WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects
Winter 2013 Award
Applications due November 26, 2012

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.
- Appling 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, all of whom may have participating faculty mentors. Don't limit yourself to the department of your major.
- Read faculty biographies on departmental websites.

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Award Information:
- Total Award Amount = $3,050
- Student award of $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 Monday November 26, 2012 to the Provost's Office, 4092 Faculty Administration Building (FAB) attention Matthew Orr.**
- All applicants must be current undergraduate students in good academic standing.
- Students may not graduate prior to December 2013.
- 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 2013 semester and is to be completed during the Spring/Summer 2013 semester.
- Faculty Mentors are required to submit a progress report describing the student's work by April 19, 2013.
- Students are required to submit a five page final report, signed by their faculty mentor, by August 23, 2013.
- Students receiving an award are required to apply to present at the annual WSU Undergraduate Research Conference.

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 for further information.

Note to Financial Aid Recipients:
- The Undergraduate Research Award (URA) of $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 package for the 2012-2013 aid year. As such, the award will be applied to the student's account for the term. 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: _____

M. Orr 11/01/12

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects
APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Student Information

Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

Address: _____

_____

College: _____ Major: _____

Department in which you propose to conduct Research: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Freshman / Sophomore / Junior / Senior (circle one)   Total Credit Hours Earned: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ 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.

Title of Proposed Project: _____

_____

Faculty Information:

Name: _____ Rank: _____

Department: _____ College: _____

Campus Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Department Business Manager Information (required for funding):

Business Managers Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

General Fund Index for Faculty Award Deposit: _____

M. Orr 11/01/12

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Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects
PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS AND APPROVAL SHEET

Narrative Sections: 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 two to four 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 Justification (List all **student** expense items, estimate costs and provide brief justification of their importance to your project: duplicating, travel, phone, postage, computer supplies, lab supplies, or other)

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 23, 2013.

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 progress report by April 19, 2013.

Faculty Mentor: _____
                           Signature   Date

Department Chair of Faculty Mentor: _____
                                    Signature   Date

Please submit the original and three (3) copies of the application to the Office of the Provost front desk, **room 4092 Faculty/Administration Building**. **Address applications to Undergraduate Research, attention Matthew Orr., All applications must be received by 5 p.m. November 26, 2012**. **Funding decisions will be posted at http://undergradresearch.wayne.edu by January 4, 2013.**

Please contact undergradresearch@wayne.edu for further information

M. Orr 11/01/12

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects
RECOMMENDATION OF FACULTY MENTOR

To be completed **by the faculty mentor** and attached to your Undergraduate Research Proposal

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.