Falcon Promise
FY15 Annual Report

Falcon Promise Area: Falcon Grants
Project Manager: Lissa Schneider-Rebozo

Please use the space below to briefly describe the use of funds in your Falcon Promise area. Please keep responses to two pages.

A description of how funds were used:
Falcon Grants is a program designed to support and encourage students to participate in undergraduate research, scholarly and creative activities (URSCA). The Falcon Grants fund offers funding only for travel costs associated with dissemination. All Falcon Grant funds are awarded through a competitive grant process for undergraduates.

A description of the location(s) where the funding was used:
- In FY 2015, undergraduates who received Falcon Travel Grant funding in individual or group categories traveled all over the United States to present their research:
  - Long Beach, CA
  - New Orleans, LA
  - New York City, NY
  - Madison, WI
  - San Francisco, CA
  - Milwaukee, WI
  - Chicago, IL
  - Ames, IA
  - Appleton, WI
  - Charleston, SC
  - Superior, WI
  - San Antonio, TX
  - Las Vegas, NV
  - Kansas City, MO
  - Jasper, AR
  - Grand Forks, ND
  - Minneapolis, MN
  - River Falls, WI
  - Verona, WI
  - Cheney, WA

Identify the amount of funds used for salaries and fringe benefits, supplies and expenses, equipment, and remodeling by location. Purchases in excess of $5,000 shall be individually itemized:

- There are no salaries or fringe benefits associated with Falcon Grant expenditures.
- There are no equipment purchases over $5000.00 (Falcon Travel Grants have a maximum award of $1000.00 per student to disseminate research)
- Supplies and Expenses, including all travel grant expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Falcon Grant FY 2015</th>
<th>Dollars Requested</th>
<th>Dollars Awarded</th>
<th>Total in FY 15 PAID OUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional and National Discipline-Specific Travel Grant TOTALS:</td>
<td>$85,508.45</td>
<td>$62,642.57</td>
<td>$46,606.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On-Campus Dissemination Events Sponsored by URSCA Office (Spring URSCA Day, Fall Gala/SURSCA) | $5,258.73  
---|---  
State and National Dissemination Events Facilitated by URSCA Office (NCUR, UW-Symposium) | $83,870.48  
**TOTAL FY15 PAID OUT** | **$135,736.05**

Although the Falcon Promise differential tuition funds provided $94,500 to the Falcon Grant fund, and the budget line for the Falcon Grant fund was $80,325, the account was not overspent due to the carry-over of unspent funds in the amount of $84,668.91 from previous years. The URSCA Office achieved its mandate to broaden participation in all categories of dissemination activities eligible for Falcon Grant funding, and we are pleased to report record participation among our undergraduates in URSCA dissemination activities. At end of FY15 the account actuals were $43,432.86, which we will need in FY16 to absorb increased costs of NCUR travel due to changes in regulations on group travel.

Describe the goals/benchmarks for your area:

Falcon Travel Grants are awarded following a competitive process; proposals are reviewed by SURSCA (the Society for Undergraduate Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity), a student organization. In FY 2015 SURSCA was advised by Administrative and Faculty Advisor Lissa Schneider-Rebozo. In general terms, the goal for Falcon Grants is to enhancing the culture of URSCA on our campus. More specifically, our goals are to broaden participation at dissemination events that showcase UWRF campus URSCA.

To this end it is a campus priority for Falcon Grants to support SURSCA; the UWRF Fall Gala (an on-campus dissemination event sponsored by SURSCA); Spring URSCA Day; and NCUR (National Conference on Undergraduate Research). It is also important for Falcon Grants to support individual and group travel to UW Symposium, Wisconsin Science and Technology Symposium (WSTS); and regional, state, and national discipline-specific conferences that showcase undergraduate research.

If a competitive process was used to allocate funding among students, 1) describe the process for allocating funds and 2) identify the total number of students that applied for funding and the number of students that received funding.

The process used for allocating funds is a biannual (Fall and Spring) grant review conducted by SURSCA members under the supervision, in FY 15, of SURSCA Advisor, Lissa Schneider-Rebozo. SURSCA members score each application to Falcon Grants using a judging rubric that is available online. Proposals are scored in two categories: a quantitative category that allows for numeric scoring of each specific element of the grant proposal, and a holistic category of “award/don’t award/discuss.” Scores are submitted in advance of the meeting to discuss scores and determine awards. If all reviewers vote to award, and the advisors agree that nothing improper has been requested, that proposal is funded. If reviewers have checked the box “discuss” or “don’t award” in the holistic category, then regardless of numeric score the proposal comes under discussion at the review meeting. The numeric score is especially useful in the event that Falcon Grants were to run short on funds, as it can allow for limiting awards beyond a certain cut off point even if all reviewers had originally voted to “fund” The process allows a student peer review process for all applications. The URSCA Office sends out letters to all applicants informing them of their award status.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Falcon Grant FY 15</th>
<th># Undergraduates Applied/Requested</th>
<th># Undergraduates Awarded</th>
<th>Total Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional and National Discipline-Specific Falcon Travel Grant:</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>171 (# of students paid out)</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-Campus Dissemination Events Sponsored by URSCA Office (Spring URSCA Day, Fall Gala/SURSCA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>521 (# of students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State and National Dissemination Events Facilitated by URSCA Office (NCUR, UW-Symposium)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>153 (# of students)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FY15</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>845 (# of students)</strong></td>
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