Proposal for an Undergraduate Research/Arts Fellow Honor Distinction
January 11, 2011

Oregon State University recognizes significant engagement and accomplishment in undergraduate research and the arts by awarding an honor distinction of “Undergraduate Research/Arts Fellow” to students of all majors upon completion of a significant research or creative arts experience under faculty mentorship. “Research” here is intended to encompass modes of scholarship and inquiry as they are variously practiced and defined in OSU’s academic disciplines. Students completing significant creative projects in the arts may receive the honorary distinction “Undergraduate Arts Fellow.” The distinction will be noted on the student’s transcript, and the student will receive a blue honor cord to be worn at graduation ceremonies.

To qualify for the Undergraduate Research/Arts Fellow distinction:

1) Students must demonstrate involvement in all major phases of their project including conception, implementation, and presentation. This involvement will generally involve sustained work over multiple quarters resulting in an original contribution relative to the discipline.

2) The project presentation must be to an audience that extends beyond the immediate research group or creative context, for example at a public performance, departmental symposium, the annual Celebration of Undergraduate Excellence, a professional meeting, or through publication in a student or professional journal.

3) Evidence of the presentation must be submitted with the final honorary distinction application and deposited into the OSU Scholars Archive.

4) A member of the OSU Graduate Faculty must endorse the application, verifying satisfaction of the criteria described above.

To apply for the distinction students should complete the OSU Undergraduate Research/Arts Fellow Honor Distinction Application, which includes a detailed narrative description of the project and the student’s involvement in specific research/creative tasks, a timeline of the student’s project engagement, details of the public presentation, and the Graduate Faculty member’s endorsement. Applications may be submitted at any time during the undergraduate’s career but no later than three weeks prior to a student’s anticipated graduation date.

The Undergraduate Research Subcommittee of the University Council on Student Engagement and Experience oversees this program and conducts periodic reviews and programmatic revisions as needed.