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Institutional Partners Announced, CUR Transformations Project

Twelve institutional partners have been selected for the CUR Transformations Project funded by the National Science Foundation: Bradley University, Bridgewater State University, Mansfield University, Radford University, Rice University, Smith College, St. Mary's College of Maryland, University of Arizona, University of California–Riverside, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Westminster College, and Winston-Salem State University. With the assistance of CUR consultants and the project's principal investigators, 24 departments will help create research-based undergraduate curricula in biology, chemistry, physics, and psychology. READ MORE
Bradley University's Hermann Selected as 2018 Mid-Career Mentor Awardee, CUR Psychology Division

Anthony Hermann, associate professor in the Psychology Department at Bradley University, is the recipient of the 2018 Mid-Career Mentoring Award from CUR’s Psychology Division. Hermann's Self and Social Behavior lab conducts research in how self-evaluative processes impact social behavior and how behavior impacts self-evaluation. His students present regularly at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association.

CUR Biology Division Offers Travel Grants for Students Presenting at Discipline-Related Meetings

The CUR Biology Division is offering a limited number of travel grants of up to $250 each for undergraduate students presenting original, biological research results at a regional or national, discipline-specific meeting during fiscal year 2017-2018. Award recipients are required to acknowledge CUR for support of their travel in their talk or poster, to complete an online survey about their meeting experience, and to submit a PDF file of their poster. Minority students are encouraged to apply. Submission deadlines are September 1, 2017 (for meetings held in mid-Sept 2017 to mid-Feb 2018) and January 12, 2018 (for meetings held in mid-Feb to late June 2018). For further details or to apply, visit the division’s travel awards webpage.

Applications Sought from Potential Hosts for CUR's 19th Biennial Conference

CUR is soliciting applications from academic institutions, conference sites, and hotel sites to host CUR’s 19th Biennial Conference in June 2020 (the conference includes the CUR executive board and business meetings). The 2018 conference will be held in the Washington, DC, area. CUR's 2016 Biennial Conference at University of South Florida attracted close to 600 attendees, and it is anticipated that the 2020 conference will be similar to 2016 in size and scope, attracting a national audience.

Applications to host CUR 2020 will be reviewed through a two-stage process. The first stage will involve an online application that must be submitted by September 27, 2017. For further details, see the 2020 CUR Biennial Call for Proposals.
Register for CUR's August 16 Webinar, "Creating a Meaningful and Measurable Assessment Plan"

Does the idea of assessment seem overwhelming? This August 16 webinar will provide a framework for developing a meaningful, manageable, and effective assessment plan. What we value as meaningful outcomes for students (e.g., critical thinking, problem solving, appreciation of diverse perspectives, and engagement in real-world problems) and what we can easily measure (e.g., GPA, retention, and graduation) are often quite different. To know if programs are having the desired impact, new ways need to be found to measure program effectiveness. This session will facilitate a discussion of a framework that can be used by participants on their campuses to (1) develop meaningful outcomes, (2) identify measurable outcomes, and (3) find common ground between the two to create an assessment plan that is both meaningful and measurable. To register for the webinar, visit the webinar webpage.

REU Site PIs: Nominate Students for CUR's Research Experiences for Undergraduates Symposium

Principal investigators for REU Sites can nominate students to participate in CUR's seventh Research Experiences for Undergraduates Symposium (REUS). The event, which will feature student posters, a graduate school recruitment fair, and professional development workshops for both faculty and students, will be held on October 22-23, 2017, at the Westin Alexandria in Alexandria, Virginia, near the new location of the National Science Foundation. Nominations are due August 31, 2017. For more information on the symposium, visit the REU Symposium webpage.

Call for Undergraduate Research Highlights, Winter 2017 Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research

Submit Undergraduate Research Highlights by September 1, 2017, for the Winter 2017 Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research. Undergraduate Research Highlights briefly describe peer-reviewed research or scholarly work in academic journals, book and book chapters, Web-based publications, and juried performances that have occurred within the past six months. They must be in print and must have one or more undergraduate coauthors.

CFP, Summer 2018 Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research: Diversity and Equity

The summer 2018 issue of Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research, "Leveraging Undergraduate Research to Foster Diversity and Achieve Equity," will explore undergraduate research as a strategy to support underrepresented, first-generation, and/or low-income students to excel in college and achieve their longer-term goals. The editors are interested in learning how
institutions, departments, and faculty have employed novel approaches to courses, programs, or activities related to undergraduate research that increase the recruitment, retention, and success of traditionally underserved populations. Four to five articles of 2500-4500 words are sought that explore this topic, and shorter vignettes (300 words) are invited that offer succinct descriptions of specific aspects of this work. The deadline for proposals is **August 21, 2017**. [READ MORE]

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**NAS Science Breakthroughs Study Seeks Input on Research Directions for Food/Agricultural Sciences**

The [Science Breakthroughs 2030](https://www.nationalacademies.org/) study of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine seeks to identify the next research directions for food and agriculture sciences. A committee of experts is examining knowledge and tools from across the science and engineering spectrum. It welcomes input on ways in which the food and agriculture community can catalyze new research directions and partnerships; attract new research talent; stimulate entrepreneurship; and open to paths to a safe, healthful, and sustainable food supply.

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**Submission Deadline Extended, International Conference on Models of Engaged Teaching and Learning**

The submission deadline has been extended to August 14 for the International Conference on Models of Engaged Teaching and Learning (I-MELT) in Australia. [READ MORE]

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**CUR EVENT  Creative Inquiry in the Arts and Humanities Institute—Nov 10-12, 2017—Lincoln University, Lincoln, PA (application deadline: Sept 25, 2017)**

This institute will assist campus-based teams in developing transformative opportunities for undergraduate research, scholarship, and creativity (URSC) in the arts and humanities. It will inform participants about current research on learning outcomes for students engaging in URSC. To apply, visit the [institute webpage](https://example.com).

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**CUR EVENT** Initiating and Sustaining Undergraduate Research Programs—Jan 19-21, 2018—University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL (application deadline: Nov 15, 2017)

This institute is designed for campus representatives establishing new undergraduate research programs or centralized undergraduate research offices, expanding undergraduate research opportunities from a single department to a campus-wide program, and/or serving new constituencies (such as community college students, underrepresented students, first- and second-year students, graduate students as mentors, and faculty from disciplines new to undergraduate research such as arts and humanities). Participants will develop a strategic implementation plan through sessions on (1) developing an office (budgets, staffing, and programming); (2) identifying and working with campus partners and collaborators; (3) understanding funding models, including undergraduate research as a Broader Impacts activity; and (4) addressing assessment and evaluation. CUR’s Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research (COEUR) and other materials will be used to help participants perform a self-evaluation, develop a strategic plan, and outline short- and long-term goals after the institute. To apply, visit the [institute webpage](#).

**CUR EVENT** Broadening Participation Institute—Mar 23-25, 2018—Bowie State University, Bowie, MD (application deadline: Feb 12, 2018)

CUR’s Broadening Participation Institute seeks to assist faculty and administrators in developing or enhancing their knowledge, skills, and competencies in increasing access, fostering diversity, and creating an inclusive environment for all STEM students. Institutions will send teams of faculty and administrators to the institute, and they will work together to craft an action plan to achieve inclusive excellence on their home campuses. To apply, visit the [institute webpage](#).

**CUR Events and Deadlines**

- **Aug 16, 2017** Webinar, [Creating a Meaningful and Measurable Assessment Plan](#)
- **Aug 21, 2017** Proposal Deadline, Summer 2018 [Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research](#)
- **Aug 31, 2017** Nomination Deadline, [Research Experiences for Undergraduates Symposium](#)
- **Sept 1, 2017** Winter 2017 [Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research](#)
- **Sept 6, 2017** Abstract Submission Opens, 2018 Posters on the Hill
- **Sept 25, 2017** Deadline, [Creative Inquiry in the Arts and Humanities Institute](#) Applications
- **Sept 27, 2017** Deadline for Proposals to Host CUR 2020 Biennial Conference
- **Oct 22-23, 2017** [Research Experiences for Undergraduates Symposium](#)
- **Nov 10-12, 2017** [Creative Inquiry in the Arts and Humanities Institute](#)
- **Nov 15, 2017** Deadline, [Initiating and Sustaining Undergraduate Research Program Institute](#) Applications
- **Dec 5, 2017** Deadline, NCUR 2018 Abstracts
- **Jan 19-21, 2018** [Initiating and Sustaining Undergraduate Research Programs Institute](#)
- **Feb 12, 2018** Application Deadline, Broadening Participation Institute
- **Mar 23-25, 2018** [Broadening Participation Institute](#)