projects

- Student’s responsibilities
- Faculty Sponsor’s responsibilities
- Duration of Project (Include projected date of completion)
- Budget (Should include details of how the award money will be used and should total \$2,300. All supplies which will be purchased by the student should be included. A salary to the student is an acceptable budget item. Do not include supplies provided by the faculty mentor or equipment which will remain in a lab after your project is completed.)

I verify that I meet the Wayne State University Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects eligibility requirements and that I have written the attached proposal. If funded, I agree to submit a final report on the project by August 26, 2016.

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

I have reviewed the student’s application cover sheet and proposal and attest that it was written by the student. I have also completed the Faculty Sponsor Recommendation Form, and agree, if funded, to sponsor this project and provide a student assessment at the beginning and end of the project as well as a progress report by April 22, 2016.

**Faculty Mentor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**Department Chair of Faculty Mentor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Please submit the original application and proposal to the Office of the Provost front desk, room 4092 Faculty/Administration Building. Address applications to UROP, attention Matthew Orr. All applications must be received by 4 p.m. November 20, 2015. Funding decisions will be posted at <http://uop.wayne.edu> by January 14, 2016. Please contact [uop@wayne.edu](mailto:uop@wayne.edu) with any questions.



**UROP**  
Undergraduate Research  
Opportunities Program

## Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects **RECOMMENDATION OF FACULTY MENTOR**

To be completed **by the faculty mentor** and submitted to UROP via email [urop@wayne.edu](mailto:urop@wayne.edu) or in a signed and sealed envelope as part of the proposal and application package.

Faculty Mentor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Wayne State University ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please comment on:**

- The student's ability to carry out the proposed project. Please include any past or present experience supervising this student as a research assistant, in a course, or in a directed study project.
- The relationship between the student's project and your own research, scholarly, or creative activities. Describe your role and activities in planning and carrying out the student's project. Please include a statement about what your interactions with the student will be over the course of the project.
- Explain how you and the student will each benefit from the project both short term and long term.