Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program
Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship

Information Session on
Entering Research and Creative Work (ERC) Funding
(Spring 2023)
UROP coordinates and promotes opportunities for all undergraduate students across all disciplines at UH Mānoa to engage in faculty-mentored research and creative work.
Research & Creative Work Defined

“An investigation or creative inquiry conducted by undergraduates that seeks to make a scholarly or artistic contribution to knowledge.” - National Council on Undergraduate Research

Criteria of UG Research
(Osborn & Karukstis, 2009; CUR)

1. Faculty-Mentored
2. Original/Authentic Inquiry
3. Disciplinarily-Appropriate Inquiry
4. Disseminated
UROP: Core Programs/Activities

1) Entering Research & Creative Work (ERC) Funding
2) Project Funding
3) Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE)
4) On campus Presentation venues (SURE Symposium, Undergraduate Showcase)
5) Presentation Funding
UROP Experience – Why do it?

- Meet degree requirements
- Get funding to do research & creative work
- Get valuable experience
- Enhance CV/resume
- Work with faculty/experts
- Inform/confirm your future
ERC & Project Funding:
1. Enrolled as a classified undergraduate student at UHM in the semester following the application semester
2. Mentored by a UHM faculty member who meets the eligibility criteria (tenured/tenure-track faculty)
3. Plan to graduate from UHM
4. Submit no more than one application per funding cycle
5. Have no more than one active Project/ERC funding at a time

ERC Only:
1. $3,000/two semester limit per student
2. Have more than 60 credits remaining in their bachelor’s degree program at the time of application
Application Process

- Paperless, online application
- Faculty Mentor submits the Mentor Form
  - Mentorship plan, student outcome, activities, timetable, etc.
- At least 2 UHM faculty reviewers per application
  - All applications take ~2 months to process/review
Entering Research and Creative Work Funding
Entering Research and Creative Work (ERC) Overview

What is it?
- Funding for early career undergraduate students to be introduced to faculty-mentored research or creative work

Who is it for?
- Undergraduate students with little or no faculty-mentored research or creative work experience, but who are motivated to explore it
Funding Amount:
• $1,500 worth of stipend per semester or $3,000 for 2 consecutive semesters
• Merit-based Scholarship (financial aid)

Deadlines:
• Fall Deadline: Oct 20 (9/20-10/20)
• Spring Deadline: April 20 (3/20-4/20)

Application:
• Simple application
  • Does NOT include a proposal
• Pre-survey (within application form)
• Transcript & resume
• ERC Mentor Form, to be completed by your faculty mentor after submitting your portion of the application
ERC Experience – What does it look like?

Your experience will include:
- At least 100 hours of research or creative work activities per semester
- Safety, ethics, and research compliance training
- Attend professional development modules
  - Research and creative work best practices
  - Responsible conduct of research

May include:
- Assist faculty with ongoing research or creative work
  - Methodology, technology, tool, etc. training specific to the discipline
- Initiate or help faculty with a project in a preliminary stage
  - Literature review
  - Planning

- *Everyone is different!*
Applying for ERC

- Review: UROP guidelines
- Review: ERC Funding Application
Steps Towards Submitting a Successful Application

- Plan ahead
- Review the guidelines on the UROP website
- Review the application
- Talk with your faculty mentor
- Talk with UROP
- Submit all required materials
- Submit it on time!
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Questions? Let us know!

• Visit our website: manoa.hawaii.edu/urop
• Email us: UROP@hawaii.edu
• Call us: 808.956.7492
• Visit us: Moore Hall 107/108

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