Reasons to Join the Council for Undergraduate Research:  
*Arts and Humanities Division*

**General Reasons to Join CUR:**
- Network of Colleagues Interested in Questions about Mentoring Student Scholarship
  - in curriculum, in co-curricular, and summer projects
- Resources Dedicated to Supporting Undergraduate Research
  - Establishing, Sustaining, Uplifting
  - Access to special information on funding opportunities, jobs, and other resources for undergraduate research on the members' only portion of CUR's website- [http://www.cur.org/members/](http://www.cur.org/members/).
  - Discount from Wiley Publications
- Professional Development Opportunities for Faculty
  - CUR Dialogues
  - Institutes and workshops
  - CUR Conference
- Professional Development Opportunities for Students
  - NCUR Conference
  - Posters on the Hill

**Specific to the *Arts and Humanities Division***:
“What can CUR offer humanities faculty? Since “undergraduate research” (just as “faculty scholarship”) is defined differently in different disciplinary contexts, CUR’s Arts & Humanities Division addresses the distinct needs of faculty in those fields—in our CUR Institute (Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry in the Arts and Humanities), publications (*Creative Inquiry in the Arts & Humanities: Models of Undergraduate Research*, 2011 CUR book on UR in the Arts and Humanities and a more comprehensive book forthcoming that has a chapter on each discipline plus a chapter on General Education/Core courses—early 2014), CUR conference sessions, business meetings, and NCUR participation.”

Jenny Shanahan, CUR Councilor, Director of Undergraduate Research, Bridgewater State University

- Activities of the CUR’s Arts & Humanities Division (Shanahan, 2013)
  - Advocates for inclusive CUR programs that develop the research skills, methods, and learning outcomes that take place outside of laboratories—in library stacks, archives, studios, theatres, museums, and other sites in the community;
  - plans strategies for engaging faculty mentors and students from every discipline in undergraduate research and creative scholarship opportunities;
  - addresses the reasons that students majoring in the arts and humanities are notably underrepresented in many institutions’ UR programs—namely, “research” defined too narrowly—and makes the case that, given the tremendous benefits of UR for all students, we simply cannot afford to leave out entire departments and schools;
provides a rich array of disciplinarily appropriate models of UR in the arts and humanities (this part is invaluable!);
- defines UR as the student scholarship that is conducted in any discipline, since notions of “research” often inadvertently leave out what scholars in non-science disciplines do;
- identifies how faculty in fields with a norm of solitary scholarship might include undergraduates in their work (including through the digital humanities);
- explains how (for those without arts experience) student projects in the creative arts can/should be evaluated as scholarly work.

Arts and Humanities Division Travel Awards
With the goal of promoting undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity in Arts and Humanities education, the Arts and Humanities Division will offer financial support for faculty to present on the process and/or results of undergraduate research at regional or national Arts and/or Humanities conferences. The awards will be from $500 to $800 and up to three will be awarded for presentations. Award recipients will be expected to acknowledge the support of CUR in their talk or poster presentation. After the meeting, a brief (maximum 300-word) follow-up report and an expense report (not included in the 300 word limit) should be submitted to the A&H grants committee chair and the appropriate expense claim form should be submitted to the CUR National Office (details will be given to successful applicants). The call is announced annually in the CUR Enewsletter.

Eligibility criteria:
Full- or part-time faculty, staff, or administrators who have an accepted presentation or workshop at a disciplinary or interdisciplinary arts and humanities meeting may apply. Application for funding may be made prior to conference acceptance, but a letter stating the date of acceptance must be included with the application; any award offered will be contingent upon the acceptance of the proposal and the actual presentation at the indicated conference. Presenter must be an individual member of the CUR Arts and Humanities Division or an employee or graduate student at an institution that is a CUR institutional member presenting Arts and Humanities UR material/experiences at a disciplinary or interdisciplinary conference. The applicant must attend in person the conference for which he or she has been funded. Any additional costs for attending the conference will be the responsibility of the awardee or his or her university.