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**CUR President Susan Larson Advocates for Undergraduate Research in Fargo's *The Forum***

In "Undergraduate Research Opportunities Foster Creative and Innovative Thinkers," an op-ed in the June 14 issue of Fargo's newspaper *The Forum*, CUR president Susan Larson (Concordia College, MN) called attention to the contributions of undergraduate research to the nation and the skills that it builds in students.

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**NAS Recommends NSF Develop Plan for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Science Research**

A new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine recommends that the National Science Foundation (NSF) develop a strategic plan of research priorities for the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. *The Value of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences to National Priorities: A Report for the National Science Foundation* calls for coordination with the NSF’s
undergraduate programs; interdisciplinary and team-oriented training programs for future scientists that are data intensive; and vigorous efforts to disseminate the results of NSF-supported research in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. READ MORE

URPD Sponsor S.O.C. Invites Conference Attendees to View Tech Platform for Undergraduate Researchers

Student Opportunity Center (S.O.C.), a CUR affiliate member and sponsor of the Undergraduate Research Program Directors (URPD) meeting on June 27-29, 2017, invites URPD participants to see its technology platform for undergraduate researchers while they are in Flagstaff. The platform, started by undergraduate researchers in spring 2013 and launched in fall 2014, provides information on more than 11,000 student conferences, publications, undergraduate research options, and funding opportunities nationwide. Faculty and staff members can use the platform to upload and share opportunities with students, as well as track student involvement. S.O.C. currently partners with 75 higher education institutions and has 146,000 page views per month, with more than 67 percent of users finding opportunities, more than 48 percent applying for opportunities, and more than 16 percent participating in an opportunity found on the platform.

To arrange a meeting with an S.O.C. representative or to view the platform, complete a scheduling request. Other inquiries may be sent to the S.O.C. team.

Summer Undergrad Researchers: Apply for Travel Grants to October National Diversity in STEM Conference

The Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) is accepting applications from summer undergraduate researchers for travel grants to the 2017 National Diversity in STEM Conference, which will be held in Salt Lake City on October 19-21, 2017. The application deadline is July 14, 2017.

Travel Grant Applications Due August 25 for Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students

The Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRAMS), which seeks to encourage underrepresented minority students in STEM, is offering travel grants for student presenters and faculty judges at the November conference in Phoenix. Applications are due August 25, 2017.
Nominations Open for Geoscience Information Society's Best Guidebooks Awards

The Guidebooks Committee of the Geoscience Information Society is now accepting nominations for its Best Guidebooks Awards and Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series Award. The awards honor exemplary geologic field-trip guidebooks from any region that were produced between 2015 and 2017.

**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.

**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 Events and Deadlines**

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