C. Brannon Andersen (Furman University/Clemson University) Receives 2017 CUR Geosciences Division Undergraduate Research Mentor Award

C. Brannon Andersen, professor and chair in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Furman University and adjunct professor in the Department of Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences at Clemson University, received the 2017 CUR Geosciences Division Undergraduate Research Mentor Award at the Geological Society of America's Annual Meeting in Seattle. Each year, the division’s award recognizes an individual who serves as a role model for innovative student-faculty mentoring relationships and dynamic oversight of undergraduate research. [READ MORE]
Applications Due November 1 for CUR's 2018 Posters on the Hill

Applications can be submitted for CUR's 2018 Posters on the Hill, an annual event that showcases undergraduate research from around the country to congressional representatives and their staff members. To submit, visit CUR's 2018 Posters on the Hill submission webpage. The submission deadline is November 1, 2017.

Submit Nominations by November 6 for 2018 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Award

Presidents and provosts can nominate individuals for the 2018 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Award, which recognizes eminent STEM researchers who have a substantial record of mentoring Goldwater Scholars and other undergraduates in innovative ways. The deadline for nomination letters is November 6, 2017. For details on eligibility and the nomination process, visit the webpage for the 2018 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Award.

CUR Members: Nominate CUR Councilors by November 6

CUR Councilors compose the governing body of CUR. Always needed are new councilors willing to devote some of their time and creativity to inventing new programs and providing services. The future of CUR (and perhaps undergraduate research!) depends on such volunteers.

For the 2018 elections, interested CUR members should complete this form to submit their biographical information for consideration. Other individuals may be nominated by contacting the Nominations Committee representative for the appropriate division. Nominations are due by November 6, 2017. READ MORE

CUR in the News

This fall has been a busy one for CUR leaders responding to press queries on undergraduate research. The following is a sampling of articles:

- "Undergraduate Research Provides Proof of Proficiency for Students," The Daily Tarheel (Univ of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Oct. 10, 2017
- "Saying Yes to Undergraduate Research" by former CUR president Mitchell Malachowski (Univ of San Diego), Chronicle of Higher Education, Oct. 13, 2017
Missed CUR's 2017 REU Symposium?
Read the Abstracts
Unable to see the more than 100 student posters at CUR's 2017 Research Experiences for Undergraduates Symposium? Read the abstracts.

CUR Welcomes New Members

CUR welcomes the following institutions to enhanced membership:
- Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA
- Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN

Call for Proposals, 2018 National Alliance for Broader Impacts Summit

"Creative Communication and Scholarship" is the theme of the 2018 National Alliance for Broader Impacts Summit, which will be held in Providence, Rhode Island, on April 25-27, 2018. Abstracts may be submitted until January 9, 2018. Of interest are topics such as epistemology and theoretical models for broader impacts scholarship, approaches for cultivating broader impacts scholarship, approaches for disseminating broader impacts best practices, and approaches for capacity building. READ MORE

CUR WEBINAR  Surveying the Impact:
Using Survey Methods to Assess Undergraduate Research—Dec 13, 2017—

Do you want to assess the impact of your program by using already established surveys or by creating your own? This webinar will provide an overview of surveys that can be used to assess the impact of your program and strategies for interpreting your results. We will also review best practices in survey design and tips for creating useful surveys including: sampling, question design, improving response rates, and what to do with your data. Participants will gain an understanding of already available instruments, develop new skills in survey design, and create strategies for analyzing their data and putting it into action. To register, click here.

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** Interested in Grant Success and Networking Events? Attend CUR Dialogues 2018!

In winter 2018, **CUR Dialogues** will bring together higher education faculty, staff members, and administrators with federal agency program officers and other grant funders in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Also featured will be networking opportunities, mock panels on NSF IUSE and REU programs, and keynote speakers who are Washington insiders. Held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, CUR Dialogues 2018 will begin at 4 pm on Thursday, February 15, 2018, and will end around noon on Saturday, February 17, 2018.

**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.


The 18th CUR Biennial Conference, “Creating Collaborative Connections in and through Undergraduate Research,” will take place at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA, on July 1–3, 2018. Faculty, administrators, staff, academic and community partners, and policymakers will share interdisciplinary investigations—both individual and collaborative—across local, national, and international contexts, as they showcase models of undergraduate research activities at all types of higher education institutions (learn more about the conference themes).
Did you know that **over 50% of all biennial attendees present at the conference**? If you're hoping to present but want feedback on your idea, have questions about the submission process, or want to find someone to co-present, you should consider submitting a discussion post in the CUR Community.

**Proposals may be submitted** for oral presentations and poster presentations until November 22, 2017. In addition, the following preconference workshops are scheduled for June 30, 2018:

- **A Research Lab Model for Student Research in Mathematics.** This workshop will demonstrate a model in which multiple students work together on projects over multiple years, allowing for senior students to mentor students just embarking on research. Techniques will be discussed for reformulating single-student research projects as collaborative ones, developing healthy collaborative relationships among students, promoting meaningful contributions by each student, and organizing the logistics of a larger group.

- **Dialogical Opportunities.** Individuals will work within a learning community for several months before the biennial, meet at the biennial to further their discussions, and collaborate to create at least one CUR-related written product.

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**CUR Events and Deadlines**

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