Student Opportunities for Academic Research (SOAR)
NCUR Travel Grant

Overview

Each year the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) sponsors the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). The conference is attended by thousands of students from the arts, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and it offers attendees a chance to share their scholarly work with their peers. This year NCUR will be held April 3-5, 2014 in Lexington, Kentucky (see http://www.cur.org/ncur_2014/ for more information).

The SOAR program will fund approximately 10 students to attend the conference. Applicants need not have participated in the SOAR program to apply – any academic research is eligible. The SOAR program will cover the cost of registration, travel, lodging, and food for students selected to attend. In addition, SOAR will make all arrangements for this travel. To facilitate planning, SOAR holds an on-campus application process prior to the NCUR submissions.

Please note that acceptance by the SOAR committee does not guarantee acceptance by NCUR.

Eligibility

At the time of the conference, a student must have full-time status at the college, be of at least sophomore standing, and have completed at least one full-time semester at Moravian College.

The work to be submitted to NCUR must have been completed while the student was enrolled at Moravian College.

The faculty sponsor must be a current full-time faculty member with at least one year of teaching experience at the college, an Emeritus faculty member of the college, or a current adjunct faculty member who has taught at the college for at least two full years.

Important Dates

- Applications are due by November 15, 2013.
- Applicants receive notification of the status of their application by November 22, 2013
- Successful applicants submit an abstract to NCUR by December 6, 2013.
- Applicants receive notification of the status of their abstract submission by January 14, 2014.
- The deadline for early conference registration is February 14, 2014.

Application Format

1. Application length is limited to two single-spaced pages.

2. In the heading of the application include:
   - The title of the project.
• The names and graduation year of all students on the project.
• The name, rank, and department of the faculty mentor sponsoring the project.

3. Begin with an abstract for the project, limited to 450 words. If accepted for funding, this abstract will be submitted to NCUR. The audience for the abstract is NCUR.

4. Provide a succinct and non-technical description of the project and a list of the outcomes or results. The audience for the application is the SOAR committee, made up of interdisciplinary faculty.

5. Describe the previous opportunities each student on the project had to present this or other scholarly research.

The committee acknowledges that honors projects and others scholarly endeavors that begin in the fall semester will have limited results by the due date of this application. In these cases the application should describe the anticipated results for the project.

Because of the small number of grants available, cost sharing is encouraged on applications with multiple students.

**Application Evaluation Criteria**

The goal of the SOAR committee is to have a diverse collection of high-quality submissions to the NCUR conference.

The following guidelines will be used to evaluate applications:

• Applications will be ranked by the significance of accomplishments for each student on the project.

• Students who have never presented at an academic conference will be given preference over students who have presentation experience.

• All else being equal, seniors will be given preference over students who have the opportunity to present in subsequent years.