CUR Lauds March for Science's Championing of Public Support for Science

CUR officially endorsed the mission of the March for Science, a celebration of science that will take place on April 22, 2017 (Earth Day), at 10 am on the National Mall, with satellite marches across the United States and other nations. The March’s mission, championing “robustly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity,” strongly aligns with CUR’s mission.

As a vibrant and nonpartisan nonprofit organization of more than 12,000 members from nearly 900 institutions, CUR supports high-quality, faculty-mentored, undergraduate student research. The March’s aim—“to unite as a diverse, nonpartisan group to call for science that upholds the common good and for political leaders and policy makers to enact evidence-based policies in the public interest”—mirrors CUR’s membership of institutions large and small, public and private, urban and rural, and national and international, as well as its advocacy for inclusive and vigorous creative inquiry and heritage as an organization founded by chemists and expanded to include all disciplines. READ MORE
CAS Issues Revised Undergraduate Research Standards; Reflects CUR Input

The Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS) has released a self-assessment guide and revised standards for undergraduate research programs, including a definition and best practices for undergraduate research that reflect CUR's focus.

The new standards set out expectations for educators, aiming to improve mentoring and more fully integrate undergraduate research across disciplines and programs. The standards also acknowledge the substantial increase of undergraduate research programs at community colleges. More than 20 CUR members reviewed and vetted the standards over the past two years.

Wanted: CUR Community Feedback on Proposed 2018 U.S. Budget

Although we have heard informally from members that President Trump's proposed U.S. budget for the 2018 fiscal year will have an impact on programs of interest to undergraduate research advocates, we are seeking to assess the level and direction of members' concerns through this brief survey. We sincerely appreciate your input.

Participate in CUR's New Online Community

CUR Community is a new online community platform where CUR members can connect, engage and share experiences, disseminate best practices, exchange resources, and build relationships. This new online collaborative tool, designed exclusively for CUR members, combines the instant, active response features of the old email list server with the newer digital-friendly discussion fora. You can start new threads in each discussion group or “community,” or find archived conversations. In real time, daily or weekly digest (notify us if you experience difficulty receiving the digest version). You decide. There are many added bonuses such as the ability to share large files without cluttering your inbox and instant access to your CUR contacts.
Call for Undergraduate Research Highlights, Fall 2017 *SPUR: Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research*

Submit Undergraduate Research Highlights by May 17, 2017, for the Fall 2017 *SPUR: 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.

Apply by May 1 for CUR Physics & Astronomy Division Travel Awards

The CUR Physics & Astronomy Division offers travel awards of up to $500 to help support students who will present at CUR events or other professional meetings relevant to the division. Applications for travel awards must include a one-page letter outlining the nature of the meeting, a brief budget, and an abstract of the paper(s) or poster(s) to be presented. Applicants’ mentors must be CUR members. All materials must be submitted to PA Division chair Terry Oswalt by 5 pm EDT on May 1, 2017.

Call for Nominations, GeoCUR Undergraduate Research Mentor Award

The CUR Geosciences Division is accepting nominations for its annual award that highlights the importance of mentoring undergraduate research activities. The award annually recognizes an individual who serves as a role model for productive and transformative student-faculty mentoring relationships and for maintaining a sustained and innovative approach to the enterprise of undergraduate research. Application information, as well as audio interviews with past recipients, can be found online at [http://geocur.org/awards/faculty-mentors/](http://geocur.org/awards/faculty-mentors/) The application deadline is June 1. Inquiries and/or nominations may be sent to Erin Kraal (kraal@kutztown.edu).
The workshop Transforming Undergraduate Research Culture and Curricula will be held at New Jersey City University on April 21-23, 2017. The workshop will bring together teams of three to five faculty members and administrators from institutions interested in institutionalizing existing research activities and developing research-rich curricula to support those goals. READ MORE

This four-day institute for both novice and experienced proposal writers will bring together faculty and administrators interested in preparing proposals for submission to external funding agencies. Participants will work one-on-one with a mentor; writing, small-group discussions, and critiquing of proposals also will be part of the institute's activities. To apply, visit the institute webpage.

This 1.5-day conference is aimed at faculty and academic professionals who are interested in the improvement, management, and promotion of undergraduate research and is designed for programs at any stage, including the development phase! Faculty, undergraduate research program directors, and administrators from across the country will be gathering to share ideas, strategies, and best practices about undergraduate research programs. Sponsored by CUR, the conference will be coordinated by the Undergraduate Research Program Directors (URPD) Division. Session topics include the following:

- Assessment
- Diversity in Research
- High-Impact Learning Strategies
- Internationalization
- Undergraduate Research Administration and Budgeting — Nuts and Bolts
- Undergraduate Research Collaborations

To register, visit the [Undergraduate Research Collaborations webpage](CUR-E-News_page_5).

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**CUR Events and Deadlines**

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