

Application form and announcement of

The Ray H. Crist Student Research Scholarship

The natural science departments and Messiah College are pleased to announce a research scholarship of \$1000.00 to be given to a qualified student in the Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, or Nutrition and Dietetics Departments. The scholarship is in honor of Dr. Ray Crist. Since 1970, Dr. Crist taught numbers of Messiah College students the art and methodology of scientific research. Dr. Crist was born in 1900, grew up very close to the college, and graduated from Messiah Academy. His professional career included work at Dickinson College, Columbia University, and Union Carbide. The Ray H. Crist Student Research Scholarship supports the tradition of high quality student/faculty research and learning at Messiah College.

Description

Students from these three departments are invited to submit research proposals during the spring semester of each year. The goal is to announce the winners by late April, 2009. Research will typically be conducted during the summer or the following academic year. Research settings may include Senior Research, Department and College Honors, Independent Study, or non-Messiah College research environments. Regardless of research location, all proposals must be sponsored by a Messiah faculty member. Research will be done in collaboration with this person or with an off-campus research mentor. The scholarship is granted at \$500.00 per semester. The second semester's grant is contingent on the first semester's performance. It is understood that the work of the second semester will be a continuation of research started in the first semester. The scholarship is renewable for a second year but the student must reapply with no preference given to current scholarship recipients. At the end of the research experience, the student will present the results in a written paper and in a seminar setting to an audience of students and faculty during the School of Health and Natural Sciences Scholarship Day.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1. Class Standing - the applicant must be a current full-time sophomore or junior in their Department.
2. Grade Record - you should have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
3. Future Goals - preference is given to students intending to pursue research in graduate school or other settings.
4. Feasibility - selection will take into account the likelihood of completion of the proposed research as determined by availability of equipment, time, and faculty.
5. Research proposal - of great importance is the quality and originality of the research proposal.
6. Interview - finalists and sponsor(s) will be interviewed by the scholarship committee.

Research Proposal Format and Guidelines

1. Researching and writing the proposal is the student's responsibility. Although you must obtain the sponsorship of a faculty member(s) within your department of study, the faculty member (or off-campus research mentor) is not to edit or revise your proposal. You may, of course, talk with faculty members and others to help clarify your thoughts, solicit ideas, and obtain suggestions for research methodology.
2. The proposal should include an introduction to the general nature of the research you wish to pursue and a statement of the specific research question you have in mind.
3. List all equipment, materials, methods, and resources required for the project. Indicate the current availability of these resources in the department, specify the research setting (an on-campus lab, specific field sites, an off-campus lab).
4. Include some references to pertinent literature.
5. The proposal should be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 1000 words exclusive of citations.
6. Include a brief statement of support from your on or off-campus research mentor. The statement should include an affirmation to provide resources as per #3 above.

Application Information

¹Name _____ ²ID No. _____ ³Major _____

⁴Overall GPA _____ ⁵Advisor _____

⁶Sponsoring Messiah College faculty member(s) _____

⁷Name and institution of off-campus (if applicable) research mentor(s) _____

⁸Class standing (So., Jr.) _____

⁹Write a brief statement of your professional goals:

¹⁰Attach your research proposal to this form and submit to the office of the Dean of Health and Natural Sciences, Jordan 157 promptly and no later than April 3, 2009.