Summer Research Fellowship (SRF) & Overseas Research Fellowship (ORF) Schemes 2017-18
Rundown

1. Objectives

2. Requirements and application procedures

3. Sharing by former participants

4. Q & A
Objectives

• Enable students to attempt specific research topics that cater to their individual interest and ability
• Encourage students to take initiative and play a more active role in their own learning
• Provide a platform for students to integrate theory and practice, and to understand limitations of their current knowledge
• Engage students in research of their major science discipline
## SRF vs ORF

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SRF</th>
<th>ORF</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Within the Science Departments/School or the School of Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>Overseas institutions</td>
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<td><strong>Subsidy</strong></td>
<td>A stipend of HK$16,000</td>
<td>A stipend of HK$16,000 plus airfare (on a reimbursement basis; and the maximum subsidy is HK$12,000)</td>
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## SRF vs ORF (cont.)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>SRF</th>
<th>ORF</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Complete the research project (duration is <strong>at least 2 months</strong>) under the supervision of research supervisors (<em>both internal and external supervisors are required for ORF Scheme</em>)</td>
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<td>2. Submit a research synopsis of 500 – 1,000 words on your project, a short passage of programme sharing, and a poster in September 2018</td>
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<td>3. Participate in <strong>Poster Presentation</strong> in October 2018</td>
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<td>4. Attend <strong>Research Colloquium</strong> in October/November 2018; five to six best poster presenters will give an oral presentation in this Research Colloquium</td>
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Eligibility

• Non-final year BSc or BSc(ActuarSc) students
• Recommendation of a prospective supervisor
• To better prepare students for conducting research, students who participated or will participate in SRF/ORF Scheme must **take and pass SCNC3111 Frontiers of science honours seminar course**. Course description can be found at [http://webapp.science.hku.hk/sr4/servlet/enquiry?Type=Course&course_code=SCNC3111](http://webapp.science.hku.hk/sr4/servlet/enquiry?Type=Course&course_code=SCNC3111). Students who do not take the course will NOT (i) receive the stipend and (ii) have the participation of fellowship recorded in their academic transcripts.

• Given the limited quotas and to allow more students to have this valuable research learning experience, **past participants of SRF/ORF Scheme CANNOT apply for the same fellowship scheme which they had previously participated.** *(Exception: Students pre-accepted to the ‘Young Scientist Scheme (YSS)’ have been guaranteed of a place to participate in the SRF Scheme in the summer after the completion of their first year of study, and have further opportunities to participate in other undergraduate research schemes (such as another SRF or ORF) in subsequent years subject to satisfactory academic performance.)*
Application Procedures

1. Search for your interest area

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<th>Examples of topics in past years:</th>
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<td>• Territorial analysis for ratemaking</td>
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<td>• Investigation of serine sensitivity in Salmonella enterica</td>
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<td>• Trend prediction of global temperature changed by analyzing satellite data</td>
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<td>• Exotic option pricing under regime-switching model</td>
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<td>• Crystallization of X-ray structural elucidation of a disease-causing small peptide</td>
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<td>• The laser cooling and Bose – Einstein condensation in ultra cold atoms</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Molecular cloning of claudin-11 gene in <em>Oryzias melastigma</em></td>
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More information about:

1. Previous SRF/ORF participants’ research topics and supervisors – [http://www.scifac.hku.hk/orf-srf-list](http://www.scifac.hku.hk/orf-srf-list)

2. Consult the teacher(s) in your interest field about your research plan
   • approach the teacher(s) directly
   • through your home Departments/Schools or teachers
   • read their research publications beforehand

3. Fill in the application form
   • http://www.scifac.hku.hk/ug/current/ug-research-exchange-others/research/experience
4. Submit your **application form** together with the following documents to the Faculty of Science Office on or before **February 12, 2018 (Monday)**:

- a **recommendation letter** from your prospective supervisor; and
- a **research proposal** (not more than 500 words on ONE A4-size paper)
Recommended Contents of Research Proposal

• Title
• Abstract
• Introduction (Background information)
• Research Design
• Significance
• References
Selection Criteria

• Quality of the research proposal
• Recommendation of the prospective supervisor
• Interview performance
• Academic merits
Recognition

• Recorded in the academic transcript
• Certificate of completion
• Awards:
  – Best Poster Presenters (for Poster Presentation) – 5 to 6 winners
  – Best Colloquium Presenter (for Research Colloquium) – 1 winner
About University Research Fellowship Programme (URFP)

- Students who have excellent academic performance (in the 95th percentile of top students in a study programme or attain a CGPA of 3.60 or above) and plan to conduct final year project or directed studies after having a summer research internship can consider to apply for the URFP.

- The URFP is a prestigious programme organized at University level aimed at enhancing students’ learning experience and nurturing the next generation of researchers/scholars.

- Students enrolled in the URFP are required to undertake a research study (final year project or directed studies).

- Summer research internship may form an essential part of such a research study. Students may receive a research internship award of up to HK$40,000 for research internship overseas or up to HK$15,000 for research internship in Hong Kong or the Mainland.

- Application details and deadline: TO BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE

Remarks: Students who apply for the URFP need not apply for the SRF/ORF. They will be considered for the SRF/ORF if their URFP applications are not successful.
Experience Sharing by Former Participants

• How to approach and find a supervisor?
• How to prepare the research proposal?
• What were the difficulties in carrying out the research?
• What valuable experiences were gained through the research fellowship?
Miss NG Raissa Regina

- Major in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
- Participant of the SRF Scheme 2017
- Project title: Elucidating the role of centromeric protein B in C. elegan
- Supervisor: Dr Karen W Y Yuen, School of Biological Sciences, HKU
Miss ZHU Danlei

• Major in Mathematics; Minor in Computer Science
• Participant of the ORF Scheme 2017
• Project title: Information Theoretic Approach to Reconstruct Neural Network Connectivity
• External supervisor: Prof David Cai, Department of Mathematics and Neural Science, Courant Institution of Mathematical Sciences, USA
• Internal supervisor: Dr Zhiwen Zhang, Department of Mathematics, HKU
Thank you

Do you have any questions?