

Study and Research Abroad

Opportunities for study and research abroad include exchange programs and grants. *More Info:* Study Abroad Programs web site (www.siu.edu/departments/study_abroad).

Research Centers

Many of SIUC's research centers and institutes offer research and student work opportunities to undergraduates. Below is a partial listing; see a full listing with web links at www.siu.edu/~ovcr/centers.html.

- Center for Advanced Friction Studies
- Center for Archaeological Investigations
- Center for Integrated Research in Cognitive & Neural Science
- Center for Rural Health & Social Service Development
- Coal Research Center
- Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory
- Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center
- Global Media Research Center
- Materials Technology Center
- Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
- Soybean Center

▶▶▶ SPEAR: A RESEARCH-RELATED STUDENT ORGANIZATION

A new student organization at SIUC has been formed to enhance undergraduates' professional development through research activities and preparation for graduate studies. Students Promoting Educational Advancement and Research (SPEAR) will sponsor and publicize research-related events and research opportunities. Look for meeting announcements, or contact mcnair@siu.edu.



▶▶▶ ANNUAL RESEARCH EVENTS

Undergraduate Research Forum

Held annually in conjunction with Research Day (see below), the forum features poster sessions and award presentations. All undergraduates doing research with faculty at SIUC are invited to participate, and all students are invited to attend.

Research Day

Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, Phi Delta Kappa, and the Society for Neuroscience sponsor a campus research conference each spring semester. Undergraduates are invited to submit research posters and papers for possible inclusion.

Celebrating Scholarship By and About Women

University Women's Professional Advancement and Women's Studies jointly sponsor a refereed (competitive) research poster and paper presentation session at the end of each academic year. Student participation is encouraged.

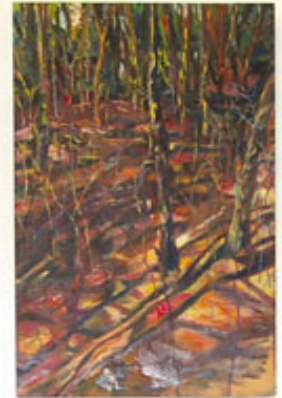
▶▶▶ FOR MORE INFORMATION...

www.siu.edu/~reach

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Office of Research Development & Administration (ORDA)
Woody Hall C-206 • (618) 453-4540



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDERGRADUATES



Atending Southern Illinois University Carbondale, a comprehensive research university, gives you a clear advantage: opportunities to work with nationally and internationally renowned faculty, top-notch research programs, and state-of-the-art facilities in diverse disciplines, from art to zoology.

»»» WHAT IS RESEARCH?

Research is the hands-on process of discovering new knowledge and creating new interpretations of the world around us. For undergraduates at SIUC, it means working one-on-one with faculty and graduate students in laboratories, studios, and libraries, on campus and in the field.

»»» WHY SHOULD I PURSUE RESEARCH?

Are you motivated, curious, and generally excited about your studies? Do you want to learn about the latest methods and techniques in your field of interest? Do you want to gain an inside edge in the competition to get a job or be accepted into graduate or professional school? Do you simply want a more challenging undergraduate experience? Then research is for you.



»»» HOW CAN I BECOME A STUDENT RESEARCHER?

First, identify your area of interest. It may be your major, or it may be a related field. Next, find a faculty mentor or advisor: talk to your professors and graduate teaching assistants in classes you enjoy, or inquire at the many research centers around campus (see listing in this brochure). Keep your eyes and ears open—opportunities are everywhere!

Most academic units offer credit for independent research and study, and a research project culminating in a thesis is one option offered through the University Honors Program. Volunteer to join research projects: it's a great way to learn career-related skills and determine if the field is right for you. Join departmental student organizations and honor societies. Read departmental bulletin boards to learn what's going on.

»»» WHAT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

Undergraduate Research/Creative Activity Awards

SIUC's undergraduate research program, REACH (Research-Enriched Academic Challenge), offers competitive \$1,500 grants and undergraduate assistantships to support an original research, creative, or scholarly project done with the guidance of a faculty mentor. Applications are due in spring semester; the one-year awards begin in July. Students present project results at the Undergraduate Research Forum (see back panel). *More Info:* www.siu.edu/~reach.

McNair Scholars Program

This federally funded program prepares undergraduates from underrepresented groups, including minority and first-generation/low-income students, for graduate school. SIUC's McNair program provides special learning experiences, services, and support to 22 juniors and seniors each year. Students take part in a summer research institute and present research results at conferences. *More Info:* www.siu.edu/~mcnair.

Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation

SIUC is a member of the Illinois Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, a statewide coalition dedicated to increasing the number of underrepresented minority students



in science, mathematics, and engineering. Funded by the National Science Foundation, this program provides paid, mentored research experiences for undergraduates on campus. *More Info:* mcnair@siu.edu.

Organization for Tropical Studies

SIUC is a member of this organization, which supports tropical biology research at field stations in Costa Rica. Research opportunities for undergraduates include a summer class and a junior year abroad program. *More Info:* www.science.siu.edu/tropical-studies.

Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society

The SIUC chapter of Sigma Xi offers an annual undergraduate research scholarship, and Sigma Xi International awards research grants-in-aid to undergraduates. *More Info:* www.siu.edu/~sigmaxi.

External Grants

Faculty with research grants often have funds for student workers, and some faculty research labs employ many undergraduates. Check with your professors about opportunities. Undergraduates also can apply directly to certain government or nonprofit agency programs for research grants and off-campus summer research fellowships. Most of these competitive programs are discipline-specific, and the success rate can be high. *More Info:* Office of Research Development and Administration web site (www.siu.edu/orda; see "External Funding"); Prestigious Scholarships web site (www.siu.edu/~psc).