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Undergraduate Research and Travel Fund

UK Office of Undergraduate Research

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eUreKa! offers undergraduate students travel support. The purpose of this support is to help students gain experience in showcasing their work at and participating in professional conferences on a national and sometimes international level. Keep in mind that research takes place in many different forms and in all disciplines: the study of social problems, the creation of a piece of fiction or poetry, the study of a scientific theory or historic period of time, and the solution of engineering and mathematical problems all qualify as research, among many other activities.

Students may apply for travel support to attend national or international professional conferences or competitions. To be eligible, a student must:
- be a full-time undergraduate student at the University of Kentucky
- have a faculty sponsor
- be registered for the conference or competition
- present (i.e., paper, poster, research, performance) and/or participate (orally)

During 2008-09, the Undergraduate Research and Travel Fund provided support to 20 undergraduates attending 19 different conferences and competitions. The students, 15 females and 5 males, were from 12 different departments in six different colleges, and ranged from first- to fourth-year students, demonstrating the ubiquity of scholarly inquiry at UK. This year, students traveled to conferences and competitions in Kentucky, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, Tennessee, Texas, Washington D.C., and Canada.

In addition to these students, eUreKa! supported 33 students who were accepted to present their research at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). NCUR is an annual conference of approximately 2,000 undergraduate scholars who are selected competitively from among several thousand applicants. UK students have traditionally been highly successful in being chosen, compared to other peer research institutions, and eUreKa! is proud to be able to support those who attend. Several of the projects reported elsewhere in this volume of Kaleidoscope were presented at NCUR this year.
Alex Harmon Performing on the opening day of the Percussive Arts Society International Convention with a quartet from the University's Percussion Department. Alex was the only undergraduate performer representing UK within the ensemble and at the entire conference.

Cassie Modahl

Mark Adams

Rebecca Russell