Presidential Undergraduate Research Awards Program

Undergraduate students at Lawrence Technological University have the opportunity to conduct meaningful basic or applied research. Basic research will produce new knowledge based on the student’s ability to analyze, synthesize, select a hypothesis and test its validity. Applied research will lead to an alternative solution to a problem based on the student’s ability to analyze, synthesize, design, and produce or simulate a product or model. In every case, the student will engage in a literature search, select appropriate research methods, draw a conclusion concerning the value of their work, provide evidence supporting that conclusion, and display or disseminate the work for public review.

There are 10 awards available each year of a maximum of award of $1,000 that are available to undergraduate students. To be considered for this award undergraduate students must apply by submitting a proposal that provides the information listed below. Please note that senior projects are not eligible for the Presidential Undergraduate Research Award.

Award Undergraduate Research Project Selection

Proposals are collected within each college through the deadline specified above. A faculty committee of 5 members with representation from each college and one from RSSC will evaluate and rank the proposals each semester. Provost will make the final funding decision following review of the evaluations and ranking. Students will be notified by the President on May 1st for fall awards and on December 1st for Spring awards.

Proposals Deadline: November 1st, 2015

Proposal Instructions for Students

1. **Project Idea**
   
   Present your research project idea to someone with the potential to guide and mentor the research project such as a professor, an alumnus or industry sponsor. If you do not have a guide in mind, present your idea to a professor, the chair of your department or the dean of your college.

2. **Proposal**
Complete and submit your Undergraduate Research Proposal. The Proposal must include the following components:

- Name: First and Last
- Banner ID
- LTU email address
- Preferred phone number
- Major
- Status (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior)
- Year you plan to graduate
- The name your research sponsor (The sponsor is a faculty and/or industry guide who will mentor your research project)
- Title of your research project
- Approximately when do you plan to complete your proposed research project (Provide month and year)
- Provide the area of your research (Example: Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Art, Architecture, History, etc...)
- Describe your research project. Include project goals, methods and likely outcomes. Pay attention to the quality of your writing.
- Explain how your research project will combine both theory and practice. Pay attention to the quality of your writing.
- Explain how your Research project will require critical thinking
- Explain what motivates you to work on this Research Project, and what motivates you to bring it to completion
- Describe the budget your research project not to exceed $1,000 for materials, supplies, travel, and other appropriate non-salary expenses to complete the project.
- Your sponsor must also sign the Undergraduate Research Portfolio to acknowledge that he/she agree with the proposal you are submitting and that will be your sponsor.

Each research project cannot exceed 2 semesters and must be at least 100 hours of work. The working hours have to be documented in a log book.

3. Research Project Requirements
   a) A Portfolio of the project to be evaluated by the sponsor after project completion must be complied. The portfolio includes:
      - Proposal of the project
      - Plan of project implementation
      - Log of the hours spent on the project
      - Data collected
      - Notes and/or journal on the project
      - Analysis of the data
      - Summary of Results
Conclusion
Reflection Essay on the research experience

(Compiling your portfolio will be easier if you keep track of your hours and save all documents throughout the process.)

b) Meeting with Research Sponsor
   Students are required to meet with the research project sponsor at least 3 times per semester for the duration of the project.

c) Dissemination
   Each student receiving an undergraduate research award is required to give a presentation of their work and findings in his/her college and submit a poster for Research Day in April. We encourage students and faculty sponsors to disseminate their work through the Council for Undergraduate Research

   Proposals for consideration should be submitted to the Office of the Dean of your college before the deadline specified above.