The Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR) is an undergraduate research conference that takes place each November at a college or university in the Southern California area. It is an excellent opportunity for young student researchers and academics to gain their first experiences in presenting at a conference - an integral part of almost all research careers. Furthermore, SCCUR is often a stepping stone to presenting at NCUR or at professional conferences. Presenting at SCCUR is also a great way to meet with student researchers from the whole Southern California region and learn what one’s peers are studying.

Occidental traditionally has one of the largest contingents of student-presenters at this day-long conference which will take place on November 22 at Cal State Fullerton. The abstract submission and early bird registration began on August 25 and will end on November 7. If you have not already done so, we encourage student researchers to apply as soon as possible. The Undergraduate Research Center will help you at every step. Do not hesitate to come by and ask questions! The URC will cover the conference fee for all students and faculty who register during the early bird registration period and use the registration code OXY2014; more reason to register as soon as possible! Abstracts must be submitted by October 6. To find out more about SCCUR, what institutions are participating, and deadlines, visit the URC website or the SCCUR website. Click here to visit our website:

http://www.oxy.edu/undergraduate-research-center

Oxy students and faculty at SCCUR 2013
What makes Occidental College an exceptionally unique liberal arts college is the vast swath of research opportunities available for students of all disciplines. One of the best opportunities is the Summer Research Program. Students are paid a stipend and a housing subsidy to conduct research on campus with Occidental faculty for 10 weeks during the summer.

Furthermore, student researchers participate in activities to develop themselves as future researchers or just for fun! This year, a wide variety of students from Biochemistry majors to UEP majors participated in the Summer Research Program. By participating in this program, they not only developed leadership skills and joined an intellectual community, but also furthered their career prospects and enriched themselves academically.

At the end of the program, students presented their research to faculty and to one another, allowing them to learn from their peers and exhibit their work to fellow researchers.

Although summer just ended, it is not too early to begin thinking about participating in the Summer Research Program for this coming summer. To produce a competitive research proposal, it is highly suggested to begin considering potential summer research ideas now! If you are interested in applying to the Summer Research Program and want to find out more about it, attend the first informational session on October 23 at 4:30 P.M. in the Brown Lab at the Academic Commons. The application deadline is February 12, 2015. You can find out more information by visiting the URC website or stopping by our location in the Academic Commons next to the Cumberland Reading Room in the old wing, Room 253A. Click here to learn more about SRP.
Students interested in conducting independent research abroad can turn to the Richter-ASP Program for help financing their travels. The Paul K. and Evalyn E. Cook Richter Trusts have historically provided funds to support projects and travel that involve independent intercultural or international emphasis.

The Richter-ASP projects will be smaller in scope than the traditional Richter Research Abroad awards offered through the International Programs Office, but might provide funding for short term travel to interview a particular population, observe natural or cultural events, or consult a specialized archive.

The photograph above was taken by Richter-ASP awardee Eleni Duret during her project that took her to Arcahaie, Haiti. To be like Eleni and travel abroad to pursue a project, simply apply to the Richter-ASP by October 27 at 4:00 PM. Students apply for project support by submitting an application to the Undergraduate Research Center, located in the Academic Commons. Participants are expected to share the results of their project with the community at large in a public presentation. Click here to find out more about Richter-ASP or visit us at the URC.

The Science Scholars Program is one of the most competitive programs offered by the URC. However, with an award sum of $15,000 in support over the course of junior and senior year, the effort is worth it to apply. Furthermore, Science Scholars often continue to extremely successful careers. Past winner Kristi Geiger is currently on a Fulbright Research Scholarship in Switzerland. Anne Fendick and Anasheh Sookezian are both attending prestigious graduate programs. Current Science Scholar Anton Molina has already received a Goldwater Scholarship!

The first step to beginning a successful career like they did is to apply to the Science Scholar Program by November 17 by 4:00 PM. The Science Scholar Program is open to students majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Cognitive Science, Environmental Science, Geology, Kinesiology, Neuroscience, Physics and Psychology. Click here to find out more.
September
29
NCUR 2015 Abstract Submissions Begin

October
6
SCCUR 2014 Abstract Deadline
9 4:00 pm
Second Semester Fall ASP Deadline
23 4:30 pm
SRP Information Session
27 4:00 pm
Richter-ASP Deadline

November
7
SCCUR 2014 Early Bird Registration Closes
17 4:00 pm
Science Scholars Application Deadline
22
SCCUR 2014 @ Cal State University, Fullerton

December
2 11:59 pm ET
NCUR 2015 Deadline for Applications and Abstracts

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