

AP!RG Research Dissemination Grant Guidelines

Information for Applicants

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What

The APIRG Research Dissemination Grant is intended to support the dissemination activities of completed research projects that have been funded by the [URI Undergraduate Research Stipend](#), specifically those that treat a social justice issue critically. The scope of the research should engage with social change through an anti-oppression, intersectional and accessibility approach.¹ Please be aware that this grant does not fund incomplete research projects, rather it is meant for researchers to share their research findings through a community-based research dissemination model.

Who

The grant is open to any undergraduate student at the University of Alberta. As the grant is meant to support recipients of the URI Undergraduate Research Stipend, it is important that you first meet

¹ Refer to Appendix A (Funding Support and Anti-Oppression Resource Sheet) for APIRG's definitions of this approach's terms (i.e anti-oppression, intersectional and accessibility).

that funding program's eligibility requirements. Please refer to [this tipsheet](#) for the URI stipend's eligibility requirements.

Why

APIRG is in the process of developing and implementing a research portfolio. The portfolio consists of the mandate to establish means, capacity, and support for undergraduate students' research at the University of Alberta. In furthering the mandate of this portfolio, APIRG has developed the research dissemination grant to urge undergraduate student researchers to share their findings in a manner that engages with the community, while promoting social justice community issues through a research perspective.

Where

The proposed dissemination activity of the research project can occur in any place. While the grant is affiliated with the University of Alberta, this location should not serve as a limiting factor of the possible sites for dissemination activities. We do ask that in the application you provide a rationale behind chosen sites and/or communities.

When

Those applying for this funding program would have a year following the end of their research project funded by the URI to execute a community-based research dissemination activity. For example, if you are awarded a Winter 2019 URI Stipend, you would have until March of 2021 to conduct a community-based research dissemination activity through the APIRG dissemination grant. Please refer to the 2019-2020 URI Undergraduate Research Stipend deadlines outlined by the Undergraduate Research Initiative.

How

Community-based research dissemination can take on various forms. At the heart of it, this form of sharing research findings aims to engage community through accessible dissemination methods. Below are multiple suggested avenues that APIRG is able to provide the necessary resources for:

1. **Online Publication:** The practice of sharing research findings through online publication not only serves to expand our knowledge of the world, but also affirms researchers' contributions to knowledge-building. This standard of research dissemination is mandatory to all recipients of the Dissemination Grant.

You are encouraged to submit your research to a journal, which, once published, you will be expected to share with APIRG in order for us to support you with the distribution of the article. If you do not wish to publish your research through a journal, there is also the opportunity to do so through our website. If this option is appealing to you, please get in touch with APIRG's Working Group, Programming, and Research Coordinator to discuss the possibilities of this.

Please note that this form of dissemination cannot stand by itself as it has a rich history of being inaccessible. Along with online publication you should also choose from the four community-based research dissemination methods below.

2. **Community-based research dissemination methods:** The following dissemination methods are intended to engage the communities impacted by the research projects that critically examine a social justice issue. This engagement is necessary for maximizing your project's real-world applicability through information sharing and/or community feedback. It is important that these dissemination methods are appropriate for community members at hand and consider the capacities of the community and its members. Along with an online publication, you have the opportunity to choose one of the four community-based research methods outlined below:

- a) **Zines:** A zine is a self-published mini-magazine of original texts and images intended for small-circulation. This method of disseminating research allows one to be creative in the delivery of their findings, and is quite an enjoyable experience for the reader to digest the content.
APIRG will assist in the production and distribution of a Zine should you choose it as your form of dissemination. For more information on zines (e.g. how to create one) check out Zine Scene's "A Zine about Zines" which can be found in the APIRG Library!
- b) **Showcases and Talks:** Public engagement with research can be facilitated through modes that gather an audience to participate in a collective experience, such as a show or panel. These can be quite incredible in providing community members with the space to actively engage with your research and provide their insights.
APIRG will assist in finding resources such as venues, and provide you with promotional support for your dissemination activities to attract a wide audience.
- c) **Videos and Podcasts:** Visual and sound mediums of dissemination are incredible at reaching a wider audience, especially when they are uploaded on public domains such as YouTube or Vimeo. Clips from these mediums can feature your research findings as well as the direct voices of community members (be aware that this requires consent).
APIRG has a Film and Video Arts (FAVA) membership that allows for the access to equipment, facilities, workshops, a library filled with resources, mentors, and many benefits at affordable rates. Along with access to this membership to produce professional sound and visual media art, APIRG can also support you through the planning and design process of a video project.

- d) Proposal of alternative community-based dissemination method: This list is not comprehensive, and does not cover the extensive possibilities of community-based dissemination. If you have an idea of a method that has not been articulated above, kindly schedule a meeting with the Working Group, Programming, and Research Coordinator (programming@apirg.org) and make a proposal of the envisioned dissemination activity. In this proposal you are also encouraged to inform APIRG of the resources you require and ways we can support the proposed activity.

For research to truly engage in anti-oppression, intersectionality and accessibility, this approach needs to also be carried out in the dissemination stage of research to ensure that these concepts that often only live within, research articles, are actualized and mobilized.

APIRG is happy to assist you with any questions that might arise during the application process.

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Appendix A: Funding Support and Anti-Oppression Resource Sheet



The Alberta Public Interest Research Group

Funding Support and Anti-Oppression

Things to Consider in Your Application

Consideration One: Anti-Oppression

APIRG'S mandate is explicitly anti-oppressive, therefore we prioritize funding Projects/ Events/ Groups who also engage with social change through an anti-oppression lens.

At the same time, the language of anti-oppression can be challenging, and many people are doing anti-oppressive work but just not calling it that. So our goal is to outline anti-oppression here to help you best articulate the amazing work that you do.

Oppression can be defined as:

- Unequal access to power, resources, opportunities and acceptance based on social categories that an individual or group fits into
- Structural inequality that allows certain groups of people to assume a dominant position over other groups
- Historically formed (emerging from the past) but continually perpetuated

What is key in understanding oppression is that it is not about individual inequality but about a set of interacting systems that are institutionally and socially embedded. It is these systems and structures and systems of oppression that keep people from sharing power, resources and opportunities.

- **SOCIETAL LEVEL:** Oppressive systems are just that: SYSTEMS. They function at multiple levels (societal, institutional and individual) and in complex ways. Societal norms are what is considered normal, acceptable, valued and desired by society. All forms of oppression are based on a norm that is valued more, ex. whiteness is the norm valued by racism.
- **INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:** Oppression operates at the institutional level to embed societal norms and values into the policies, laws, rules and processes of governments, institutions (ex. health and education systems).
- **INDIVIDUAL LEVEL:** Structural and institutional oppressions often get enacted at an individual level, through people's attitudes and actions.

How to communicate that your work is anti-oppressive:

- Avoid individualizing language of lifestyle and personal choices when talking about your cause. Instead, think about what structures, institutions, cultural forces are involved in the issue.
- Don't be afraid to call it what it is: use the language of racism, classism, sexism, ableism etc when talking about what you are trying to change.
- Reflect on and acknowledge the privileges/ advantages that you may have and how you will engage with them in your work

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Consideration Two: Intersectionality

APIRG also focuses on work that has an intersectional lens. Simply put, we want you to think about how all systems of oppression are connected and to inform your actions with this knowledge.

An example would be if you were looking to run a workshop for queer youth. An intersectional lens would acknowledge that homophobia and transphobia intersect with class, ability and race. You would include in your application this acknowledgment and also explicitly address how you work to make your event more accessible for individuals who live at these intersections (racialized, disabled, and/or poor queer youth). If you aren't sure how to do this, you can always contact APIRG!

How to communicate that your work is intersectional:

- Acknowledge the systems of oppression that impact your issue or target populations
- In your advertising/ outreach plan explain how you will connect with individuals who live at these intersections

Consideration Three: Accessibility

The third important consideration is how you will make your event/ project/ activities as a group accessible. At APIRG, we take a holistic and anti-oppressive approach to accessibility. This means its not just about physical accessibility, though that is important!

We ask that our applicants think about the barriers that might be created by systems of oppression. So, building on the first two considerations (anti-oppressive and intersectional lenses) there are more considerations to be made. Think about how class, race, sexuality, gender as well as ability may play a role in who attends your event and who doesn't.

Ask yourself:

- Who would normally attend this event? Is there certain structural privileges that is shared by these individuals?
- Who is missing from the event? What structural issues may be causing them to not attend?
- Resist the temptation to equate the attendance and accessibility of your event solely with individuals choice to attend or not. Focus on the social and structural level.

Ways to make your event more accessible:

- Hold it in a physically accessible venue with ASL interpretation
- Make your event free (or sliding scale with no one turned away for financial reasons)
- Offer bus tickets to facilitate transport to and from the event
- Offer childcare or financial assistance for childcare

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- Have food at your events
- Explicitly ask in your outreach/ advertising for people to contact you with any needs
- Think intersectionally and explicitly outreach to communities that exist at these intersections
- Consider the language you use to outreach your event: academic or jargony language can be a barrier
- If space is limited, explicitly acknowledge that people who experience structural oppression will be prioritized over those who don't. Ask privileged people to identify their privilege and offer to give up their space if there is not enough room.

If you have any questions about these considerations, or anything else to do with APIRG's funding, please don't hesitate to contact us:

Regarding Event/ Project Funding: outreach@apirg.org

Regarding Working Group Funding: programming@apirg.org

In general: apirg@ualberta.ca

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