Instructions for Atkins Library Undergraduate Research Award Application

1. The application for the Atkins Library Research Award is included as an option in the Undergraduate Research Conference Registration.

2. In order to apply for an Atkins Award, you must register for and participate in the URC. However, you DO NOT have to apply for an Atkins Award in order to register or participate in the conference.

3. If you choose to apply for the Atkins Awards, you are required to submit your application based on the four sections below. Please structure your response using the titles of headings A through D.

4. You will be required to upload a PDF file of your application when you submit your online conference registration.

A. Summary of Research Process

Describe your research process. Use the following questions as a guide for the type of information that you should provide. However, this description should be written in essay form, not as a list of answers: (No more than 750 words)

- How did you develop or decide upon your primary research questions, arguments or focus?
- What research methods did you use? (Did you do work in the laboratory, conduct surveys, read relevant literature, develop case studies, do field visits, conduct interviews?)
- What surprised you about the research process?
- What was the biggest mistake or misstep you made in conducting your research?
- How did you discover it and recover from it?
- What was the best technique or thought process that you learned while conducting your research?
- What have you learned from working on this project that you will apply to future research projects?

B. Summary of Research Project

Describe your research. Use the following questions as a guide for the type of information that you should provide. However, this description should be written in essay form, not as a list of answers: (No more than 1000 words)

- What is the central goal, thesis, question and/or hypothesis guiding your research?
- What contribution does your research make to the disciplinary field of which it is a part?
- What are the most significant conclusions you draw from your research?
- What literature/data/information did you use in developing your primary argument or analysis?
- What specific methods/approaches did you use to analyze the literature/data/information and reach your conclusions?

C. Research Consultation

Describe how you utilized resources. Use the following questions as a guide for the type of information that you should provide. However, this description should be written in essay form, not as a list of answers: (No more than 750 words)

- List any faculty members and/or librarians with whom you consulted for this project.
- Briefly describe how they helped you develop your research question and/or your search strategy.
- How did you utilize resources from Atkins Library—include databases, journals, electronic materials, media collections, special collections and staff assistance?
- What resources beyond those found through the library did you consult?

D. Works Cited

Please submit a copy of the Works Cited list from your research project. Cite in full citation form used in your chosen style manual, including authors, titles, years, pages, etc.).