Internal Grants Opportunities

Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Grants
Undergraduate and graduate students in any major or program at SRU are invited to apply for up to $500 in funds to support independent research, scholarly projects, or a creative activity to be conducted in collaboration with a faculty or staff member. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 1, 2017 by 4:00 PM.

Norton Undergraduate Research Scholarship
Up to two $500 scholarships will be awarded to students in any major who are or will be engaged in independent, faculty-mentored undergraduate research. The deadline to apply is Monday, March 6, 2017 by 4:00 PM.

Green Fund Advisory Board Grant Program
Faculty, staff, or undergraduate and graduate students in any major or program at SRU are invited to apply for up to $20,000 in funds to support sustainable-progressive projects, educational programs and activities. The deadline to apply is Monday, April 1, 2017 by 4:00 PM.

Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Grant Program
The purpose of this initiative is to provide undergraduate student researchers with up to 100 hours of compensation during the summer to conduct a research project with a faculty mentor. The program is open to undergraduate students in all disciplines expecting to graduate in December 2017 or later. The deadline to apply is Monday, April 3, 2017 by 4:00 PM.

The Request for Proposals (RFPs) can be found on the website of the Office of Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs.

SPINPlus Funding Opportunities Database

SPINPlus is a comprehensive web-based system comprised of three modules, including a database of funding opportunities (SPIN-Sponsored Programs Information Network) which is designed to provide up to date information on current federal, non-federal and international funding opportunities including: Fellowships, Research Grants, Publication Support, Sabbatical Support, RFAs (NIH Guide), Curriculum Development, Conference Support, RFPs and more; a database of investigator profiles (GENIUS); and a matching alert system (SMARTS). These products work together to ensure that faculty/PIs are quickly and efficiently able to locate the most current funding opportunities available in their field of interest.

If you are interested in receiving information on possible funding opportunities please complete a Grant Seeker Profile Form located on our website. Return your form via e-mail to grantsoffice@sru.edu or by inter-office mail at 008 Old Main. You will receive automatic e-mails from SPINPlus containing funding announcements.

Award notices were received for 27 external grant proposals totaling $1,485,877 for the time period July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Save the Date!

Symposium for Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Achievement will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2017. Deadline for students to submit an abstract is February 1, 2017. Submission instructions can be found on the website.
Melanie Anderson, School of Business, was awarded a grant in the amount of $1,500 from Enactus under their Women’s Economic Empowerment Project Accelerator/Workforce Development program. Working with SRU’s Women’s Solar Center, this funding will provide a series of workshops to assist women in the area with resume writing, preparing cover letters and establishing LinkedIn profiles.

Robert Arnhold, Physical and Health Education, received an award in the amount of $250,000 from the U.S. Department of Education for the continuation of the Highly Qualified Adapted Physical Education Teachers in Pennsylvania program. This is for Year 5 of a five-year grant totaling $1,250,000.

Robert Arnhold, Physical and Health Education, received an award in the amount of $40,000 from the DSF Charitable Trust for the expansion of the SRU Transition Program. This is for Year 01 of a two-year grant totaling $80,000.

Robert Arnhold, Physical and Health Education, received a grant in the amount of $150,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry/Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide 15 high school students with disabilities who are OVR eligible with pre-employment, work-based learning experiences in the community.

Robert Arnhold, Physical and Health Education, received a grant in the amount of $50,000 from the Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust to assist with the planning and implementation of the Rock Life Program, a post-secondary education experience for students with intellectual disabilities.

Robert Arnhold, Physical and Health Education, received a grant in the amount of $149,519 from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry/Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide 25 OVR eligible students with a pre-employment transition program at SRU and at area businesses.

Robert Arnhold, Physical and Health Education, received a grant in the amount of $5,000 to XTO Energy, Inc. for the continuation of the Transition Program at SRU.

Deborah Baker, Special Events, received an award in the amount of $3,000 from the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation to support the presentation of Gravity & Other Myths, part of the Performing Arts Series.

Kristina Benkeser, Student Health Center, received an award in the amount of $1,000 from the University of Pittsburgh for SRU’s Student Health Center to serve as a referral site for a research project funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Fran Bires, McKeever Environmental Education Center, submitted a proposal in the amount of $200,000 to the Pennsylvania Department of Education to provide operating funds for the McKeever Center.

John Buttermore, School of Business, received an award in the amount of $2,641 from MidwayUSA, Inc. to provide travel and supplies for the SRU Clay Target Club.

Aaron Cowan, Lia Paradis, History, received an award of $100,000 from the National Endowments for the Humanities (NEH) to support the Humanities Ladder program. This program introduces college-level material in the humanities to high school students in economically and geographically isolated communities of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Chris Cubero, Counseling Center, received an award in the amount of $1,610 from the Cardinal Health Foundation to conduct a prescription drug awareness program.

Renee Decker, SRU Government Contracting Assistance Center, received a subaward in the amount of $20,000 from the Defense Logistics Agency through California University of PA. The Center assists companies with all aspects of federal, state and local government contracting and subcontracting.

Betsy Kemeny, Deborah Hutchins, Parks & Recreation, received an award in the amount of $3,000 from the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition through Vantage Human Resources, Inc., to increase the awareness of the importance of inclusion for both children and adults with disabilities through programs held at the Robert A. Macoskey Center.

Betsy Kemeny, Deborah Hutchins, Parks & Recreation, and Courtney Gramlich, Storm Harbor Equestrian Center, received an award in the amount of $54,092 from the US Department of Veterans Affairs to continue to expand the equine-assisted programs offered to disabled veterans at the Storm Harbor Equestrian Center.
Betsy Kemeny and Deborah Hutchins, Parks & Recreation, received an award in the amount of $88,059 from the Horses & Humans Research Foundation to compare two different therapeutic interventions for effectiveness in promoting stress reduction in young adults with autism spectrum disorders.

John Lisco, Parks & Recreation, received funding in the amount of $44,725 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to provide law enforcement training to park rangers.

Wendy Leitera, Cooperative Activities, Lisa Ringer, SGA Child Care Center, received an agreement in the amount of $281,320 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education through LifeSteps, Inc. for the continuation of the Pre-K Counts to provide tuition-free pre-kindergarten opportunities, including a 10-day summer Kindergarten Readiness Program, for eligible students.

Kathleen Melago, Music, received an award in the amount of $1,000 from the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association to purchase iPads to provide distance-learning teaching experiences to pre-service music educators.

Debra Pincek, Student Services, received an award in the amount of $14,823 from the U.S. Department of Education to provide child care services to SRU students attending classes. This is for Year 04 of a four-year grant.

Kimberly Smith, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, received an award in the amount of $1,500 from the Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund to conduct the Walk the Rock research program.

David Tini, undergraduate student in Music Education, was the 2nd Place winner of the State System Business Plan Competition 2016-17 and was awarded $4,500 from the PASSHE Foundation, Inc., to develop and/or grow his business, HotLips Instrumental Supplies. John Golden, Director of the Sustainable Enterprise Accelerator (SEA), is the faculty mentor for this project.

Joy Urda and Beth Larouere, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, received an award in the amount of $1,440 from the Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund to engage faculty and staff in yoga to improve wellness through stress management techniques.

Joy Urda and Beth Larouere, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, received an award in the amount of $720 from the Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund to engage faculty and staff in meditation to improve wellness through stress management techniques.

David Wilmes, Student Success, received a grant in the amount of $14,866 from the PA Department of Education for the Governor’s It’s On Us PA program. This funding will expand the role SRU has on combating sexual violence on campus.
Internal Grant Awards

Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Nicole Benevenuto received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, *Brain Awareness Week: The Brain Basis of Mental Disorders*. Jennifer Willford, Psychology, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Anthony DeRosa received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, *Art from Earth: Exploring Technical Applications of Minerals from Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania*. Tricia Bishop, Art, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Katelynn Kletzi received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, *Physiological, Psychological and Social Impacts of an Exercise Intervention on Prison Inmates*. Kimberly Smith, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Kelly Lynch received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, *Massage Induced Hormones Influence on Wellness*. Jennifer Willford, Psychology, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Savannah McCartney received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, *BDF/Gibney Connect*. Teena Custer, Dance, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Green Fund

Dallas Cott, Facilities and Planning, was awarded $9,356 for the Planting 50 Trees project.

John Golden, School of Business/SEA, was awarded $2,307 for the SEA Pollination Garden project.

Faculty/Student Research Grant

Patrick Burkhart, Geography, Geology and the Environment and Katherine Mickle, Art, were awarded $5,000 for a project titled, *Searching for Evidence of Climate Change in the White River Badlands*. Eight students will be participating.

Xianfeng Chen and Jack Livingston, Geography, Geology and the Environment, were awarded $5,000 for a project titled, *Estimation of Vegetation Fractional Cover with Landsat Data in Arid Region*. Four students will be participating.

Michael Holmstrup and Brock Jensen, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, were awarded $4,905 for a project titled, *The Effect of Exercise Duration on Inter-Arm Systolic Blood Pressure Difference & Arterial Stiffness*. Six students will be participating.

George Lengyel, Chemistry, was awarded $4,855 for a project titled, *Thermodynamic Folding Status of Peptides Containing a,a-Dialkylated Amino Acids*. Three students will be participating.

Jeremy Lynch, Special Education, was awarded $3,250 for a project titled, *PSTs’ Perceptions of Full Inclusion after a Service-Learning Partnership with the Watson Institute*. One student will be participating.

Rizwan Mahmood, Physics and Engineering, was awarded $3,984 for a project titled, *Hybrid Materials—Liquid Crystal and Gold Nanoparticles Composites*. One student will be participating.

Vern Miller and Nicole Hahna, Music, were awarded $4,200 for a project titled, *Teaching Clinical Applications of Music Technology: A Pilot Study*. One student will be participating.

Marketa Schublova and Bonnie Siple, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, were awarded $5,000 for a project titled, *The Effects of a Six Week Training Program Utilizing Suspension Training Strap and Swiss-ball*. Eight students will be participating.

Kimberly Smith, Marketa Schublova, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, Elizabeth Boerger, Catherine Massey, Psychology Sarah Kuehn, Rebecca Ridener, Criminology and Security Studies, were awarded $4,999 for a project titled, *Physiological, Psychological, and Social Impacts of a 12-week Exercise Intervention on Prison Inmates*. Six students will be participating.

Langdon Smith, Geography, Geology and the Environment, was awarded $4,553 for a project titled, *Obama’s National Monuments*. Three students will be participating.
Proposal Writing Tips and Tricks

Win research funding:
3 proven steps to seal the deal
How to craft a convincing argument

When applying for any type of funding, you must make a compelling case for why you deserve it. But with research funding, you need to take it a step further, making a convincing argument for why your research is absolutely necessary.

Here are a few keys to writing superior research grant applications:

1. Don’t use unexplained jargon. One of the worst mistakes you can make is confusing your readers. Get your message across in the clearest way possible.
2. Justify extra time and resources. If you ask for something you don’t need, or fail to justify why you need it, your application isn’t going to go over well. You must make a compelling argument for your needs.
3. Get another set of eyes. Give your application to someone in your field whom you trust. This will help you figure out which parts of the application could be better.

Proposal Development
Travel Fund

This program is intended to provide the opportunity for faculty and staff to communicate with program officers about funding activities in preparation for submitting a proposal for external funding.

This program provides travel support for full-time faculty and staff to:

- meet with program officers at a funding agency,
- attend a proposal preparation workshop, a funding information conference, or a bidder’s conference sponsored by a funding agency, or
- attend a proposal preparation workshop, a funding information conference, or a bidder’s conference that is part of a professional meeting.

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