UWRF Summer Scholars Program

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is supporting a UWRF Summer Scholars Program. The purpose of the undergraduate research scholarly and creative activity (URSCA) program is to foster collaborative faculty-student project, to enhance student learning and promote the culture of research, scholarly, and creative activities at UWRF. Projects supported by this program should exhibit the potential for scholarly publication, presentation at a conference, or creative performance. Up to 10 students will be supported as student scholars in 2014.

The formal part of the program will involve a total of ten-weeks. During this time, students should devote full-time effort into their project and faculty mentors should be consistently available for consultation and collaboration. There are no restrictions, however, against completing additional work for the research project outside of the formal program period.

Eligibility

The UWRF Summer Scholars Program is available to full-time undergraduate students in all disciplines. Students must have completed their freshman year by May 2014, be in good academic standing, and plan to graduate no earlier than December 2014. Faculty and students must be able to attend all of the mandatory program activities.

Because of the expected intensity of the research experience, students should expect to limit enrollment in courses and outside employment. Those receiving other summer URSCA funding including McNair Scholars Program stipends are not eligible for the UWRF Summer Scholars Program.

The project must be collaborative between the student(s) and the mentor. While the project may relate to a faculty member’s creative, research, or scholarly agenda, the student must lead and execute the project independently in collaboration with a faculty mentor. Faculty mentors may only submit two applications. Group projects are allowed, but each student seeking funding must submit a separate and distinct proposal that explains his/her individual contribution in relation to the larger group project.

Required Program Elements

- Orientation Meeting and Welcome – Students will share their projects and ideas. There will be a brief discussion about the program’s process.
- Mid-Program Luncheon – Students will briefly discuss the progress of their work as well as enjoy a lunch with other program members.
- Wrap-up Meeting – Students will discuss their results and conclusions of their projects
- Fall Gala – Students are required to present their research project at the UWRF Fall Gala

Funding

Up to $500 for Supplies and Expenses; Student Stipend: $3,000; Faculty Stipend: $1,000

Students who are accepted into the UWRF Summer Scholars Program will be provided with up to $500 each for expenses necessary to support their projects. This may include books, lab supplies, travel to research sites, software, etc., but may not be used for travel to conferences or for capital purchases. Grant funding cannot be applied retroactively to cover expenses for research already completed.

Student stipends will be paid in three installments of $1,000 on dates to be determined. Faculty may mentor up to two students in the UWRF Summer Scholars Program, and they will receive a $1,000 stipend for each student, with a maximum of $2,000 for mentoring two students. Students may not divide the stipend among multiple members of a research team; each member must submit a separate application.