

UNBC Research Ambassadors Program

The Office of Research and Innovation is seeking applications from UNBC undergraduate and graduate students to serve as Research Ambassadors. As champions for research at UNBC, Research Ambassadors will work with the Office of Research and Innovation to enhance research culture at UNBC. Research Ambassadors will also work closely with the Student Recruitment team to share their research experiences and opportunities with high school and incoming UNBC students. This experiential learning opportunity will enhance students' understanding of research at UNBC and will provide students with the chance to work with a diversity of people on projects aimed at promoting and celebrating research at UNBC.

Award: \$4,000 (additional \$500 for the Lead Ambassador) **Term:** September 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024

Roles & Responsibilities: Using the knowledge, skills and interests developed to this point through all aspects of their education, Research Ambassadors will work with the Office of Research and Innovation and Student Recruitment team on a range of projects aimed at enhancing research culture at UNBC, such as:

- Mentoring students from a variety of programs and backgrounds (e.g. through coffee chats, presentations, etc.).
- Advising fellow students about research related opportunities at UNBC through public talks, workshops, orientation activities, and “Ambassador Updates”.
- Working as a team, pooling resources and collaborating with faculty, staff and students.
- Providing advice to the Office of Research and Innovation on how to improve student programming, celebrate research, and get undergraduate students involved in research.
- Assisting with the creation of digital content/stories related to student and faculty research at UNBC (who is engaged in research? why are they interested in research? what value does it bring?). Stories may be included in an “Ambassador Update” or Annual Report.
- Assisting with the organization of UNBC’s Research Week. Potentially researching and hosting a talk on why research is important (from a student perspective).
- Being recognized as ambassadors for research at UNBC promoting and enhancing research and creativity across campus and at community events.
- Actively participate in media and social media events/activities.
- Participating in on- or off-campus recruitment activities and/or community liaison events which may take place in-person or online.

Qualifications: Research Ambassadors will be UNBC undergraduate and graduate students who:

- Are in good academic standing.
- Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Have engaged in or are currently engaged in research or creative activities under the guidance of a UNBC faculty member (e.g. former or current URE, USRA, RPA, Honours project, research-based thesis/dissertation).
- Can commit to approx. 200 hours of service (approx. 6 hours per week) over the duration of the term of the program (September 2023 to April 2024).

Currently 6 students (1 per Faculty and Division) are being sought for this program. **Applications are due no later than 4:00 pm Friday June 30, 2023.** Qualified students will be contacted by mid-August (as Research Ambassadors will be expected to participate in UNBC’s new student orientation on September 5).

UNBC Research Ambassador Program Application

Name _____ UNBC Student Number _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Year of Program _____ GPA _____ Expected Date of Graduation _____

Level of Study: Graduate Student Undergraduate Student

Faculty: Environment Business and Economics
 Science and Engineering Human and Health Sciences
 Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities
 Division of Medical Sciences (NMP/PT/OT)

Lead Research Ambassador:

One of the Research Ambassadors will be chosen to be the Lead Research Ambassador (preference will be given to an alumni of the Research Ambassador program and/or a graduate student). The Lead Research Ambassador will be responsible for coordinating and liaising between the Office of Research and Innovation/Recruitment Office and Research Ambassadors. The Lead Research Ambassador will coordinate team building activities, provide peer support for other Research Ambassadors and will manage the scheduling of Research Ambassador events. The Lead Research Ambassador is not a supervisor.

Please check the box if you are interested in being considered for the Lead Research Ambassador role: ___ (the Lead Research Ambassador role would be taken on in addition to one of the roles below).

Research Ambassador Roles:

Although Research Ambassadors will have the opportunity to participate in any activities/events they are interested in, each Research Ambassador will be assigned a key role/position that they will be responsible for directing on behalf of the Research Ambassador program. Please identify your top three choices from the list below (please be aware that you may not be guaranteed to be assigned one of your preferred roles):

- Internal Communications (e.g. social media, tours, newsletter, announcements, etc.)
- External Communications (e.g. municipal, provincial, national events)
- Recruitment (e.g. outreach to high school students and post-secondary students, etc.)
- Youth and Student Engagement (e.g. Go Eng Girl, Go Code Girl, Active Minds Events, etc.)
- Undergraduate Student Representative
- Graduate Student Representative

Please attach the following documents to your application:

Attachments:

- Copy of the student's **resumé** (please ensure that your resumé includes the research experience and/or creative activities you have been involved in)
- An unofficial copy of the student's **UNBC transcripts**
- One **reference letter** from a faculty supervisor. The letter should focus on the applicant's interest in and enthusiasm for research vs. their research experience or academic performance. The letter should be signed and emailed directly to research@unbc.ca with UNBC Research Ambassador Program in the subject line. Please include student name and UNBC student number in the body of the email.

Statement of Interest:

Why did you decide to pursue a research experience (e.g. URE, USRA, RPA, honours project, research assistant, or research-based thesis/dissertation, etc.) at UNBC and what did the experience teach you? (max. 250 words)

Why do you want to be a Research Ambassador and what specific skill set(s) would you bring to the role? (max. 250 words)

What ideas do you have for championing research at UNBC and further developing the Research Ambassador Program? (max. 250 words)

Communication Sample:

Please submit one of the following along with your application: a written (1 page max.), audio (1 minute max.) or video (1 minute max.) sample on a topic of your choice that demonstrates your communication style and skills (research-related and non-research topics will be weighted equally).

Student Signature _____

Complete application packages should be emailed to the Office of Research and Innovation at research@unbc.ca with the following in the subject line "UNBC Research Ambassador Program" Please include student name and UNBC student number in the body of the email. Audio/video samples may need to be submitted separately – if files are too large. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**