

# UVU COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Scholarly Activities Committee (SAC)

## 2024 AWARD GUIDELINES

### PURPOSE OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY COMMITTEE AWARDS:

To support the engagement of COS faculty, staff, and students in scholarly activities including research and dissemination of scholarly work.

### CATEGORIES OF AWARDS:

#### 1. RESEARCH

##### a. Faculty/staff\* - Annual Award:

Faculty/Staff are invited to apply for an annual award in the following categories:

##### i. Research Supplies Award

##### ii. Reassigned Time

##### iii. Summer Research Award

Faculty/staff annual research proposals are accepted only during Spring semester for the following fiscal year according to the details and deadline described below.

##### b. Faculty-mentored research with students:

Students may apply for this award at any time for projects with a faculty mentor.

#### 2. DISSEMINATION

a. **Faculty/staff\* travel for conference presentation.** Proposals are accepted throughout the year.

b. **Student travel for conference presentation.** Proposals are accepted throughout the year.

c. **Publication fees for peer-reviewed journals.** Proposals are accepted throughout the year.

\* Staff whose job description allows research may apply for Research and Dissemination awards.

### SAC GUIDELINE DETAILS AND BUDGET CONSTRAINTS:

The SAC program is intended to support scholarly activities for as many COS students and faculty/staff as the budget will allow. All award amounts are for the fiscal year, unless otherwise specified. When the budget is exhausted, no additional awards will be given. Purchases and travel requests for awarded proposals must align with submitted budgets. Funds cannot be used for different projects or used for dissemination at different conferences than those described in the awarded proposals. Projects awarded SAC funds that include student transportation for research-related travel or dissemination must use UVU Fleet Operations vehicles or vehicles approved through a UVU vendor.

**doTerra Research and Dissemination Awards for projects with a biochemistry focus**

Biochemistry related projects will be subject to the same budgetary constraints as SAC awards. Please indicate on the proposal if the project is biochemistry related.

## 1. RESEARCH

### a. Proposals from faculty/staff to conduct research – Annual Award

#### General Considerations

- Proposals for an Annual Faculty Research Award for the *upcoming* fiscal year will be submitted to Department Chairs by the deadline specified in the call for proposals email sent early Spring semester. The Chairs will review, electronically sign, and forward proposals to the Associate Dean SAC representative. Faculty in their first year at UVU may submit a proposal for research funds and/or research related travel for the *current* fiscal year by Feb. 15. A project funded for the current fiscal year must have used 75% of the funds by March 1 for faculty to be eligible to apply for an award for the next fiscal year. This category of award is different than the student submitted faculty-mentored research award (see 1b below).
- The COS Scholarly Activities Committee will review and rank all proposals. Proposals will be ranked based on the detail and quality of the research proposals, direct involvement of UVU students, and the most appropriate use and allocation of SAC funds. Due to budget constraints, while all proposals will be considered, priority for funding *may* be given to untenured faculty or those who have not recently received a SAC Research Award. Proposals that highlight student involvement in research will also be given priority.
- As stated above, faculty members who have not used at least 75% of an active, current Annual SAC Research Award or doTerra Research Award by March 1 are ineligible to apply for another Annual Faculty Research Award, unless the faculty has been granted an exception because of timing constraints of the current and/or proposed work. Remaining funds of current awards must be spent by June 1 of the award year unless an exception has been granted. Any funds unused by June 1 of current awards will be forfeited.
- Faculty may not apply for both the Reassigned Time Award and the Summer Research Award.
- Projects involving human subjects or participants require IRB approval. Approval must be obtained before applying for an award. <https://www.uvu.edu/irb/>
- The Annual SAC Research Awards should be viewed largely as seed funding to establish a research program. Faculty with established research programs are encouraged to have students submit proposals to conduct faculty-mentored research. Faculty members who have not ever or who have not recently received annual awards will be given priority over faculty who have active or recent awards multiple years in a row. Faculty are also encouraged to apply for Innovation Academy grants and external funding. <https://www.uvu.edu/innovation/>

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## Details of the three types of Annual Faculty/staff awards:

- i. **Research Supplies Award:** Award maximum is \$5,000 per year.
  1. Funds may be requested for supplies, low-cost equipment, or other appropriate research needs.
  2. Funds may be requested for travel to conduct research. If travel requires use of a vehicle, faculty must use a UVU vehicle to transport students. Faculty may not transport students in personal vehicles. Students will not be reimbursed for personal vehicle use. Students must carpool in approved UVU vehicles.
  3. Monetary and salary requests for students or faculty are not eligible.
  4. Travel to conferences is not eligible for this category of award. Faculty dissemination is discussed in part 2.b. of the Guidelines.
- ii. **Reassigned Time Award:** This award is meant to allow faculty mentors to work with research students or another scholarly activity on a more in-depth basis. Scholarly work equivalent to one 3 credit hour class may be awarded to faculty. Departmental awards are limited to one award per 15 department faculty members. *This award is available during Spring semester* (Fall semester will be considered under special circumstances). Due to budget constraints, not all departments may receive awards each year.

Faculty should work closely with their Department Chair when considering a Reassigned Time Award request, as a limited number of these awards are available, and department teaching needs are a priority.

1. Department Chairs will discuss with faculty in their departments who should apply for a Reassigned Time Award. When faculty last received a Reassigned Time Award, department needs, and fairness for all members of a department are factors that should be considered. Reassigned Time Award proposals that include students will be given priority. Not all faculty who apply are guaranteed to receive a Reassigned Time Award due to budget or other department or College considerations.
2. The Reassigned Time Award proposal must outline and explain a workload of 14 hrs/week for the scholarly activity for the semester. The 14 hours/week of work is considered equivalent to the 6 hrs/week of ACHE that is allotted to every faculty member plus 8 hours/week of reassigned time dedicated to the project.
3. The Department Chair will ensure that all courses are covered and that department resources are not unduly stressed by the Reassigned Time Award. Reassigned Time Awards will not be given if a suitable replacement instructor is not available for a department.
4. Faculty will not be eligible for the Reassigned Time Award for two consecutive years unless there is compelling justification, as determined by the Department Chair and approved by the COS Scholarly Activity Committee.

**iii. Summer Research Award:** Faculty who plan to mentor students in research projects during the summer and who have received approval from their Department Chair may apply for a Summer Research Award. When faculty last received a Summer Research Award, department needs, budgetary constraints, and fairness for all members of a department are factors to be considered.

1. Summer Research Awards are given as a one-time payment through payroll. A lump sum will be given during the first or second block of the upcoming summer term, although the project may span one or both summer blocks.
2. Award amounts will be determined each fiscal year based on budgetary considerations. The typical award amount will typically range between \$2000 and \$3500.
3. The number of Summer Research Awards available for each department varies according to the size of the department. Departments with fewer than 15 faculty members may have one faculty receive a Summer Research Award. Larger departments may have up to two faculty receive the Summer Research Award. Faculty will not be eligible for the Summer Research Award for consecutive years unless there is a compelling reason to do so. The SAC committee may decide to award more than the department allotment if the SAC budget allows.
4. The nominated faculty must include in their proposal an outline of the research plan and workload details for the upcoming summer. The faculty will not submit two proposals if the project for the SAC Research Award and Summer Research Award is the same.
5. The COS Scholarly Activities Committee will review, rank, and make funding decisions for the Summer Research Awards. Proposals will be reviewed on the detail and quality of the proposals, direct involvement of UVU students, and the most appropriate use and allocation of SAC funds. Due to budget constraints, while all proposals will be considered, priority for funding *may* be given to untenured faculty or those who have not recently received an annual Research Award or Summer Research Awards. Proposals that highlight student involvement in research will also be given priority.
6. Faculty are eligible to teach one summer block (dependent on department and College needs and budgetary constraints), in addition to receiving the Summer Research Award. The Summer Research Award will be given during the summer block in which the faculty is not teaching, although research may span either or both summer blocks.

**b. Faculty-mentored research with students**

- i. COS Students who have identified a COS faculty mentor may submit a proposal for an award to conduct faculty-mentored research at any time.
- ii. Students may not apply for funds for concurrent projects.
- iii. Proposals may include research supplies, small equipment, and travel to conduct research.

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- iv.** Projects that are part of a course for which students are enrolled are eligible for SAC funding for research supplies. Projects should be novel, and student driven. Normal laboratory experiments are not eligible for SAC funds and should be covered by student fees. Examples of eligible courses are CURES-based courses and independent research courses, such as BIOL 489R, CHEM 489R, etc.
  - v.** Individual students are limited to an award total of \$3,000 toward research projects in their UVU career (\$1,500 max per request and one award per year).\*\*
  - vi.** Teams of students may submit one proposal, but the award will be limited to \$1,500 per student with a maximum award of \$5,000 per proposal. An equally divided award amount will be credited toward each student's career maximum.
  - vii.** Student(s) must write the proposal and develop the budget, with guidance from their faculty mentor. Student(s) must be directly involved in the research in a significant way and demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the research project and budget. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the project during an interview with the Department SAC representative or Department Chair. Mentors cannot be the primary author of student submitted proposals.
  - viii.** Student proposals may be submitted via email at any time to their respective Department Chair and/or Department SAC representative (check with the applicable Department for submission guidelines).
  - ix.** Department Chair and/or Department SAC representative will meet with the student(s) and faculty mentor (if asked) to review the proposal. Student(s) will demonstrate their familiarity and knowledge of the project. The meeting is to:
    - 1.** Ensure the proposal was completed by student(s) and they understand the nature and scope of the project (Department may choose to meet only with lead student and faculty mentor.)
    - 2.** Ensure the request is for necessary supplies that make appropriate use of SAC funds and existing department resources.
    - 3.** Meets Department guidelines and expectations for faculty-mentored research.
  - x.** The Department Chair and/or Department SAC representative will review, sign, and forward the proposal via email to the Associate Dean SAC representative.
  - xi.** Proposals that span fiscal years must specify what portion of the proposal will be used by June 1 of the current fiscal year and what portion will be used after July 1 of the next fiscal year. (Purchases must be made by June 1 to allow for shipping/receiving. Research related travel can be completed in June, but travel and documentation and submission of travel expenses must be completed before June 30.) The award may be split between the fiscal years.
  - xii.** Students will not be reimbursed for personal vehicle use for travel to conduct research. Students must carpool in approved UVU vehicles. Faculty may not transport students in personal vehicles.
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- xiii. Post-baccalaureate students, non-degree seeking students, or undergraduate students with more than 150 credit hours, are not eligible for SAC funding. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and priority given to students who have not participated in prior scientific research projects at UVU. The faculty mentor and student must elucidate how the proposed project will help the student prepare for graduation, graduate school, or employment. Only one exception will be granted for the student. Additionally, the student must not have met their career SAC funding limit.

## 2. DISSEMINATION

### a. Faculty/staff travel for conference presentation.

COS faculty and staff may apply at any time for SAC travel funds. This award will supplement Department travel funds for attendance at a conference for which the faculty/staff has been accepted to present research. The following are stipulations of dissemination awards:

- i. Faculty and staff will use available department money for travel to present at a conference. If needed, faculty/staff may apply for a dissemination award for up to a maximum of \$1,500 to supplement departmental travel funds for presentation at one conference during a fiscal year.
- ii. Faculty/staff will submit the dissemination proposal via email to the Department Chair, who will then forward the request to the Associate Dean SAC representative.
- iii. The application must be approved by the Associate Dean SAC representative and the dissemination award contract must be signed by the applicant before any travel arrangements are made. Travel arranged or completed prior to signing the dissemination award contract will not be covered by SAC funds.
- iv. International travel is not encouraged and is subject to the same maximum funding limitation as domestic travel. Additionally, the quality of the conference must be sufficient to justify international travel.
- v. Faculty/staff are encouraged to look for alternative and supplemental funding sources for conference attendance (e.g., OTL, Faculty Senate, or external awards).

### b. Student travel for conference presentation

COS Students may apply at any time for SAC travel funds to a discipline specific scientific conference for which they have been accepted to present. The following guidelines and stipulations apply:

- i. Prior to submitting a proposal for dissemination through SAC, students should apply for an URSCA dissemination award through Innovation Academy. URSCA applications are typically open between September 1 and April 1. URSCA dissemination applications require acceptance for presentation at the conference prior to application. If additional funds are needed for travel above the amount of the URSCA award, students will submit a SAC proposal for dissemination. Students

will attach the itemized budget and award notification of the URSCA award to the SAC dissemination proposal. If travel funds for dissemination are needed during the window for which URSCA applications is closed, students will only apply for SAC dissemination funds.

- ii. Conference attendance and presentation of an outstanding project should be a culminating experience for a student who has made significant contributions to a research project.
- iii. A maximum of two students per project may be funded for dissemination.
- iv. Students may receive up to \$3,000 from SAC during their UVU career for dissemination at two conferences. A maximum of \$1500 per conference and one conference per year is allowed.\*\*
- v. Timely submission of abstracts and early, discounted registration is expected.
- vi. If multiple COS faculty mentors from the same department have students attending the conference, all students and faculty mentors may be listed on the same proposal. Alternatively, faculty may submit individual proposals for their students, whichever is easiest for faculty and students.
- vii. Faculty supervision at the conference is recommended. Student attending conferences alone is discouraged.
- viii. All students attending the conference must sign the proposal.
- ix. Acceptance for presentation might be contingent on an abstract submission fee. The following should be done in this case:
  1. If abstract submission fees are required, students will submit a SAC dissemination proposal before applying for an URSCA award. The proposal should include the abstract submission fee and the early/discounted conference registration fee. SAC will award enough funds to cover these two fees.
  2. Once accepted for presentation, students will apply for an URSCA dissemination award for the remaining travel needs.
  3. If additional funds are needed for travel above the URSCA dissemination award and conference fees paid by the initial SAC award, the student may modify the initial request with a budget modification to include the amount of additional funds needed. This modification can be submitted directly to the Associate Dean SAC representative and should include the itemized URSCA award.
- x. Student Per Diem: SAC follows the Innovation Academy limit for student per diem: “Each student is allowed one dinner meal reimbursement per travel day based on location as outlined in UVU travel policy and within the Concur travel request system. All travel arrangements must be made using Concur.”
- xi. A student may not use funds from a SAC dissemination grant for any purpose other than travel for dissemination to the conference specified in the proposal. Any



- unused travel funds will be used to provide opportunities for additional students to engage in scholarly activities.
- xii.** Students will not be reimbursed for personal vehicle use. Students must carpool in approved UVU vehicles. Faculty may not transport students in personal vehicles.
  - xiii.** International Travel is not encouraged and is subject to the same funding limitations as domestic travel. Additionally, the conference must be of sufficient quality to justify international travel.
  - xiv.** Poster printing for UCUR and NCUR will be provided by SAC for accepted presentations. The Innovation Academy may pay for UCUR and NCUR registration fees (See UVU Innovation Academy webpage).
  - xv.** SAC will not provide travel funds for UCUR. Travel to UCUR should be coordinated within departments and with faculty mentors.
  - xvi.** Funding for NCUR conference presentation is given low priority. It is preferable for students to present at discipline specific conferences. Students are only eligible for SAC funding to travel to one NCUR conference during their academic career at UVU. Travel to NCUR will be covered if there is not a discipline specific conference the student can participate in.
  - xvii.** Support for participation in non-discipline specific conferences, such as the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, will be limited to conference registration and poster printing only. Participation will not count toward the two-conference maximum. Any funds awarded will go toward the maximum travel award allotment of the student.
  - xviii.** SAC funding for conference attendance by students without accepted presentations will be given low priority. However, if awarded, the funding will be for relatively low-cost, in-state conferences. The amount of SAC support given will be applied toward the student's maximum career travel award allotment and participation will count as one of the two conferences for which participation is provided by SAC funds.
  - xix.** A graduated student may apply for a SAC dissemination award with the following additional stipulations: 1) the majority of the research was completed before graduation; 2) the abstract for presentation consideration was submitted before graduation; 3) there are no un-graduated student co-authors who are able to disseminate the work; 4) the conference is within 4 months and during the same academic year as the student's graduation; 5) the student has not been awarded a previous SAC dissemination award.
  - xx.** Proposals for dissemination-related travel funds will be submitted to the Department Chair for review and approval.
  - xxi.** The Department Chair will forward the dissemination proposal to the Associate Dean SAC representative for review and final approval.
  - xxii.** The proposal must be approved by the Associate Dean SAC representative and the award contract must be signed by the applicant(s) before any travel arrangements

are made. Travel arranged or completed prior to signing the travel award contract will not be covered by the SAC award.

\*\*Career limits for students' research and dissemination awards are retroactive.

**c. Publication fees for peer-reviewed journals:**

The Scholarly Activity Committee will accept proposals at any time from faculty/staff to cover publication costs in quality, non-predatory, peer-reviewed journals. Proposals will be submitted to the Department Chair, who will review, sign, and forward the request to the Associate Dean SAC Representative.

***Publication fees for predatory journals will not be covered by SAC funds.***

Department Chairs and faculty are encouraged to contact the UVU Fulton Library Science Librarian with help in determining the quality of the journal to which the faculty has been accepted for publication.

Additionally, faculty may check the following sources to help determine if the journal has been vetted and found to be legitimate:

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ, <https://doaj.org/>).
- Search for a given journal on the Clarivate Analytics site (<http://ip-science.thomsonreuters.com/mjl/>)

References

Hanson, B., and J. Lunn (2017), *Avoiding predators in publishing*, Eos, 98, Published on 19 June 2017 <https://doi.org/10.1029/2017EO076269>