

CALL FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROPOSALS

University of Wisconsin System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

April 11, 2014

The UW-Superior Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (URSCA) Committee invites interested students to submit proposals to present scholarly work at the UW-System Symposium. The Symposium includes poster sessions, oral presentations, and performing and visual art presentations. Oral presentations are 15 minutes (with 5 additional minutes for questions). The URSCA Center will provide funding to cover poster printing and travel expenses to the UW-Symposium for students selected to represent UW-Superior.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

To apply, submit a two-paragraph proposal to the URSCA Director by **Friday, February 14, 2014**. The first paragraph should be an abstract that describes the student's scholarly work concisely and clearly for an audience outside of the field of study (use the Guide for Abstract Preparation on page 2). The second paragraph should describe why the student wants to present at the Symposium and what he/she hopes to attain from the event. Students collaborating on a project should submit one abstract, but each student should write his or her own second paragraph. All parts of a group application should be submitted together.

DEADLINES:

- February 14 Submit applications electronically to joleary3@uwsuper.edu by 3 p.m.
- February 21 URSCA Committee will announce applicants selected for funding.
- February 28 Registration and abstract submissions due to UW-Symposium.
- March 3-7 Students meet with URSCA Director and Committee members to discuss poster preparation and expectations for attending.
- March 14 Posters due in URSCA Center for printing.
- April 10 Group travels from Superior to Milwaukee.
- April 11 UW Symposium and return to Superior.

Questions? Contact us: Julie O'Leary – Director
Joleary3@uwsuper.edu
715-394-8029

Anne Carlson – Program Associate
abiros@uwsuper.edu
715-394-8593

URSCA Center - 3061 Swenson Hall,
<http://www.uwsuper.edu/ursca/index.cfm>

Guide for Abstract Preparation:

Your abstract will be included in the Symposium program and will provide the general reader with information about your research or creative activity. The abstract should be a concise and clear statement of the main ideas of your work. It should be a maximum of 400 words, not including title, authors, and affiliations. Avoid jargon and explain your project as clearly as possible for a non-specialist reader. The faculty sponsor should review and approve the abstract prior to submission.

1. Student's name(s), email address and major.

Faculty Sponsor's name and email address.

2. Title of Presentation: This should be clear and concise and no more than 20 words long.

3. Main Text of Abstract: A maximum of 400 words, the text is usually a single paragraph that should include the following:

Background and Rationale (1-2 sentences): Provide some background and a rationale for your work. What do your readers need to know before they can understand why you performed this scholarship/creative activity? Set the stage for further information on the topic. If you had a specific research question or hypothesis, state it here.

Methods (1-2 sentences): Explain how you went about accomplishing your goals. How did you perform the study? What methods or approach did you use to achieve your results?

Results (2-3 sentences): Describe the key findings or outcomes of your work. What did you accomplish? If you had a research hypothesis, did your results support it? What is most important for people to know about your work?

Conclusions (1-2 sentences): Interpret your results for a broader audience. What can you conclude from your study or creative work? Does your work impact larger issues? How?

What qualifies as undergraduate research, scholarship or creative activity?

UW-Superior generally subscribes to the following definition: *undergraduate research scholarship and creative activity is an inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate with a faculty mentor that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.*

URSCA also includes the broader more inclusive definition when considering proposals: undergraduate research in the arts and humanities is student-driven, faculty-mentored inquiry, scholarly investigation, and/or creative activity. The undergraduate researcher's work may contribute to outcomes including, but not limited to, individual or collaborative analytical writing; oral presentation; small analytical products; works of visual art; compilations of scholarship; exhibits; musical compositions; plays; performance; public scholarship; and/or peer-reviewed publication. Whatever the research product, its value is generally weighed by standards specific to experts in the field, whether jurors, editors, or reviewers.