

The Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (CURAS) Faculty Research Fund Creighton University

The CURAS Faculty Research Fund is being established by Dr. Edward O'Connor, Provost, to support and enhance the research and scholarly work of fulltime faculty with undergraduate research students at Creighton University.

There are three types of opportunities for research/scholarly proposals with undergraduates that will be considered for support:

- 1) **New Investigators** – faculty who have NOT previously involved undergraduates in their scholarly work are invited to apply for these special grants with the intent to build on this initial project with undergraduates in order to sustain an active undergraduate research presence in their work

- 2) ****Committed Investigators** – faculty who have sustained undergraduate students in their research for at least three consecutive years and have a proven track record of commitment to the development of undergraduate scholars

- 3) **Investigator supply grant** - faculty who have involved undergraduates in their research and are in need of a small amount of funding to support an undergraduate research project

**** To be considered for the **Committed Investigator** awards faculty will need to document their involvement of undergraduates in their research group. This documentation should appear in the faculty member's biosketch (see below).**

Eligibility: Full-Time Faculty holding a tenured or tenure-track position as a Teaching-Research faculty member. Faculty holding non-tenure track positions such as Resident, Research, Adjunct, Special, Visiting, Affiliate or Contributed-Service Faculty are not eligible.

Amount of award:

New investigator (up to \$2,000)

Committed investigator (up to \$5,000)

Investigator supply grant (up to \$1,000)

The number of awards given will depend on the quality of the application pool and the availability of funds.

Application Review Process:

A faculty grant review committee will be established in consultation with the CURAS Advisory Board. The committee will be chaired by the CURAS Director. Applications will be evaluated based on scholarly merit, and on the training and mentoring plan for undergraduate research scholars. Those applying for the **Committed Investigator** awards should have a well-developed training and mentoring plan for undergraduates and should document the effectiveness of their plan.

Provisions for funding:

Grant support will be considered for a broad range of requests: e.g., resources (equipment, supplies, travel, research assistant stipends) to extend and expand research. Any use of funds requiring course release to free teaching time must have written approval of the department chair and the School or College dean. If the proposal is for equipment acquisition only, there will be a requirement of matching funds from the Dean of the School and/or department making the request. Funding of proposals will be based on a competitive peer review process.

Proposal guidelines:

Proposals should not be more than 6 pages (excluding bibliography and appendices) and should include the following:

- Proposal **Abstract** or Executive summary (Not more than 150 words)
- **Rationale** for the project proposal that includes an explanation of the significant impact this funding will have on scholarly work and on the development of undergraduate research scholars
- **Description** of project aims/goals
- **Training and mentoring plan** for undergraduate research students
- **Evaluation plan** that demonstrates achievement of project outcomes (Anticipated outcomes and benchmarks)

Proposals should include the following appendices:

- 1) cover sheet
- 2) budget and budget justification (no specific form page is required)
- 3) biosketch - this is an abbreviated CV (no more than 3 pages) that provides evidence of qualifications and previous work/experience demonstrating ability to do the project. Those applying for **Committed Investigator** awards must prove their sustained commitment and development of undergraduate scholars.

Final Project Report Requirements

All grantees will be required to submit a brief final project report form that demonstrates impact of the project and evidence of outcomes such as faculty/student presentations, faculty/student posters, faculty/student publications, or grants proposals. In addition, grantees (faculty and undergraduate students) are required to publicly share results of the funded projects at University Research Day in 2015. Faculty grantees are highly encouraged to participate at the Fall 2014 University Research Fair with their departments.