

**SRU SYMPOSIUM FOR STUDENT RESEARCH,  
SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

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**Q: Why participate?**

A: The experience gives you insight into a topic that cannot be gained any other way. The research process is a valuable skill to learn, and it is transferable to many areas of life. The experience provides an opportunity to work closely with a faculty member. Employers and graduate school admissions officers are always looking for the experience that distinguishes an individual from other applicants for employment or entry to graduate school—this is a great way to set yourself apart from your peers. Collaborating with the students in your classes or Living/ Learning Communities on a project that relates to your major is a great way to make new friends and learn more about your area of study. Many students report that the experience is FUN!

**Q: Why call it research experience if dance, studio art and philosophy papers are included?**

A: Many different activities combine serious inquiry into an area of interest or a body of knowledge, learning how to analyze information from sources, learning to think in an organized and systematic way about a subject, and producing a result that presents the student with a new learning experience. Such activities could include planning and researching a work of studio art, choreographing a dance program or writing an original music composition, short story or theatrical production.

**Q: If I present my research at the SRU Symposium for Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity can I still present it at a regional or national conference within my discipline?**

A: Although every discipline is different, most disciplines will allow you to present your work at a local venue AND a regional/national conference. Please check with your faculty mentor to determine your discipline's policy.

**Q: How do I get started if I want to apply for the Symposium?**

A: First, talk to your professor about submitting a project to the Symposium. Projects could include laboratory or field research (as in the basic and applied sciences), statistical analyses, outcomes of surveys and samples, Action Research conducted as part of the teacher training Field Experience, scholarly inquiry in the humanities, artistic creations, dance and choreography, creative writing, poetry reading and service projects. If you have questions about the Symposium please email [student.symposium@sru.edu](mailto:student.symposium@sru.edu). You will receive a response within 2 business days.

**Q: What do I have to do to submit an abstract?**

A: The Call for Abstracts form will be on CORE. The deadline is in February each year. Submissions are accepted through the online form via CORE by midnight on the deadline date. You will need to upload your Title and Abstract content as a Word document. Also, your Abstract needs to be approved by your faculty/staff mentor prior to submission. (NOTE: No late submissions will be accepted.) Don't wait until the last day before you pull this together! Work on this ahead of time, just in case you have questions when you fill in the form.

**Q: What happens after I submit my application?**

A: Your submission will be reviewed and confirmed by your faculty sponsor. You will be told if your submission has been accepted for the Symposium approximately 3 weeks after submission.

**Q: Do I get to pick the time I make my presentation?**

A: You will be assigned a specific time to present based on the number of submissions from each category (oral presentations, poster presentations, performances and exhibits). The final schedule will be decided approximately 3 weeks after you are notified that your abstract has been accepted.