FUSE

2020 PROGRAM

If you need this document in another format, please email curca@ung.edu or call 706-867-3013.
WHAT IS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH?

An inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.
THE FUSE PROGRAM

- Faculty-Undergraduate Summer Engagement Program

- Allows faculty mentors to work intensively with students on research projects in the summer for 8 weeks.

- 8 Meetings with Students, 4 Meetings with Everyone

- Students work 40 hours per week (as staff).

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FUNDING

- CURCA funds 6-7 research groups total.
- Compensation happens throughout the summer.
- $4000/Professors
- $10.05/hr Students
- $500 for Supplies

**Funds can be split between multiple professors or students.**

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IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

• APPLICATIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020 BY 5:00 PM

• APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED AND AWARDEES NOTIFIED IN MARCH 2020

• THE PROGRAM DATES ARE: JUNE 1-JULY 24, 2020

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**Both require post-grant report as well as student research presentations at ARC or other venue.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mini- Grant</th>
<th>FUSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3000 for materials</td>
<td>$500 for materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIGHT fund student</td>
<td>DOES fund student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed over academic year</td>
<td>Completed in 8 weeks in summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended time period</td>
<td>Truncated time period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings not required</td>
<td>Required meetings (4)</td>
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</table>
HOW DO I APPLY?

To apply for FUSE, please visit:

INFOREADY
https://ung.infoready4.com

Applications are due
February 7, 2020 by 5 pm

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THE APPLICATION

- Cover sheet
- Narrative/Budget/Timeline
  - Description of research
  - Significance
  - Goals/Expected Products
  - Budget
  - Timeline
- Productivity
- UNG Staff Template for Student Researcher Job Position
- Certifications

**Hired students must not graduate prior to December 2020**

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## Scoring Rubric for FUSE Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Exceptional</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Needs Improvement</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Description</strong></td>
<td>Description is clear, concise, and easy to understand. The proposed project contains original, innovative, or creative aspect(s).</td>
<td>Description depicts the project well, but uses some jargon or is otherwise hard to understand. Project contains original, innovative, or creative aspect(s).</td>
<td>Description does not explain project concisely, or it does not give a general picture of the proposed activities. The project contains no or few original, innovative, or creative aspect(s).</td>
<td>Description is hard to understand. Verbose, or utilizes a lot of field-specific jargon. It is not clear that the project is creative or innovative.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Significance</strong></td>
<td>It is clear how the proposed activities fit into the broader scholarly or creative field at the local, regional, or national level. Others will benefit from the new knowledge, applications, or creative works produced through the project; the proposed project impact extends beyond one particular field of study.</td>
<td>It is clear how the proposed activities fit into the broader scholarly or creative field at the local, regional, or national level. The impact on the outside community is modest.</td>
<td>A link is made between the proposed work and the broader creative or research field. It is not clear how the proposed activities will further the field as a whole, or how the community, scholarly partners or other stakeholders will benefit from the proposed activities.</td>
<td>The contributions of the proposed activities to the broader community or field are not clearly stated. Alternatively, the proposed project will not impact the broader community or scholarly field.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-term Contributions to Undergraduate Research</strong></td>
<td>The proposal will cultivate long-term undergraduate research programs.</td>
<td>The proposal may cultivate long-term undergraduate research programs.</td>
<td>The proposal will likely not cultivate long-term undergraduate research programs.</td>
<td>No mention of impact on long-term undergraduate research programs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Methodology</strong></td>
<td>Proposed methodology is sound and complete; the project design reflects an understanding of current research in the field</td>
<td>Proposed methodology may contain some slight flaws or questions. The proposal may not include significant support from other research</td>
<td>Proposed methodology has at least one major flaw. The project description also lacks a clear evaluation of current research in the field.</td>
<td>Proposed methodology not workable for this project. No outside research or support is given.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plan for involvement of undergraduates</strong></td>
<td>The plan for involvement of undergraduates is clearly described, and it is obvious that the proposed activities are student-focused. Students will not be merely observing or performing menial tasks—they will be helping to drive the project forward. Students will have creative input in project. The number of students involved is not as critical as the quality of their involvement.</td>
<td>The plan for involvement of undergraduates is clearly described, and undergraduates play a central role in the planned activities. Although students will be intimately involved in the project, their creative input is limited.</td>
<td>The plan for involvement of undergraduates is not clearly articulated and appears to be limited in scope. Students are mostly observers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Goals and Products</strong></td>
<td>The goals of the project are clearly stated. Significant products are described (e.g. presentations at regional or national conferences, publications in peer-reviewed journals, participation in a juried show, submission of a grant proposal, etc.).</td>
<td>The goals of the project are not clearly stated. There are either no products described, or they are of minimal impact.</td>
<td>The goals of the project are not clearly stated. No products are described.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Timeline</strong></td>
<td>Timeline is suitable for and meets all the activities described.</td>
<td>Timeline meets most of the activities proposed.</td>
<td>Timeline appears to meet less than half of the activities proposed.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Productivity from previous CURCA funded projects</strong></td>
<td>Previous projects met all grant requirements and provided documentation of their grant in a timely manner. Outcomes included high-impact products such as: award-winning student presentations at conferences, publications in peer-reviewed journals, exhibition of work in a juried show, submission of a grant proposal, or submission of a report to a local, regional or national business.</td>
<td>Previous projects met all grant requirements and provided documentation of their grant in a timely manner. Outcomes included products of moderate impact, such as: student presentations at local, regional or national conferences, publications in non-peer reviewed sources, participation in non-juried shows, or presentations to local community partners.</td>
<td>The products of previous CURCA-funded projects are not clearly stated. There are either no products described, or they are of minimal impact. Previous projects met all grant requirements and were fiscally responsible.</td>
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Proposals from individuals who have not been previously funded by CURCA:

**Total score:** Project description _____ + Significance _____ + (Long Term Contributions X 1.5 = _____) + Methodology_______ + (Involvement of undergraduates X 2 = ____ ) + Goals and Products_________ (Timeline X 0.5 =___) = ________.

Total _______/56 (maximum score): ________

Proposals from individuals who have been previously funded by CURCA:

**Total score:** Project description _____ + Significance _____ + (Long Term Contributions X 1.5) ______ + Methodology_______ + (Involvement of undergraduates X 2 = ____ ) + Goals and Products_________ + (Timeline X 0.5 =___) + (Productivity from previous CURCA funded projects X 2) = ________.

Total ________/70 (maximum score): ________

- **Note:** All Proposals will undergo Budget review prior to being evaluated. Proposals which do not meet Budget requirements will not be considered for funding. Please ensure that your budget meets the requirements set forth on the CURCA FUSE page (https://ung.edu/undergraduate-research-creative-activities/research-opportunities/at-ung/fuse/index.php)
- **Proposals will receive a zero in any category that is not addressed. Proposals receiving a zero in any category CANNOT be considered for funding.**
HOW CAN I TELL IF MY PROJECT IS APPROPRIATE FOR CURCA FUNDING?

IF THE PROJECT FOLLOWS THE DEFINITION OF UR:

"AN INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY AN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT THAT MAKES AN ORIGINAL INTELLECTUAL OR CREATIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE DISCIPLINE."

IS CURCA FUNDING LIMITED TO SCIENCES?

NO! CURCA FUNDED PROJECTS COME FROM MANY DEPARTMENTS. WE LOVE HAVING A WIDE RANGE OF DISCIPLINES REPRESENTED.
HOW ARE CURCA PROPOSALS RATED AND RANKED?

COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES FROM EVERY SCHOOL REVIEWS THEM AND RANKS THEM ACCORDING TO THE RUBRIC. THE COMMITTEE PROVIDES SCORES AND THE PROPOSALS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORES ARE FUNDED.

**PROPOSALS MUST BE WRITTEN IN LAY TERMS AND FOR A GENERAL AUDIENCE, SO ALL REVIEWERS CAN UNDERSTAND THE PROJECT.**

CAN I TEACH DURING FUSE?

FACULTY MAY TEACH; HOWEVER, A FACULTY MEMBER’S FUSE AND SUMMER TEACHING PAY MAY NOT EXCEED 27% OF THEIR YEARLY SALARY.

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CAN MORE THAN ONE STUDENT WORK ON THE FUSE PROJECT?

Yes, but students will have to split the 40 hours allotted each week. This is due to budget limitations. More than one faculty may also participated but both faculty will have to split the $4000 stipend.

HOW OFTEN MUST WE MEET?

Mentors should be available and willing to mentor the student on a weekly (daily, even) basis.

Please plan for what is appropriate for your discipline. Make sure to touch base and provide timely feedback.

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REMEMBER

YOU NEED TO WRITE THE PROPOSAL TO THE SCORING RUBRIC

IT ALSO HELPS TO CONVEY ENTHUSIASM AND COMMITMENT FOR THE PROJECT AND UR.

YOU NEED TO WRITE THE PROPOSAL IN EASY TO UNDERSTAND TERMS.

IF YOU HAVE A RECORD OF UR ENGAGEMENT AND COMMITMENT, FLAUNT IT.
NEXT FUSE WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD
12-1 PM

BLU: Room 107
OCN: Admin 108
GVL: Strickland 183
CMG: Room 246
DAH: Barnes 315

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