

Salisbury University Student Research Conference Frequently Asked Questions for Students

What is student research?

At SU, any significant independent study, performance, or portfolio by an undergraduate or graduate student (or group of students) falls under the broad definition of research. Done a big, independent paper in history? Worked up a really good business plan? Have a pedagogical philosophy to share? Been working in Dr. X's lab? Created something outstandingly beautiful lately? Students who are doing or have done significant independent work (individually or in a group) *in any academic program and/or major* are urged to submit a proposal.

I am [shy/ too busy]. Why should I bother?

A public research conference gives you a chance to share findings and explorations with an educated, non-specialist public. You will gain a much different experience from that you have had inside the classroom. If you have done the work, you should be proud enough of it to show it off and take some questions. Criticism is generally constructive, and questions from your audience can spark new ideas.

Not only will SUSRC expand your mind, and show you how your work fits into the wide spectrum of student research at SU, it is also essential for you to show future employers or graduate schools that you are capable of the public presentation of your own independent work. Student research is increasingly a staple of student CVs.

Do you accept all student proposals?

No. While we strive to include as many student presentations as possible, in some cases we do not have room for presentations and posters. In this case we accept those proposals which seem to be the best thought out, while we simultaneously strive to include proposals from as diverse an array of disciplines as possible. In some cases proposals are poorly written, or suggest that no independent work has been done. These are generally rejected. Your faculty mentor should check your proposal before you submit it. In fact, you will not be able to submit an abstract unless your faculty mentor has approved your work.

How do I submit a proposal?

Go to <http://www.salisbury.edu/susrc> and click on the "Proposal Submission" link and follow the instructions.

Other questions? E-mail or call the SUSRC committee chair.