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CFP, "Big Data as a Tool to Promote Undergraduate Research" (Spr and Sum19 SPUR)

The theme of the spring and summer 2019 issues of SPUR: Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research will focus on big data as a tool to promote undergraduate research. Five to six articles from a wide range of disciplines are sought that explore how the applications and use of big data serve to facilitate undergraduate research in a variety of educational and professional contexts. Examples of topics of interest include the following:

- Assessment of the impact of undergraduate research projects involving big data
- Promotion of undergraduate research through big-data projects across institutions
- Interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary applications of big data in the context of undergraduate research
- Ways that big data (or publicly available large datasets) have been leveraged for course-based research projects or for undergraduate research in online learning
- Technological applications in the use of big data to promote undergraduate research
- Applied research or community-based research using big data in the context of undergraduate research

The deadline for proposals is June 1, 2018. READ MORE
Submit Letters of Intent by March 23, 
CUR Campus-Wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments

CUR invites applications for its highest institutional honor, the CUR Campus-wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments (AURA). CUR’s Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research (COEUR) describes the organization’s criteria for excellent undergraduate research programs. This award recognizes higher education institutions that have successfully implemented some of the COEUR criteria, have devised exemplary programs to provide high-quality research experiences to undergraduates, and have assessed the success of these programs. Letters of intent from institutions are due by March 23, 2018. For details, visit the AURA webpage.

How Are You Celebrating Undergraduate Research Week (April 9–13)? Tell Us by March 30!

Undergraduate Research Week (URW) will take place on April 9–13, 2018, and CUR will feature a roundup of member activities on its website and provide highlights on its social media platforms during the week. For example, Northern Kentucky University will hold a Celebration of Student Research and Creative Activity on April 9, and Eastern Connecticut State University will host its annual CREATE conference on April 13 to showcase student research from the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Education and Professional Studies. Thinking about possible activities? Review last year's events; think about coordinating with other April events such as Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month, Alcohol Awareness Month, and Black Women's History Month; and/or consider working with the campus government relations office to have the local mayor or other government official declare the week Undergraduate Research Week (as the University of Findlay accomplished last year).

To submit URW activities, visit CUR’s URW 2018 webpage. To ensure inclusion, CUR members are encouraged to follow the instructions and submit items before March 30.

Want to Host NCUR in 2022? 
Submit a Letter of Interest by March 31

Institutions that wish to be considered as a potential host for the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2022 may submit a letter of interest by March 31, 2018. For more information, visit "Hosting an NCUR Conference---Submit a Bid to Host NCUR 2022."
Nomination Deadlines for Faculty Mentor Awards Coming Up in CUR Divisions

Nomination deadlines are approaching in the following divisions:

- **Faculty Mentor Award nominations**, CUR Mathematics and Computer Sciences Division, nomination deadline March 31, 2018. The division will present three awards (in early career, mid-career, and advanced career categories) to honor mathematics, statistics, and computer science mentors for their success in mentoring undergraduate students in research. Faculty members mentoring interdisciplinary projects are encouraged to apply as long as those projects involve a major mathematics, statistics, or computer science component. [READ MORE]

- **Undergraduate Mentor Award nominations**, CUR Geosciences Division, nomination deadline June 1, 2018. This award annually recognizes an individual who serves as a role model for productive and transformative student-faculty mentoring relationships and for a sustained and innovative approach to the enterprise of undergraduate research. Applications from a range of institutional settings are encouraged. [READ MORE]

Deadlines Approaching for Summer 2018 Undergraduate Opportunities

Application deadlines are coming up for undergraduate research opportunities in summer 2018. Options include the following:

- **REU** in industrial mathematics and statistics, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; application deadline March 30, 2018

- **REU**, "Mechanisms of Evolution," University of Nevada–Las Vegas; application deadline April 7, 2018

- **REU** in interdisciplinary macrosystems research in freshwater ecology and computer science, Michigan State University; application deadline April 16, 2018

CUR Welcomes New Member

New: NIGMS R15 AREA Program Funding Opportunity for Undergraduate Institutions

On March 15, a new R15 AREA program funding opportunity from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences was announced (PAR-18-714). The Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) for Undergraduate-Focused Institutions will support small-scale research grants at institutions that do not receive substantial funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with an emphasis on providing biomedical research experiences primarily for undergraduate students, and enhancing the research environment at these institutions. Eligible institutions must award baccalaureate science degrees and have received less than $6 million per year of NIH support (total costs) in four of the last seven fiscal years. Applications will open May 25, 2018. READ MORE

CUR EVENT CUR Biennial—July 1-3, 2018—Arlington, VA (Early-Bird Regis Deadline Mar 29)

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). Keynote speakers include the following:

- José Antonio Bowen (president of Goucher College)
- Freeman A. Hrabowski III (president of the University of Maryland-Baltimore County)
- David Lopatto (director of the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, Grinnell College)
- Robin Wright (director of the Division of Undergraduate Education, National Science Foundation)

The following workshops are scheduled:

- A Research Lab Model for Student Research in Mathematics, June 30, 2018, 1–4 pm, $65.00. 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. Read the draft agenda, or register for the workshop. Address questions to Kathryn Leonard.
• **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.

### CUR Events and Deadlines

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