Application #SP024

Q1. Applicant Information

Name (first and last)	Elizabeth M. Nuñez
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Name of Department/ Unit/ Student Organization	UC Davis Undergraduate Research Center
What is your role or position within the Department/ Unit/ Student Organization?	Associate Director

Q2. Event/ Program Information

Name of the Event/ Program	32nd Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creative Activities Conference
Date(s) of Event/ Program	Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24, 2021
Location	Friday, April 23, 2021 at the ARC Pavilion and Saturday, April 24, 2021 at Wellman Hall
Estimated Attendance (if applicable)	<7,000
Funding request amount from COSAF (Student Programming Fund) ($x,xxx)	8,000
TOTAL event/ program budget ($x,xxx)	16,500

Q3. Please provide a detailed description and purpose of the event/ program.

UC Davis undergraduate students in all academic fields are invited to submit an abstract and present at the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Conference. The conference is designed to acquaint undergraduates with the process and academic rigors of presenting research in a scholarly manner while building valuable communication skills. Students will present their research projects to faculty, staff and peers in either a poster presentation, oral presentation, or through our Arts & Design Exhibit. Additionally, the conference will stimulate interaction and networking between students, faculty, staff and peers, while helping encouraging undergraduate students to pursue advanced degrees toward the goal of research and college teaching. The oral presentation will allow students to give a 15-minute presentation of their topic and includes time for questions. Oral presentations are grouped by similar research topics and given 15 minutes for their presentations, including a question & answer portion from the audience. Our 2019 oral presentations included 150 presentations with 35 majors represented and over 100 faculty sponsors. Each oral session will be moderated by a faculty member. In 2019 we had 30 faculty moderators assist with our oral presentations. In the poster session, students will have designed a visual poster representing their research and will be presenting their work to individual or small groups of faculty and peers over a 60 minute poster session. The research poster sessions are the largest portion of our conference both in the number of presenters and attendees. Our 2019 research poster session displayed 530 research posters with 84 majors represented and over 300 faculty sponsors. The Arts & Design Exhibit takes place at the same time as the poster presentations and are on display for three hours. The Arts & Design Exhibit is an opportunity for arts, humanities, design, and engineering students to display their artwork, research, and prototypes. Our 2019 Arts & Design Exhibit doubled in size from the previous year with 18 submissions. Overall between the two-day conference, our 2019 attendance was 6,897 people including undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, staff, donors, and individuals from the Davis/Sacramento community. While participating in research provides excellent preparation for graduate study, students presenting their work at this conference will further enhance their experience and become even more valuable as they are considered for admission to graduate or professional schools. All presenters will be individually recognized with a certificate of achievement for their presentation. The Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creative Activity conference has had a 99% acceptance rate for all conference applications over the 30+ year history of our conference. The conference also serves as a way to recruit, encourage, and motivate undergraduate students who attend the conference but are not yet engaged in research to explore research opportunities. This is accomplished by exposing undergraduate students to the expansive and diverse research topics being explored on our campus. The URC Conference contributes to the culture of research at UC Davis by providing a space for undergraduate researchers to present their research, scholarship and creative activities in a welcoming and academic setting. For many students, presenting at the URC Conference is their first experience presenting their research in a scholarly environment and promotes continued development of professional communication, scholar identify development, analytical skills, and overall confidence in being an undergraduate research scholar at a research-intensive university such as UC Davis. The Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creative Activities Conference is organized by a campus-wide committee and chaired by Elizabeth M. Nuñez, Undergraduate Research Center, with support from Undergraduate Education, Student Affairs, Global Affairs and University Library.

Q4. Please enter estimated numbers of students who will benefit from this event/ program.

<1,000

Q5. Has your Department/ Unit/ Student Organization put on this event in the past?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ Uncertain

Q6. Please provide the following information on the previous event(s).

Event date(s) (Month(s)/ Date(s) / Year)	Our event has taken place for 30+ years and is always the last weekend of April
Location	Most recently our conference has been hosted in the ARC Pavilion and Wellman Hall.
Total attendance	Our attendance continues to grow last year we had approximately 7,000 attendees

Q7. Who is the target audience of the event/ program? (e.g. students, program participants, users of a specific service)

There are more than 700 undergraduate students presenters from all majors, levels and academic standing who have conducted faculty-sponsored research at UC Davis. The target audience also includes many students who have not yet become involved with research and who want to learn about research opportunities and see examples of undergraduate research at UC Davis. These students attend and are infused with excitement expressed by their peers engaged in research. In addition to student presenters, the URC invites all UC Davis administrators, faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, staff, surrounding community colleges, potential donors, and members of the Davis/Sacramento community.

Q8. What will be learned? (i.e. acquired knowledge, skills or abilities, a new awareness/ sensitivity/ perspective, an adopted practice)

Students will learn presentation and communication skills. Based on post-conference survey results, students who present at our annual conference reported an increased confidence in their identity as a research scholar, an increased interest in presenting their research and design projects at other academic conferences, increased interest in continuing research, and increased interest in graduate school. It is common for undergraduate students to participate in our conference for 2-3 years consecutively. The learning that takes place for these student presenters grows with each year they participate in our conference. Undergraduate students who are not yet involved with research who attend the conference learn about the expansive and diverse research topics being explored on our campus, and see specific examples of undergraduate research projects and the diverse students who are involved in research. Often times, this event encourages student attendees to explore their own research experience and/or present their research at the next conference. Student presenters are encouraged to invite family, friends, and others within their network of support. For these conference attendees, they learn the amount of hard work and dedication their student presenter is putting into their research experience. Finally, all attendees learn the accomplishments of undergraduate students involved with research and ways that undergraduate students can impact the world.

Q9. What program, activity, or service will be provided? (e.g. six-week training program, instructional class or activity, structured community program that exposes students to new ideas and experiences)

During the conference, we offer three one-hour research poster sessions (on Friday), an arts & design exhibit (on Friday), and a full day of oral presentations (on Saturday). The URC provides guidance and mentorship to all conference presenters before, during and after the conference. Before the conference we offer a workshop on how to write an abstract workshop in partnership with the University Writing Program. The goal of this workshop is to assist undergraduate students interested in submitting an abstract for our conference. Workshop attendees receive specific feedback on their abstracts as well as gain general knowledge about how to successfully write an abstract within their specific discipline. Once undergraduate students have been notified of their acceptance to present at our conference we offer a how to make an effective poster and how to give a professional talk workshop. These workshops are also in collaboration with the University Writing Program with the goal of helping oral and poster presenters prepare for their specific conference presentations. All presenters (<700 undergraduate students) also attend a mandatory preparation session to help students prepare for their conference presentation. During these preparation session, the URC team goes over the logistics of each presentation format, provides guidance on when presenters will receive their presentation time and location, and answer any questions students might as they prepare for their conference presentation. In addition to supporting students as they prepare for the conference, the URC assembles a conference committee each year to plan and organize all of the logistics to put on a successful conference for our campus community. This includes scheduling catering needs for both days of the conference, recruiting and training volunteers and faculty moderators, submitting and confirming space rentals for the ARC Pavilion and Wellmen Hall, renting poster boards, easels, tables and IT services for each day of the conference, assigning presentation slots for all poster presentations, creating and approving all marketing material for conference, printing all conference signage, name tags, and certificates. We also print research posters for all student presenters (<500 posters) which amounts to a value of $80-120 per poster. After each conference, every student presenter and faculty sponsor receives a post-conference survey asking for their feedback. The conference chair reviews the data from the post-conference survey and intentionally implements feedback where appropriate with the goal of improving the conference each year.

Q10. How will the learning be shown or what does the learning look like? (e.g. demonstrated knowledge of course material, change in behavior, a practiced skill, a task achieved)

Learning will be displayed through each presentation and the undergraduate researcher's ability to effectively communicate their research topic, findings, and implications. A student presenting a poster will stand at their poster to present and answer questions for one-hour during their assigned poster session. The arts & design exhibit is 3 hours long, and students are usually present for this entire time to answer questions and showcase their project. A student presenting in an oral session will present for 15 minutes, which includes 2-3 minutes for Q&A. Learning is also demonstrated and evaluated by faculty who participate as session moderators who ask questions of each presenter and provide certificates. Students not yet involved with research learn by looking at posters with examples of specific projects and asking questions about the research experience.

Q11. How does the event/ program provide services that are of growing interest to students? (if applicable)

By participating in the conference students gain and build transferable skills for internships, jobs, graduate school, medical school, and other professional schools. In addition, participation in the conference promotes professional communication, prepares students for effective interviews, prepare students to present at national conferences, networking with faculty, and peers.

Q12. How does the event/ program foster diversity? (if applicable)

Our annual conference fosters diversity by inviting students from all majors, academic standings, and backgrounds to present their work at the conference. The Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creative Activity conference has had a 99% acceptance rate for all conference applications over the 30+ year history of our conference. In addition, targeted recruitment efforts in Center for African Diaspora Student Success (CADSS), the Center for Chicanx and Latinx Academic Student Success (CCLASS), The Native American Academic Student Success Center (NAASSC), the Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian (MENASA) Student Resources, Strategic Asian Pacific Islander Retention Initiatives, LGBTQIA center, Cross Cultural Center and the Women's Research & Resource Center are conducted to invite a diverse group of students to participate in the URC Conference. Undergraduate students from structured research programs geared towards increasing graduate degree awards for students from underrepresented segments of society (BUSP, McNair, LSAMP/CAMP, UC LEADS, LEADR, MURALS, etc) are also invited to present and attend our conference in an effort to continue the growth and diversity the conference has experienced in the past.

Q13. How does the event/ program provide crucial services to students? (if applicable)

The event provides critical opportunities for building communication skills, professional development and preparation for graduate and professional schools. There is currently no other conference at UC Davis that focuses on undergraduate students from all majors, disciplines, and academic standings presenting their research, scholarship, creative activities or design projects. Many students experience presenting their research for the very first time at the URC Conference and without it, there would be a noticeable void for such a dedicated space to emerging undergraduate scholars. A key service that is crucial for broad participation is that we also print research posters for all student presenters (<500 posters) which amounts to a value of $80-120 per poster. Each year the URC assembles a conference committee to plan and organize all of the logistics to put on a successful conference for our campus community.

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM COSAF

Name of Event/Program: 32nd Annual Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creative Activities Conference

Item	AMT REQUESTED FROM COSAF	FULL COST OF EVENT
A. Lecture / Entertainment: Honoraria / Performers		
1.	$	
2.	$	
3.	$	
B. Publicity: Flyers / Posters / Ads / Mailing / Printing		
1. Photo Back Drops & Props for publicity and celebrating accomplishments on the day of event	$ 500.00	$900.00
2. Certificate Printing (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 100.00	$200.00
3. Abstract Book Printing (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 425.00	$850.00
4. Event Posters/Flyers/Postcards (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to for account expected increase of participants)	$ 300.00	$600.00
5. Badge Printing, labels, envelopes, etc (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to for account expected increase of participants)	$ 100.00	$260.00
C. Food: Refreshments, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (Include cost per person)		
1. Conference refreshments for approx 4000, day 1 (chips, salsa, cookies, tea/lemonade/water) (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to for account expected increase of participants)	$ 2,500.00	$5,000.00
2. Volunteer lunch day 1 (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 0.00	$150.00
3. Conference refreshments for approx 500, day 2 (chips, salsa, cookies, water) (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 500.00	$1,000.00
4. Volunteer lunch day 2 (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 45.00	$90.00
5.	$	
D. Decorations / Props		
1. Ribbons and Nametags (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 100.00	$200.00
2. Name badges (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 150.00	$300.00
3. Plotter Paper (for printing research posters and large signage) (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 400.00	$850.00
4. Plotter Ink and color printer ink (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 400.00	$950.00
5. Display items (signs, boards, easels) (cost of URC 2019 + 10% to account for expected increase of participants)	$ 125.00	$250.00
E. Facility: Room Rental / Room Setup Fees / Equipment Rental / AV		
1. Room Rental ARC main floor (amount based on rental rate of 2019 URC + 10% increase)	$ 600.00	$1,100.00
2. Facility Staffing/Custodial/freight (amount based on labor cost of 2019 URC + 10% increase)	$ 600.00	$900.00
3. Poster Board Rental for poster presentations (amount based on rental rate of 2019 URC + 10% increase)	$ 400.00	$800.00
4. Room Rental Wellman (amount based on rental rate of 2019 URC + 10% increase)	$ 500.00	$1,100.00
5. Room Rental of Student Commuity Center Multipurpose Room (amount based on rental rate of 2019 URC + 10% increase)	$ 255.00	$400.00
F. Travel: Transportation / Parking / Lodging		
1.	$	
2.	$	
3.	$	
4.	$	
5.	$	
G. Other - In Kind Support		
1. UC Davis Facutly and Staff providing all planning guidence, efforts, and support	$ 0.00	$0.00
2. Guidebook - confernce program application (shared license for Undergraduate Education, cost reflects URC cost)	$ 0.00	$600.00
3. Graphic design provided by Undergraduate Education Communications Team (development of conference logo, flyers, posters, LCDs, stickers, etc.)	$ 0.00	$0.00
4. Photograher and Videographer provided by Undergradaute Education Communications Team	$ 0.00	$0.00
5.	$	
Total Amount Requested from COSAF	**$ 8,000.00**	
Total Cost Of Event		**$ 16,500.00**