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Want to Host NCUR 2021? Submit a Letter of Interest by Today

Representatives from institutions that wish to be considered as a potential host for the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2021 may submit a letter of interest by today. For more information on the process, visit "Hosting an NCUR Conference---Submit a Bid to Host NCUR 2021."

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.
Consultants Sought, CUR Transformations Project

As part of its work with 12 higher education institutions and 24 departments involving biology, chemistry, physics, and psychology, the CUR Transformations Project expects to assign two consultants to work with each department over the four-year project period. Needed for the consultant positions are CUR members with a history of undergraduate research activities, curriculum design experience, and facilitation experience. Read more about these positions in the Call for Consultants document. Applications from prospective consultants are due by April 10, 2017, and may be submitted at the submissions portal.

New CUR Online Community Launched

CUR Community, a new online community platform, launched March 28. Through the platform, 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.

CUR Task Force Seeks Partnership Case Studies

The CUR Innovation and Collaboration Task Force is collecting case studies that describe examples of successful partnerships between academia and corporate, public sector, or social service organizations that support opportunities, resources, or success for undergraduates. Some peer-reviewed examples are available on this website.

To submit a case study, please use the template on the CUR Innovation and Collaboration webpage. Case studies are due by March 31, 2017.
CFP, Spring 2018 SPUR: Undergraduate Research and Student Success Outcomes

The theme of the spring 2018 issue of *SPUR: Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research* (formerly *CUR Quarterly*) will focus on undergraduate research and student success outcomes. Four to five articles of 2000–3500 words each are sought from a wide range of disciplines that explore how undergraduate research influences student success in a variety of educational and professional contexts. In addition, shorter vignettes (300 words) are welcomed that offer concrete, creative suggestions with regard to the measurement of engagement in undergraduate research and student success. Examples of topics of interest include the following:

- The impact of undergraduate research on GPA, retention rates, and graduation rates
- Models of undergraduate research designed to engage at-risk students
- Assessment of the impact of early participation in undergraduate research on student success
- Undergraduate research and preparedness for graduate school
- Innovative methods for assessing student outcomes

**Submission Details.** Submit a 300- to 500-word prospectus by April 7, 2017, describing the focus of the proposed article or vignette. Please indicate in the prospectus whether the proposed piece is an article or a vignette. Invited authors will be notified by April 21, 2017. Final manuscripts will be due by June 19, 2017. All articles undergo peer review.

**Questions?** Email the editors.

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**CUR Is on the Move! National Office Moves April 1**

The CUR National Office will be moving to more functional quarters on Saturday, April 1. The office will be closed on Friday, March 31, and Monday, April 3; however, CUR staff will be available via telework arrangements on those days. CUR will reopen on Tuesday, April 4. Telephone, email, website, and postal communications are expected to be unaffected by the move.

CUR’s telephone and fax numbers will remain the same. The new postal address is the following:

734 15th Street NW, Suite 850
Washington, DC  20005-1013
Tell Us About Your Activities for Undergraduate Research Week (April 3-7, 2017)

Undergraduate Research Week 2017 will be celebrated during the week of April 3. Consider planning your celebration days and other special events during this week, and be sure to send to submit@cur.org a two- or three-sentence statement about your event(s); your campus logo; and a link to the press release, website, or video for inclusion on the event listing website. On Twitter, use the hashtag #URW2017 to spotlight your undergraduate research stories, photos, and activities. On social media, share your stories of how undergraduate research has changed your life, and ask your students and alumni to do the same. In addition, consider writing to local government officials such as governors, county executives, mayors, and so forth and ask them to name this week Undergraduate Research Week for your jurisdiction.

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/ The application deadline is June 1. Inquiries and/or nominations may be sent to Erin Kraal (kraal@kutztown.edu).

CUR Welcomes New Members

CUR welcomes the following members to enhanced membership:

- Georgian Court University (Lakewood, NJ)
- University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
New *CUR Quarterly* Issue Focuses on Undergraduate Research Abroad

The spring 2017 *CUR Quarterly* focuses on undergraduate research abroad. Accompanying the spring 2017 CURQ on the Web article on "A Delicious Connection: Global Learning through Structured Multimedia Dialogue" by Brandon Inabinet, Tami Blumenfield, and Amanda Richey are two films that can be viewed on the CURQ on the Web webpage: Growing Food in South Carolina: Farmers’ Perspectives and Farming and Food Systems in Yongning, China.

April 5 NIGMS Lecture to Discuss Molecular Pathways of Antiretroviral Drugs

The 2017 National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Director’s Early Career Investigator Lecture, “Drug Metabolism, Pharmacogenetics, and the Quest to Personalize HIV Treatment and Prevention,” will be given by Namandjé N. Bumpus, an NIGMS-funded early career investigator. This free event will be held on April 5 from 2-3 p.m. EDT at the Natcher Conference Center on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, and will be videocast. The lecture is part of the NIGMS annual series that seeks to encourage undergraduate students to pursue careers in biomedical research. Students may submit questions before the lecture on Bumpus's research or career path; these may be submitted to info@nigms.nih.gov or #ecilecture on Twitter.

*CUR Event* UWM Researcher Sarah Caudill to Be Honored at 2017 Posters on the Hill

Sarah Caudill, a postdoctoral research associate in the Department of Physics at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, will receive the Honorary CUR Fellows Award at an April 26 reception during the 2017 Posters on the Hill event on Capitol Hill. Caudill, a 2006 Posters on the Hill participant, contributed to the discovery of gravitational waves through the Caltech-MIT Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO).

Posters on the Hill (POTH), CUR’s signature student advocacy event, is held in partnership with the American Chemical Society. Accompanied by their faculty mentors, 60 exceptional undergraduates will share their research on April 25–26 with Members of Congress, congressional staff, and federal government officials, as well as
highlight the value of federal investment in undergraduate research. Questions about the event may be directed to Lindsey Thomas.

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**CUR Event** Proposal Writing Institute – July 13-17, 2017 – Concordia College, Moorhead, MN (application deadline: May 22, 2017)

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](#).

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**CUR Event** Undergraduate Research Programs: Undergraduate Research Collaborations Conference – June 27-29, 2017 – Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff

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 Events and Deadlines

March 30, 2017    Deadline, Letters of Interest, 2021 National Conference on Undergraduate Research
March 31, 2017    Deadline, Case Study Submission, CUR Innovation and Collaboration Task Force
                  CUR National Office Closed
April 1, 2017     CUR National Office Move
April 3, 2017     CUR National Office Closed
April 3-7, 2017   Undergraduate Research Week
April 4, 2017     CUR National Office Reopens
April 7, 2017     Deadline: Proposals, Spr2018 Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research (SPUR)
April 6-8, 2017   National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), University of Memphis
April 10, 2017    Deadline: Consultant Applications, CUR Transformations Project
April 25-26, 2017 Posters on the Hill
May 22, 2017      Deadline: Proposal Writing Institute Applications
June 1, 2017      Deadline: Nominations, GeoCUR Undergraduate Research Mentor Award
June 27-29, 2017  Undergraduate Research Programs: Undergraduate Research Collaborations Conference
July 13-17, 2017  Proposal Writing Institute

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