

DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP (DIRS)

Purpose:

The purpose of the Distinction in Research and Scholarship (DIRS) is to recognize FSOM students who have completed the SARP course requirements and demonstrated exceptional engagement and proficiency in scholarship and research while in medical school.

This distinction goes beyond the Scholarly Activity and Research Program (SARP) Course requirement that introduce students to the scholarship and research process.

Eligibility Criteria for Distinction in Research and Scholarship:

- Student must be in their third or fourth year of medical school.
- Student must be in good academic standing with no professionalism issues (determination is made by the Office of Student Affairs). The student applicant should check their standing and any documented issues with professionalism prior to submitting the DIRS application.
- Student must have completed all requirements of the Scholarly Activity and Research Program (SARP) Course and received a passing grade.
- The projects for DIRS **can** include your SARP project and additional projects of your choosing, provided that the project execution occurred while in medical school.

Application Process:

- The application consists of three components: 1.) a personal statement;2.) a curriculum vitae (CV); and 3.) letter(s) of support.

(1) Personal Statement:

- Describe the research and scholarship you conducted while in medical school, a reflection on the experience you gained from this research, how it impacts your future career goals, and why you believe you are a strong candidate for DIRS award.

(2) Curriculum Vitae (CV):

- A Curriculum Vitae (CV) is a comprehensive document that outlines an individual's educational background, professional experience, skills, and accomplishments – For detailed instructions on how to construct a CV and see an example template please consult the [SARP Student Handbook](#) under the section “How to Put Together a CV” on page 34.
- Please cite any peer reviewed publications or book chapters that resulted from this project. Please provide an APA formatted citation for the

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publication. Do not include manuscripts in preparation or currently under review. Publications accepted but not yet published may be included and should be noted as [in press] at the end of the citation.

Example:

- Vendrov, A. E., Stevenson, M. D., Lozhkin, A., Hayami, T., Holland, N. A., Yang, X., Moss, N., Pan, H., Wickline, S. A., & Stockand, J. D. (2022). Renal NOXA1/NOX1 signaling regulates epithelial sodium channel and sodium retention in angiotensin II-induced hypertension. *Antioxidants & Redox Signaling*, 36(7-9), 550-566.
- Please provide any conferences or symposium work related to this project that was presented by you. Please list all authors, title of the presentation, name of the conference, the title of the presentation, as well as the location and year. Additionally, please include if this was an oral or poster presentation.

Examples:

- N.A. Holland, C.R. Fraiser, R.C. Sloan III, R.B. Devlin, D.A. Brown, C.J. Wingard. Ultrafine Particulate Matter Increases Cardiac Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury via Mitochondrial Permeability Transition Pore. Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. 2017. Baltimore, Maryland. [Oral Presentation]
- N. A. Holland, G. Harris, R. M. Lust, C. J. Wingard. Exposure to Diesel Exhaust Particles Drive Expansion of Cardiac Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury via Interleukin-6 Trans-Signaling in Male Sprague-Dawley Rats. *Experimental Biology*. 2015. Boston, Massachusetts. [Poster Presentation]
- Please provide any abstracts accepted to conferences or symposia that you did not personally present but where you were listed as an author. Please list all authors on the presentation, the title of the presentation, the name of the conference as well as the location and year. Please list this as [abstract].

Example:

- Johnson, S.C., Bullock, M.T., Holland, N.A., Tulis, D.A. Interaction of Protease- Activated Receptors in Vascular Smooth Muscle Growth Pathology. American College of Physicians Annual Chapter Scientific Meeting. 2018. Greensboro, North Carolina. [Abstract]

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- Additional awards and recognition
 - List any additional awards or recognition resulting from your work on this project.
- **Please do not include any research in preparation or under review.**

(3) Letter(s) of support from faculty mentors involved in the research project.

- Please provide one to two letters of support from your research mentors from projects in which you were involved.
- The letters of support must be sent directly to SARP-ELP@ttuhsc.edu from your mentor(s).

DIRS Application Submission Process:

- The application will be available for submission via REDCap. The link will be sent to your email when the application opens.
- If you have any questions about your application, application format, or CV, please feel free to reach out to the SARP Team at SARP-ELP@ttuhsc.edu.
- No late submissions will be accepted.
- No resubmissions will be allowed.
- Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Failure to adhere to the DIRS guidelines will result in the application not being reviewed.

DIRS Application Review Process:

- Completed DIRS applications will be reviewed by a faculty committee convened by the SARP Director consisting of faculty members drawn from at least three different departments.
- Committee members may not be mentors of the DIRS applicants.
- Each review panel will include at least one M.D. and one Ph.D. faculty member.
- The SARP Director will convene the review panel, facilitate the review and serve as a non-voting ex-officio member.
- All decisions are final. There is no appeal process for the DIRS.
- Applicants who are not awarded the DIRS are welcome to apply the subsequent academic year.

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DIRS Awards Status

Notification of the DIRS application status will be sent via email. DIRS awardees receive an annotation on their MD diploma and an official congratulatory letter signed by the President of TTUHSC El Paso.