Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research Award Program (FURAP)
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FURAP Objectives

• To promote research culture in Oman.

• To increase creativity in research activities in Oman.

• To enrich undergraduates research learning experience.

• To encourage undergraduates to seek careers in research.

• To enable student to carry out research that they would not be able to carry out without then necessary funding.

• To elucidate the role of TRC in promoting research in the society.
Benefits of FURAP

**STUDENTS**
1. Gain experience on how to write proposals and research papers.
2. Enhance hands-on training in research.
3. Develop a better understanding of the process of research and its challenges.
4. Enrich undergraduates learning experience.
5. Develop communication and management skills.
6. Develop a network of undergraduate researchers.
7. Develop skills and experience in knowledge creation.
8. Improve students’ research outputs through funding.

**FACULTY MENTOR**
1. Interact with students in a research environment
2. Develop networks with TRC and other researchers in Oman.
3. Identify potential students for postgraduate study and research.

**TRC**
1. Increase awareness of TRC in Oman.
2. Educate the public about the role of TRC in the society.
3. Promote research culture in Oman.
4. Building research capacity.
## Who Is Eligible??

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENTS</th>
<th>FACULTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Omani undergraduates studying in Oman or abroad.</td>
<td>• Faculty mentor should be working for a higher education institute in Oman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• International students studying in higher institutions in Oman (50%)</td>
<td>• The faculty mentor should have a minimum qualification of master degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the team.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• (2-7) members in each team</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Full-time or part-time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• GPA  &gt; 2.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Completed at least first year courses (or equivalent of one year of</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>credits hours).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Funds

A total budget per proposal to a maximum of 2,400 RO.

- **FOR:**
  - Purchase supplies
  - Pay for any travel expenses associated with research.
  - Contract for services

- **NOT:**
  - Salary or wages for undergraduates students
  - Computer or computer-related equipment.
  - Attending conferences.
Deliverables

Progress Report

• Each Faculty Mentor, with collaboration with his/her undergraduate research team is required to send a progress report to TRC through the Institutional Proposal Evaluation Committee after the completion of the first half of the research duration.

Final Report

• After the completion of the research the final report should be sent along with the final statement of expenditures within two months of the end date of the award. IPE committee will have to approve the final report before sent to the Research Council.

TRC Annual Research Forum

• All FURAP undergraduate participants are required to share their studies and findings through posters or models/products during the TRC Annual Award Conference. Best projects will be recognized and the winning teams will be rewarded.
Evaluation Process

A. Each college or university in Oman has an evaluation committee called Institutional Proposal Evaluation (IPE) Committee.

B. The Committee is responsible for reviewing the projects in detail and selects the best projects from their university and college according to the evaluation criteria.

C. The selected projects will then go through a second review by the Research Council. After this evaluation the scholarship will be awarded to the best research projects.
Evaluation Criteria

1. Intellectual Merit of the Research question or creative concept - 30 points
2. The Overall quality of the proposal submitted - 40 points
3. Applicability and relevance to Oman’s development - 5 points
4. Multidisciplinary nature of research - 5 points
5. The overall quality of the budget composition - 20 points
FURAP Proposal Submission Steps
Team (2-7 members) of undergraduate students identifies area of research and faculty members.

The Team discuss with potential faculty if she/he accepts to be their mentor.

The Team, with the approval of faculty mentor, selects Team Leader.

The Team writes a research proposal, identifies individual member roles, creates project timeline, and itemized budget.

The team members login into the FURAP E-System and give their approval for being included in the project by ticking a check box.

The Team Leader fills in proposal application form on FURAP Electronic System.

The Team Leader, after team members give their approval, submits the proposal through FURAP E-System.

Faculty mentor approves the submission of proposal through FURAP Electronic System.

IPE Committee
Proposal Process
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 1

Research Council signs
study pacts
(TRC) yesterday signed two
research contracts with
Queensland University, in
cooperation with Sultan
Qaboos University.

A team from Sultan
Qaboos University taking
part in the eco-house
competition
Inspired by the traditional
Omani architecture, a team
from the (SQU) is designing
and building an Eco house as
it takes part in an ‘Eco-
friendly House Competition’.

A Research Study on

TRC NewsLetter Issue 1 March 2012

www.trc.gov.om
The Research Electronic Submission System (TRESS) facilitates researchers the opportunity to submit research proposals in areas allocated by TRC, with the ease of applying through online access and tracking the evaluation of the proposal. Researchers from institutions affiliated with TRC are privileged to use the TRESS platform. Those who are not associated with the affiliated institutions may urge their institutions to submit an official request to join. A list of current institutions is available when accessing the system. Any non-affiliated institution with a number of researchers employed may submit a request to join TRESS. TRESS is also used by those who are evaluating the submitted research proposals, such as the grant committee, peer reviewers and institutional focal points. The members of the grant committee are nominated by The Research Council.
If you wish to qualify for our Strategic/Directed Research Grant, you will need to submit a pre-proposal along with your CV. We urge you to read the guidelines (using ‘Guidelines’ link in left side menu) before submitting your details.

If you are not affiliated to any registered institution with TRC and you intend to submit a research proposal in a strategic/directed research program, you have the option to submit a pre-proposal along with your CV which will be evaluated by the steering committee of the program. If the committee approves your pre-proposal, TRC will give you a user-id/password to submit a full research proposal.

Attention: If you belong to an organization that is already affiliated to TRC, you will still have to submit a pre-proposal to qualify for the Strategic/Directed Research Grant.

Note: Pre-proposals submission has been suspended till further notice.
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 4
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 5

Select an identity provider

The TRC Service you are trying to reach requires that you authenticate with your home institution, please select it from the list below.

Choose from a list:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge ID Federation</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Wealth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry Of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Higher Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Muscat College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oman Medical College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ProtectNetwork Oman</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sohar University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sultan Qaboos University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sur University College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Research Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select | Remember for session

or

Search by keyword:

[Search]
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 6

Shibboleth Identity Provider Login

Username: 
Password: 
Login
Welcome to Research Council Portal

This system allows you to login from your home organization (university, institute etc.) using the id and password you use there. Not only can you use TRC application using this id, you can also benefit from resources and applications provided by other Service Providers.

- Oman KID is an authentication system connecting local academic and research organizations.
- The system is using Shibboleth Framework, which has two major halves:
  - an identity provider (IdP) and
  - a service provider (SP)

How’s it Work?

1. User accesses shib-protected resource
2. User is redirected to their own IdP for authentication and identity attributes (IdP)
3. User presents authn credential and attributes
4. SP determines whether to allow access to user based on attributes provided

[Diagram of the process]
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 8
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 10

Research Program: FURAP

Title of the Proposal:

Team Leader:

View Complete Profiles:

Family Name: Al Bahri
Given Names: Aisha

Email Address: aisha.albahri@trc.gov.om

Field of research:
- Energy and Power
- Education and Human Resources
- Biological and Environmental Resources
- Culture, Humanities and Basic Sciences
- Information and Communication Technology
- Health and Social Development

Faculty Mentor:

Role: Faculty Mentor
Institution Login Id:
Institution: Aish Sharqya University

Add Faculty Mentor

Team:

Role: Team Member
Institution Login Id:
Institution: Aish Sharqya University

Add Member

Team leader must attach his/her transcript (Using the following link):
Attach/View your Transcript

Save

Next Page
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 11

Research proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Team</th>
<th>Team Acceptance</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Significance</td>
<td>Budget Summary</td>
<td>Budget Breakup/Final Submission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Title of the Proposal:

Team Acceptance for member role

Member 1

Full Name: E-mail: Accepted to participate:

Previous Page  Save  Next Page
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 12

Proposal saved successfully

Title of the Proposal: test

Provide a description of your research proposal, written in terms easy for someone outside your field. Include your project’s overall objectives as well as goals you plan to accomplish this semester.

Maximum 6000 characters. Remaining Characters:
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 13

Project Significance
Explain in general terms why the information gained from this research proposal will be beneficial.

Methodology
Clearly state how you plan to accomplish the goals listed in your project description. Identify the specific steps necessary to perform your research.

Time Line
Provide a detailed timeline for the completion of goals of your project. Be sure to include the goals listed above.

Bibliography
List the sources you have consulted in preparation of this proposal, as well as any references you have cited within this application.
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 14

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- Proposal saved successfully

**Title of the Proposal:** test

**Intended Research cost analysis**

**Budget Details**

Duration of proposed project in academic semesters (Maximum 3 academic semesters)

Funding request to TRC (Maximum OMR 2400)

[Attach Supporting Documents]
FURAP Electronic Steps – Step 15

Proposed Budget of Expenses

Category
- Data collection
- Equipment
- Miscellaneous
- Software
- Stationery
- Training
- Use of university facilities

Item Description

Justification

Estimated Cost (In OMR)

Add/Update Budget Row
Thank You

Contact us at:

furap@trc.gov.om
24509800