

## Duke Kunshan University Summer Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (SRS) Summer 2020

### Overview

The **Summer Research Scholars (SRS)** program supports students participating in collaborative research supervised by Duke Kunshan University and Duke faculty. Aligned with DKU's mission to "involve students in innovative scholarship and research programs," student-faculty collaborative research is particularly well suited to the development of the following four animating principles:

- **Collaborative Problem-Solving:** *To instill the habits of collaboration and the ability to synthesize disparate insights in solving complex challenges.*
- **Research and Practice:** *To enhance the ability to forge links between theory and practice in the many-sided and rapidly changing world of human need.*
- **Lucid Communication:** *To develop the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, and to listen attentively to different viewpoints in coming to mature judgments.*
- **Independence and Creativity:** *To nurture free inquiry, deep reflection and a drive to ask interesting questions and find compelling answers.*

For students who intend to do the Signature Work in an area related to their summer research project, this experience can count toward their Experiential Learning requirement. The program is also intended to aid faculty in their research activities by providing undergraduate student researchers for whom the projects must be meaningful as well as educationally valuable.

The application process is competitive, and funds may not be adequate to grant all proposals. The maximum number of students funded per faculty member will be limited to two. The supported work must be carried out during the summer months and is open to any UG student. Faculty of all disciplines are eligible to apply. Faculty are responsible for identifying student researchers and for covering any necessary research expenses.

Due to the coronavirus, in Summer 2020, DKU will only support work carried out remotely. Students will not be able to return to campus to carry out research projects. In the future, we plan to offer a similar program that will allow research that takes place at DKU.

All **Summer Research Scholar** applications are **submitted by the faculty**. Faculty members can nominate up to two students for their summer research projects. These applications are due **no later than April 1, 2020**.

### Funding

The program provides summer 2020 stipends for UG students at a maximum of 12,800 RMB (40 RMB/hour for a maximum of 40 hours/week for up to 8 weeks). The stipend does not cover work begun before the end of Spring Term nor continuing beyond the first day of Fall

Term classes. No funding for research supplies or expenses is available. Students do not receive academic credit for research conducted over the summer.

### **Application**

Applications are submitted using the [online form](#), and consist of:

1. Name of student(s) being nominated
2. A brief statement in support of the nomination(s) (maximum 100 words per student)
3. Research proposal of no more than 2 pages of text, written to be understandable to non-experts in the field. The proposal should include the following:
  - a. Purpose of project
  - b. How project will be carried out
  - c. Role of each student
  - d. Timeline (i.e., will the work be concluded over the summer or continue into the next academic year or beyond)
  - e. Anticipated end product (priority will be given to projects that will lead to a student's signature work, publication, and/or conference presentation)
  - f. Student responsibilities and educational benefit
4. A brief description from the student describing his/her role in the proposed project
5. IRB materials, if applicable. If an IRB review is required for the project, a copy of the materials that will be submitted by the faculty to the IRB must be included with the application.

The following considerations should be addressed in the application:

- a. Projects should engage students as full collaborators in the scholarly work
- b. Proposals should specify the significance of the student's contributions to the faculty mentor's research program.
- c. The student's qualifications and preparation for the proposed work
- d. The student should be able to demonstrate an understanding of her/his role in the proposed project.
- e. Proposals should include a clear and convincing statement of the benefits to the student(s) involved in the proposed work.

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. educational value to the student researcher
2. significance of the work proposed
3. clarity and organization of proposal
4. feasibility of the project
5. qualifications and motivation of the student participants

### **Reporting**

*Research Report:* Student Research Scholars must submit a brief final research report (no more than two pages), due the first day of Fall Term classes (Monday, August 24, 2020). If there is more than one student working on the same research project, the team may submit one report. The student researchers, *not the supervising faculty member*, should write the report. The report will provide an accurate and complete account of all work done on the project, including figures and diagrams if appropriate, and information on publication or

presentation plans. The report should be submitted to DKU Undergraduate Studies [ugstudies@dukekunshan.edu.cn](mailto:ugstudies@dukekunshan.edu.cn) with a copy to the faculty mentor.

*Poster Session:* All UG Summer Research Scholars will be expected to present their research at a UG Student Summer Research Scholars Poster Session in the Fall.

### **Dates and Deadlines**

April 1: Application Deadline

April 15: Announcement of funding recipients

April 30: Deadline for students to accept funding

May 11: Earliest funded work can begin

August 21: Last date funded work can be carried out

August 24: Final SRS Report Due

Fall 2020 (date TBD): UG Student Summer Research Scholars Poster Session

### **Application Review**

Applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of one faculty member each from AH, NS, SS, and LCC, designated by the appropriate division chair or director of the LCC.

### **Questions**

Contact Marcia France at [marcia.b.france@dukekunshan.edu.cn](mailto:marcia.b.france@dukekunshan.edu.cn).