Undergraduate Research Funding
IST_FN-07 Administrative Guideline

The College is supportive of increasing undergraduate student engagement in research. In support of this effort, we provide the following opportunity for internal funding to support a research experience for an undergraduate student. Normally, funds will be provided for one semester or one academic year at a time. Funding would be provided to support students, normally up to about 10 hours per week, at a competitive rate.

Factors that will be considered:
• Requests will be accepted from any faculty for whom part of their official responsibilities includes research.
• Faculty requesting funding must have explored all other known mechanisms for external support for undergraduate involvement in research. We won’t be going overboard in interpreting the “all other known mechanism” piece of this, the goal is to make sure we are taking advantage of opportunities for external support. For example, NSF provides support for undergraduates either through the standard budget for a grant or through an REU Supplement that is obtained after a grant is funded. If you have an NSF grant associated with the proposed project, it will be expected that you have pursued an REU Supplement.
• Priority will be given to projects related to the College and University strategic plans.
• Priority will be given to projects that involve collaborations beyond the College, especially projects that allow the College’s funding to be leveraged through matches from other organizations.
• Priority will be given to efforts that are intended to lead to continued support from external sources.

To request funding, submit the following to the Associate Dean for Research:
A brief description of the proposed project, including how it relates to your existing research activities and projects. This should be one to two paragraphs, and is expected to be up to a half a page in length.

Include one paragraph describing how this project may lead to continued support through external sources including specific sources that may be pursued. Indicate if you already have a student identified that you plan to hire. It is preferred that a specific individual is already identified, so the project can start as quickly as possible after funding is approved.

By default, the College will provide a standard competitive hourly rate for all projects. (I’m told this translates to $10-12/hour.). If you have a specific individual in mind, and you know a higher rate is required (e.g., the student is already working elsewhere at a higher rate), please provide that information.

Requests will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Approved by: Andrew Sears, Dean, 04.2017