



California University of Pennsylvania

POLICY: Student Research Funded by the Cal U Center for Undergraduate Research

A. Purpose & Scope

This policy sets forth the University guidelines for student research projects funded by the Center for Undergraduate Research. The goal of student research at California University of Pennsylvania (Cal U) is to contribute to the academic and professional success of students. This goal will be achieved by students and faculty members collaborating in research, scholarship, and/or creative activities. These activities enrich students' experiences, increase faculty/student engagement, improve students' perceptions of their self-efficacy, and make students active participants in their own educational development.

Each year, Cal U, through its Center for Undergraduate Research, plans to make available funds for students and student/faculty teams to carry out research and scholarship that will promote their growth and make original contributions to their academic or professional disciplines. Students in all majors will be encouraged to apply for these funds to support activities that meet the definition of research established by the Council on Undergraduate Research (www.cur.org): *any inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.*

B. Definitions

1. IACUC: Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is a self-regulating entity, constituted according to federal regulations, that oversees the university's animal programs, facilities and procedures ensuring the appropriate care, use, and humane treatment of animals being used for research, testing and education.
2. Intellectual Property: Any term used to describe the patents, copyrights, mask work protection, trade secrets, and plant variety protection certificates, which cover, or pertain to, inventions.
3. IRB: Institutional Review Board is a standing committee, constituted according to federal regulations, that is responsible for ensuring that the rights and welfare of human research participants are protected.
4. Mentor/Sponsor: Cal U faculty with expertise in the area or field of proposed research.
5. Potential Conflict of Interest: Any outside activity, commitment, or interest that may reasonably give the appearance of adversely affecting, compromising, or being incompatible with the University, obligations of the student, and/or mentor/sponsor.
6. Research: any inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.

7. Research Misconduct: Fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. *Fabrication* is making up data or results and recording or reporting them. *Falsification* is manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record. *Plagiarism* is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit. Research misconduct may include other practices that seriously deviate from those that are commonly accepted within the scholarly community for proposing, conducting, or reporting research.
8. Student: any undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled in a degree program at Cal U who is in good academic and conduct standing and meets the eligibility requirements set forth in the Call for Proposal.
9. University: California University of Pennsylvania.

C. Policy

1. Generally, funding will be allocated on a semester-by-semester basis.
2. Students will be required to complete a research awareness-training program approved by the Cal U Center for Undergraduate Research.
3. The proposed research, scholarship, or creative project must be performed in collaboration with, or under the guidance of, a Cal U faculty mentor or sponsor.
4. When applicable, the faculty mentor or sponsor is responsible for assisting students with preparation of IRB and/or IACUC protocols and to ensure that the research is conducted in accordance with the IRB and/or IACUC policies.
5. The faculty mentor or sponsor is responsible for ensuring students have reviewed and understand the University's Misconduct of Research and Conflict of Interest policies, which are posted on the web page of the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research.
6. Student funding recipients shall be limited to one award per semester.
7. Purchasing for student research projects must adhere to University purchasing policies.
8. All materials or equipment purchased will become the property of Cal U.

D. Procedure(s):

E. Effective date: December 8, 2014