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USU's David Peak Selected as 2018 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Awardee

David Peak, professor of physics at Utah State University, has been selected as the 2018 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Awardee. Peak, a cofounder of the CUR Physics and Astronomy Division, was recognized for his achievements as a research leader, as well as a productive scholar, teacher, mentor, and adviser to 33 undergraduates who have received 36 Goldwater scholarships and honorable mentions. READ MORE

CUR Biology Division Names Latest Mentor Awardees

The CUR Biology Division has named the 2017 recipients of its Mentor Awards that recognize leadership and long-term efforts in supervising undergraduate research. The recipients, who will receive plaques, are the following:

- Rachelle Belanger, associate professor and assistant chair of biology at University of Detroit Mercy (early-career awardee)
- Amit Dhingra, associate professor of genomics and biotechnology at Washington State University (mid-career awardee)
- William (Bill) Ensign, professor of biology at Kennesaw State University (advanced-career awardee)
Q&A Opportunities re Proposed CUR Governance Changes Scheduled for April 10–12

Teleconferences have been scheduled for CUR members to discuss proposed CUR governance changes with members of the CUR Governance Task Force and President’s Group. These are scheduled for April 10 at 12–1pm ET; April 11 at 3–4pm ET; and April 12 at 1–2pm ET. To participate, use the following call-in number: 1-888/585-9008 (when prompted, enter code 580027273#). To review the proposed governance changes, visit this webpage.

How Are You Celebrating Undergraduate Research Week (April 9–13)?

Undergraduate Research Week (URW) will take place on April 9–13, 2018, and CUR is featuring a roundup of member activities on its website and will provide highlights on its social media platforms during the week. For example, Rice University will hold its first InquiryWeek, including "Thank Your Mentor" events; and Queensborough Community College (NY) will host an undergraduate research fair and panel discussion on April 11 that will focus on the impact of research and technological innovation on health, safety, quality of life, and local and global economies. Thinking about possible URW 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 carefully.

Learn More About CUR's Posters on the Hill Event on April 18

On April 18, 60 teams from colleges and universities across the nation will participate in the 2018 Posters on the Hill event, sponsored by CUR in collaboration with the American Chemical Society. Researchers and faculty from as far away as University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of California at Los Angeles, and University of Washington will join local peers from Bowie State University (MD) and James Madison University (VA) to share their research on Capitol Hill on topics ranging from early Jesuit scholars and 3D bioprinted muscle constructs to African American lead miners and the use of artificial neural networks to predict wildfire growth. READ MORE
Jun 1 Nomination Deadline for UR Mentor Award in CUR Geosciences Division

In the CUR Geosciences Division, nominations for the Undergraduate Mentor Award will be accepted until 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

Submit Undergraduate Research Highlights for Fall 2018 SPUR

Faculty members, administrators, and students can submit Undergraduate Research Highlights for the fall 2018 issue of Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research (SPUR) and CUR's online highlights database. Undergraduate Research Highlights briefly describe peer-reviewed research or scholarly work that has appeared in academic journals, book and book chapters, Web-based publications, and juried performances. These publications must be in print, must be from the past six months, and must include one or more undergraduate coauthors. Submit here by May 18, 2018.

NSF Announces Apr 12 Webinar on Research.gov Proposal Preparation and Submission

The National Science Foundation (NSF) will hold a webinar on April 12 from 2–3:30 pm EDT that will focus on NSF’s new Research.gov account management modernization as well as the proposal preparation and submission process. To register for the webinar or read the agenda, visit this webpage.

Register for Apr 26 AGI Webinar on Professional Writing for Geoscience Careers (Cosponsored by CUR)

The webinar "An Introduction to Professional Writing for Geoscience Careers"—hosted by the Workforce Program of the American Geosciences Institute and cosponsored by CUR—will provide an overview of the writing skills developed by geoscience students during their undergraduate and graduate academic training, information on the skills and tools needed for nonacademic careers, and advice for students on how to acquire the needed writing skills as they prepare for and pursue their career paths. The first of a webinar series on developing writing skills for a variety of geoscience careers, the webinar will be held on April 26 from 1–2
pm EDT. Speakers include American Geophysical Union’s Pranoti Asher, HRP Associates’ Bob Simmons, and former Georgia Department of Natural Resources program manager Ron Wallace. READ MORE

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**CUR EVENT** Proposal Writing Institute—Jul 12–16, 2018 (Registration Deadline May 15)

The [CUR Proposal Writing Institute](#) at Georgia College in Milledgeville, GA, will bring together faculty members and administrators interested in preparing proposals for submission to external funding agencies. Attendees will work one-on-one with a mentor, write, and participate in small-group discussions and critiques of proposals. Prior to the event, participants will be able to access information that will help them begin to draft their proposal. Submit an application for the institute by May 15, 2018.

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**CUR EVENT** CUR Biennial—Jul 1–3, 2018 (Registration Deadline May 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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