



Student  
Opportunity  
Center

# Centralize On-campus Research with SOC





## About SOC

Among other products and services, Student Opportunity Center offers its platform to over 200 campuses nationwide. SOC enables undergraduate research offices to foster an exciting research culture on campus. Through our platform, administrators can share on-campus research listings with students, collect applications, and match students to members of the faculty who are looking for research assistants.

SOC is the largest national database of externally funded, off-campus undergraduate research opportunities, including, fellowships, grants, internships, journal publication, and presentation opportunities.

The idea for SOC was conceived by honors students at FSU who were looking for experiential learning opportunities relevant to their majors, interests, and career goals. At that time, no other comprehensive system like this existed, which allowed students to search for, apply to, and keep a record of various outside-the-classroom opportunities. As of Fall 2020, the database includes tens of thousands of listings and is used by over 200,000 students nationwide.

More information is available at  
[www.studentopportunitycenter.com](http://www.studentopportunitycenter.com)

## Contextualizing the Problem

*There's no central place for students to find and apply to available research positions on campus*

Many colleges and universities recognize the need to better connect students' learning across their in- and out-of-classroom experiences, but how to do this often feels overwhelming. Creating a holistic experiential education implementation strategy is a heavy lift for many campuses with the average campus spending 3-5 years to create or scale their experiential learning initiatives. Unfortunately, many campuses exert time and energy reinventing existing practices, creating understandable initiative fatigue and decreasing the chance of success. By working with SOC, campuses can accelerate change and reach scale in just 12-24 months.

We do this by partnering with campuses to develop and implement a holistic strategy to scale high-quality equitable experiential education and High Impact Practices using vetted methods. We work with you through an iterative process that includes strategy and goal development, an audit of your existing experimental opportunities, and the implementation of a personalized plan that includes assessing student

learning, administering faculty and staff professional development, designing equity goals, and building a robust data infrastructure.

# Comprehensive Solution

*One-stop-shop for students, administrators, and staff*

SOC addresses these problems with a turn-key solution that provides the following benefits:

## Students

- 1) Access to a central university research database as well thousands of additional off-campus listings in our national database. Students can search and filter through the results to find and apply to opportunities.
- 2) Students have the ability to build a profile and identify their areas of interest,, based on recommendations. For example, a biology student will receive a monthly “biology newsletter” with current programs, both on campus and off campus, locally and nationally. . Students also receive deadline reminders and in-platform suggestions on opportunities based on their interests. . Additionally, SOC sends out weekly newsletters to all community members that contain highlighted opportunities and relevant, timely content.

## Administration and Staff

- 1) Tools to upload and match students to both on-campus and off-campus opportunities from our local and national database, which offers tens of thousands of experiential learning and high-impact opportunities.
- 2) Enables faculty to add their research opportunity listings to this central database, which can be shared with your own campus community.
- 3) It's hard to get a new student's attention unless you have information that is relevant to that student's unique interests. Instead of sending them on a wild goose chase across the Internet, it's much more effective to give students specific links to specific



Johnson C. Smith University

*“SOC has afforded me the vehicle to search for scholarships and other fellowships in an effort to improve students’ situations. Before I knew about SOC, I felt that there were limited opportunities for students in particular majors. Now that I am familiar with SOC, I encourage students to utilize the tool so that a world that never knew could open up for them.”*

*Administrator, Johnson C. Smith University*

events and opportunities they might like. It just takes that one event, that one experience, or that one mentor to spark their interest. Make their job (and yours) easier!

4) You have the ability to see how many students sign up, when they sign up, and their search interests. Our analytics dashboard allows administrators to see students’ engagement on the site, and even allows virtual intros between like-minded students. Use SOC’s adoption analytics to learn how best to get your students’ attention and keep them engaged. SOC’s marketing team works with you on setting and reaching these goals by providing marketing tools, resources, and personalized support.

5) Each year, you will receive a detailed report on not just what your students were looking for, but also what they participated in along with the outcomes of these programs. Find out: how many applied for research opportunities; how many participated in on-campus research; how many won external grants or national competitions; how many and which types of opportunities are most popular; and how this data compares to national averages and trends, etc.

6) Our robust analytics system gives actionable insights into what your students like (and what they don’t like), and what works (and what doesn’t). You easily can keep track of: most popular interests; specific listings; search terms; page views; opportunity views; and more.

To subscribe to SOC or to learn more, please email us at [community@studentopportunitycenter.com](mailto:community@studentopportunitycenter.com) or reach out to us via our website.