TO: CNAS Faculty – IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM: Thomas Baldwin, Dean
      Gary Scott, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs
      David Fairris, Vice Provost and CCRAA-HSI Principal Investigator

RE: Funding Available! Faculty-mentored Undergraduate Research
    Hispanic Serving Institution Grant, $3.3M funded through the
    US Dept. of Education, College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA)

In October, UCR received a two year $3.3M grant to increase the number of transfer students
articulating in STEM fields, and to enhance the support more generally for Hispanic and
low-income students at UCR who are pursuing degrees in the STEM fields. We have a
variety of activities planned, although the largest allocation of funding is going to faculty-
mentored undergraduate research opportunities.

For Winter 09 and Spring 09, we have more than $100,000 to distribute in undergraduate
research student stipends. There is additional funding for 10-week summer research experiences,
especially for transfer students, and continued funding for undergraduate research stipends
during the 2009/10 academic year and summer. In all, we have well over a half million dollars
to hire Hispanic and low income students in order that they may have an undergraduate research
experience that encourages them to attain their STEM degree.

Faculty-mentored undergraduate research opportunities and on-campus employment are
two factors that have proven to increase retention and improve graduation rates. We
would like to focus on upper division students and have already developed a list of Junior- and
Senior-status students from Hispanic and low-income backgrounds as candidates for
employment. We are hoping to hire students who are now working off-campus at non-STEM
jobs, in order to involve them in the research process and better connect them with their field of
study.

Are you interested in employing and mentoring undergraduate students in your research
labs? If you are, please complete the short application on the following page. Send this to Patsy
Oppenheim, Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, as she will be organizing the
process where faculty review the list of students, interview candidates, and hire student
researchers – patsy.oppenheim@ucr.edu or call 2-2617. Deadline is Friday, December 12,
2008.

This is a great opportunity for the campus and our students. We have the funding to spend, so
please respond as soon as possible. BCOE and CNAS faculty have the opportunity to hire at
least 33 students in Winter Quarter and the same number or more in Spring Quarter. Attached to
each student researcher, there is also modest research funding for the faculty mentor.
Faculty-Mentor Application for Undergraduate Student Researchers Assistants

I am interested in being a faculty-mentor for the Hispanic Serving Institutions College Cost and Reduction Access Act Grant, and request to hire upper division undergraduate students to work with me on my research project(s). I understand that the allocated funding is part of a grant to support UCR students from Hispanic and low-income backgrounds who are pursuing degrees in STEM fields. I will work with the Dean’s office and Undergraduate Education to identify students who are potential candidates.

**Deadline: Friday, December 12, 2008**

Please fill out this application and e-mail it to Patsy Oppenheim, Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education at patsy.oppenheim@ucr.edu or send the application through campus mail to 321 Surge.

Name: 

Department: 

Phone: Number ( ) E-mail ( )

Number of students requesting (12 hours/week per student)

Description of Research Project:

Description of Student Researcher’s Duties

Minimum Qualifications for Candidates

Are there specific junior-/senior-level students that you would like to recommend to work as Research Assistant under this program?
Undergraduate STEM Research Assistant Application

A great opportunity for faculty-mentored paid undergraduate research experiences is being provided to STEM majors. UCR received grant monies which included enough money to fund more than thirty undergraduate student research stipends for the next several quarters. Are you interested in applying for one of the positions — up to 12 hours per week during the quarter; hourly wages between $9.00 and $12.00 depending upon duties? The experience is great for your resume, job hunting, networking, and graduate school applications.

Faculty-mentored undergraduate research and on-campus employment are two factors that have proven to increase retention and improve graduation rates. One of the goals of the grant is to enhance the support more Hispanic and low-income students at UCR who are pursuing degrees in the STEM fields, so undergraduate research is a perfect fit.

Below is the short application. It is a great opportunity. Complete is right away — the deadline for applying is December 12th, so do not wait! Please fill out this application and e-mail it to Patsy Oppenheim, Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education patsy.oppenheim@ucr.edu.

**Deadline: Friday, December 12, 2008**

Name: __________________________

Cell Phone: ( ) Phone Number: ( )

E-mail: __________________________

Major: __________________________ Minor: __________________________

Units Completed __________________________ GPA: __________________________

Max hours available for work __________________________

Research Areas of Interest __________________________

Work Experience (please include previous research experience, if any)

Current (Are you currently working? Please list current employment and indicate if it is on or off campus!)

Previous Employment __________________________

Future Goals __________________________