

Russ College of Engineering and Technology

Plan for Utilization of Special Stocker Funds

For

Undergraduate Research

The goals in utilization of Special Stocker funds to support undergraduate (UG) research are two-fold: (1) Enlighten and provide experiences to a select group of students in the Russ College of Engineering and Technology on initiating and conducting research and (2) Help open the eyes of several bright UG students whose potentials will not be fully developed without advanced degree work in engineering, that by its nature is research oriented. The research experiences will provide important information for each student to make future career decisions. It is expected that as a consequence of the UG research experience that several students will choose to pursue a M.S. engineering program upon completion of the B.S. degree.

The plan is to support the equivalent of ten different students over a two-year period – five equivalent students during the first year and five the second year. (An equivalent student is defined to be slot.) Students, who are selected for this support, will hold the title Stocker Undergraduate Research Assistant.

The funds available for supporting five slots from special Stocker funds is \$34,188 per year. Each student will be paid a minimum of \$7 per hour for working 15 hours per week during AY quarters, 40 hours per week during the 10 week summer term, and 40 hours per week during a three-week period in December. Funds from Stocker will pay \$3.50 per hour. The department/school employing the student must match with a minimum of \$3.50 per hour for every hour supported by Stocker.

The implementation of the Stocker UG research will be carried out as follows:

1. Each engineering department/school will be provided a slot.
2. Each department/school must choose a student to fill their slot by the end of the first week of a quarter. (The implications are that the same student does not have to fill the slot at all times.) A student chosen must have a minimum GPA of 3.2 overall and 3.4 in engineering. The department/school must provide to the Dean a brief explanation of why the particular student was chosen and what the plans are in assigning the student to a research project, viz., the project title, the faculty member in charge, the expected duties, etc. (All this should be kept to one page or less.)
3. The student must be assigned to an externally funded research project, even though the matching funds do not have to come from the project.
4. If a department/school cannot fill their slot by the end of the first week of a quarter, their slot for that quarter will be made available to another department/school.
5. At the end of each quarter or work period, each student will be required to submit a report on activities that they performed. This should be a typed report that is reviewed by the faculty member in charge, and the faculty member should provide and attach written comments. This report should not exceed two pages in length.

The assessment of this UG research program will be accomplished by qualitatively measuring the value of the program to each student by the information in their reports and by interviewing each student as they approach the completion of their B.S. programs. Quantitative assessment will be made by tracking each student to see how many chose to pursue an advance degree in engineering.