

Call For Papers: 24th National Conference on Undergraduate Research



The National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) is an organization that recognizes the importance of undergraduate scholarly activity undertaken in partnership with faculty mentors. In partial fulfillment of its mission, NCUR sponsors an annual conference for undergraduates to present their research work or creative work. Unlike many professional conferences, NCUR is fairly unique in that scholarship or creative activity from all disciplines is welcome.

The Sage Colleges undergraduates have presented at NCUR conferences since 1990. During these nineteen years, almost 90 undergraduates and more than 20 faculty mentors have participated. All but one or two undergraduate majors have been represented. Students who present at NCUR as *official* representatives of The Sage Colleges have their registration fees, travel and hotel costs paid by the College. Major support for Sage undergraduate participation has come from the Dr. Phyllis Van Vleet (RSC '34) Fund and Campus Life and the Sage Deans' offices.

The 23rd NCUR Conference will be held April 16-17 at the University of Montana at Missoula. The deadline for receipt of abstracts to be considered for presentation at NCUR is December 4th. To apply to be an *official* Sage representative, applications must be submitted to the Sage NCUR committee, c/o Dr. David A. Salomon, Department of English and Modern Languages, **no later than 5:00pm on Thursday November 5th**. This deadline is firm, and no applications will be accepted after 5:00pm on Thursday, November 5th for any reason.

The Sage NCUR committee requires the following to be submitted. Please follow the directions and submit the required number of copies. The committee reserves the right to disqualify incomplete or late applications.

1. Letter of application from the student. This letter must include the following elements: anticipated graduation date (mo/yr); major; email address; phone numbers at which the student can be reached day and evening in case the

- committee needs clarification; name and telephone number of mentor; if the mentor is not a Sage faculty member, name and number of faculty member contact; duration of project (e.g., summer, academic year, etc.); whether student received a stipend for performing the work; grant support for the project; how and why the project was chosen; a statement that if selected to be an Sage representative, the student will attend the NCUR conference, and if she does not attend, she will reimburse The Sage Colleges for any money that is nonrefundable.
2. Letter from the faculty mentor. This letter must include the following elements: email address; contact numbers day and evening in case the committee has any questions; an assessment of the student's work, including her independence and whether the work will be completed in time for presentation in April; an assessment of the importance of the work within your discipline (Sage NCUR committee members will most likely not be from your discipline); a statement that the mentor will supervise the submission of the abstract to NCUR; a statement that the mentor is willing and able to help the student finish her work in a timely and professional manner.
 3. If the faculty mentor is not a Sage Colleges faculty member, the student will need an additional letter from a Sage faculty member who agrees to act as the campus liaison. This letter should state that the faculty member will be a liaison and contain the same elements as the letter from the faculty member described in # 2.
 4. An abstract of the work. This abstract should be written to a more general audience than will the abstract to be submitted to NCUR. The abstract should be no more than one page, double-spaced, in 12pt font and include a short introduction that puts the work into context for an audience outside of the discipline.

A total of *four* copies of items 1-4 must be submitted to the committee; please print them double-sided when possible to save paper, and number the pages. The committee will meet and make its decisions as quickly as possible. Students will be notified as soon as the committee work is completed. There will be sufficient time for the student to submit their revised abstract to NCUR by December 4th. Copies of the abstract books from most of the prior NCUR conferences are available in the Kathleen A. Donnelly Center for Undergraduate Research (DCUR) on the 2nd floor of the library. Any questions should be directed to Dr. David A. Salomon (salomd or x3118 or to the DCUR at x4585).