Interested in STEM?

Apply to our Science Scholars Program!

This program provides $15,000 in support throughout a recipient’s Junior and Senior years. Eligible applicants include those interested in Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Cognitive Science, Geology, Kinesiology, Physics, and Neuroscience. The Science Scholar program is supported by an endowment from the Fletcher Jones Foundation and a grant from the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation.

Science Scholars are expected to participate in part-time research activity (10 hours per week) during the Spring 2019 semester, participate in full-time research activity during Summer 2019, as well as participate in part-time research throughout their 2019/2020 academic year. Students planning to study abroad during the grant period are not eligible. Scholars will receive a study grant of $2000 a semester (Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020) and a Summer 2019 study grant of $6000, as well as a budget for research expenses and professional travel.

The deadline to apply is November 14th, 2018 by 4:00 pm.
Academic Student Projects (ASP):

These funds may be used for consumables for an independent study project, comps research, or travel to local field research sites or research subjects.

Supplies for art, video and performance projects, oral history, and education outreach in the local community may also be funded. Projects must be primarily academic in nature, although not-for-credit activities can sometimes receive support. Funds will be awarded to students on a competitive basis.

Grants are limited to a max of $300 per project. The ASP grant is not intended to be the sole support for any project.

Deadline for Fall Semester:
September 19th, 2018
October 15, 2018

Deadline for Spring Semester:
Early decision: December 3, 2018
Regular decision (if funds remain): January 28, 2018

Academic Student Projects (ASP) Conference Travel:

A limited amount of funding is available for students to attend conferences for presentation of results of their academic projects. Modest conference fees and travel expenses are available upon application to the URC for students who are presenting the results of their research work. We are sorry, we cannot offer support to students who wish to attend but not present at a conference.

Funds are available to present at the annual Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCURR), National Collegiate Research Conference (NCRC) and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR).

The work to be presented must have been completed while the student was an Occidental student (including summer programs at Occidental and other institutions). ASP Conference Travel grants are typically limited to $350 per project.

Deadline: The application for support must be submitted at least four weeks before the conference, and documentation of the student’s acceptance as a presenter must be included.

ASP Research Travel

The URC provides funds to support projects and/or travel involving independent research or study with a significant intercultural or international emphasis through the ASP Research Travel program. The funds support projects that are smaller in scope than traditional study abroad or off-campus learning opportunities (such as a semester abroad, Oxy at the UN, or the Sumer Richter Research Abroad awards).

These awards might provide funding for short-term travel to interview a particular population, observe natural or cultural events, or consult a specialized archive. ASP Research Travel funds cannot be used to support an internship or to pay tuition at another institution. Other restrictions may apply.

Deadlines:
For travel over Winter or Spring Break: October 24, 2018
For travel over Summer Break: April 3, 2019

Ian Van Dusen ‘20, Geology Major, researching in Iceland with Professor Larsen
The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)

The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) will take place April 11-13, 2019 at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia.

Important things to note:

When creating an account for abstract submission and registration, do not forget to list the URC email (urc@oxy.edu) under “Additional Sponsor Email,” so that we are notified about your submission and acceptance. Please do not register nor submit an abstract without first checking in with URC.

To inquire about presenting at NCUR and availability, please stop by the URC or email us at urc@oxy.edu. In order to make the opportunity to present at NCUR available to as many students as possible, the URC will only fund students once during their undergraduate experience.

Once a student has presented at NCUR, repeat applications for support will not be considered. Students, particularly those majoring in the sciences, are encouraged to consider presenting at professional conferences or annual meetings in lieu of NCUR; Science Scholars may not present at NCUR.

Important Dates:

Online Abstract Submission Opens: October 8, 2018
Abstract Submission Deadline: December 4, 2018
Notification of Decision on Abstracts and Online Registration Opens: January 28, 2019
ASP Conference Travel Application for NCUR Deadline. Submit to URC: January 28, 2019 by 4 pm.

The National Collegiate Research Conference (NCRC)

The National Collegiate Research Conference (NCRC) is the nation’s largest student-run research conference. Visit the NCRC homepage for more information.

The 6th annual NCRC will be held January 24-26, 2019 at Harvard University.

Started in 2012, this multidisciplinary conference is an exciting opportunity for Oxy students from all majors to present their work and to attend panels and lectures by well-known researchers. The URC will offer support to students who wish to present. Unfortunately we cannot offer funding to students who wish to simply attend.

If you apply to the NCRC and are accepted you must send the URC a copy of your acceptance notice and then fill out a Conference Travel application within three days of your acceptance to the conference. Please do not register without first checking with the URC. There is no mechanism for a promo code to use at registration. Funding support will only be offered through the Conference Travel Program.

Application Submission Deadline: December 1, 2018
The Occidental College Summer Research Program is the largest program we offer and it is open to students of any major. If you are interested in applying, be sure to watch your emails (and "like" us on Facebook) in order to receive updates about information sessions, or for application deadline reminders.

The deadline to apply for the 2019 Occidental Summer Research Program is 4 pm on February 11, 2019.

2018 Summer Research Participants

In the summer 2018 program, 134 students participated as members of the Summer Research cohort. Sixty-four faculty mentors representing 18 departments guided student researchers in their work. The average GPA of our participants was 3.5, and 23% identified as first-generation college students.

STEM projects remained the most popular with 70% of our research students majoring in a scientific field. However, close to half of those students were selected outside of the SRP committee process by professors or departments with outside grants. The remaining 30% of our participants were evenly divided between social sciences (15%) and arts and humanities (15%). Oxy’s Summer Research Program aims to have a balanced representation of majors; the heavy focus on scientific projects is a reflection of current student research interests.

Salma Rojas ’21 (left) and Anna Palmer ‘19 (right) presenting at the 2018 Summer Research Conference
The Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR)

The Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR) is an undergraduate research conference that takes place each November at a college or university in the Los Angeles area. Occidental traditionally has one of the largest contingents of student-presenters at this day-long conference.

The URC will cover **100% of the registration fees** for both students and attending faculty and will work to coordinate transportation to/from the conference, **but we need Oxy designated drivers**. Please let us know if you are a D.D. and are interested in driving to-and-from the event by stating your availability where requested in the URC SCCUR 2018 Registration Form.

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Unfortunately, PCC was unable to set up a payment code for us to use this year. **Students are asked to pay their own registration fees** and then complete the following steps to seek reimbursement from the URC:

**Step 1: Abstract submission through October 7, 2018**

2) You will be asked to set-up a user account through BePress to submit your abstract.
3) Submit your presenter(s) name(s) and project information along with your abstract. Make sure to list Occidental College (not Oxy) as your institution.
   - If you do not receive an email reply containing your Abstract Id, it means your application was not submitted for review. Contact sccur2018@pasadena.com to determine if you need to re-submit your abstract.
4) Upon submission of your abstract, a workflow will be created and abstract reviewers will accept, request changes, or decline to accept your abstract for presentation. **If you do not respond to requests to update your abstract, your application will be denied.**

If your abstract is approved, you will receive an email with an acceptance to present at SCCUR!
Step 2: Self-register and pay the $70 fee by October 27, 2018
Congratulations! You’ve been accepted to present at SCCUR. But you must register to complete the process. Being accepted was just the first step. After receiving your invitation to present, register on www.sccur.org/sccur/registration.html
Once you have “REGISTERED” and paid the registration, please forward the e-mail to the urc@oxy.edu.

Step 3: Complete the URC SCCUR 2018 Registration Form to request Registration reimbursement
Complete the required URC’s SCCUR 2018 Registration Form before November 12th to be reimbursed for the registration fee. This is an internal Oxy form and cannot be found on the SCCUR website but it must be completed if you want the URC to reimburse you for your registration costs.

** If you do not have access to a credit card and cannot pay the registration fee on your own, it’s ok! – Please come in to the URC office and register using our credit card.

APPLY TODAY!

Visit the SCCUR website for abstract submission, registration and event info. Accepted presenters will receive updates regarding the conference schedule and event information directly from Pasadena City College.

Important Dates

Abstract Submission Begins: September 1, 2018
Abstract Submission Deadline: October 7, 2018
Registration Deadline: October 27, 2018
URC’s SCCUR 2018 Registration Form Deadline: November 12, 2018
The Undergraduate Research Center

CALENDAR

OCTOBER:
October 7: Abstract Submission deadline for SCCUR 2019 Conference being held at Pasadena City College on Saturday, November 17, 2018. Check out the SCCUR website for more information.

October 8: First round of ASP awards announced.

October 15 by 4:00 pm: Second Fall semester ASP Deadline.

October 24th by 4:00 pm: ASP Research Travel application for Winter or Spring break deadline.

NOVEMBER:
November 5: Second round of Fall awards announced

November 14 by 4:00 pm: Science Scholars application deadline

November 17, 2018 8:00 am to 5:00 pm: SCCUR 2019 Conference @ Pasadena City College. Good luck Oxy presenters! Check out the SCCUR website for campus information and schedule.

DECEMBER
December 1, 2018: Abstract Submission begins for NCRC 2019 Conference being held at Harvard University on January 24-26, 2019. Check out the NCRC website for more information. The URC is sponsoring students presenting at NCRC. Apply for an ASP Conference Travel award as soon as possible to secure funding to present at the conference.

December 3, 2018 by 4:00 pm: First Spring semester ASP application deadline.

JANUARY:
January 11, 2019: First round of Spring ASP awards announced.

January 24-26, 2019: NCRC 2019 Conference at Harvard University. Good luck Oxy presenters! Check out the NCRC website for more information.

January 28, 2019 by 4:00 pm: Final Spring semester ASP deadline and ASP Conference Travel Application deadline for NCUR 2019.

January 31, 2019: Final day for Faculty to list their Summer Research Opportunity on the URC SRP Faculty Sponsored Opportunities webpage.*

CONTACT US!

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