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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.
Julio J. Ramirez Selected as 2017 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Awardee

Julio J. Ramirez, R. Stuart Dickson Professor and chair of the Department of Psychology at Davidson College (NC), has been selected as the 2017 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Awardee. The award, which consists of a plaque and $5000 for the awardee’s research program and/or undergraduate researchers, will be presented at an April 7 reception during CUR’s National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Memphis. READ MORE

CUR Seeks Applications for Campus-wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments

CUR invites applications for an annual award, 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 characteristics of excellence, have devised exemplary programs to provide high-quality research experiences to undergraduates, and have evaluated the success of these programs. The depth and breadth of the institutional commitment to undergraduate research as well as the innovative nature of a sustained, exemplary program are important criteria for award selection. Letters of intent from institutions are due by March 22, 2017. For further information, visit the award webpage.

Deadline Extended! Transforming Undergraduate Research Culture and Curricula

The application deadline has been extended to March 23, 2017, for the workshop Transforming Undergraduate Research Culture and Curricula, which will be held at New Jersey City University on April 21-23, 2017. The workshop will bring together
teams of three to five faculty members and administrators from institutions interested in institutionalizing existing research activities and developing research-rich curricula to support those goals. READ MORE

Apply by March 29 for a URPD Conference Grant

Limited conference grants are available for Undergraduate Research Programs: Undergraduate Research Collaborations Conference.

Applicants need to submit contact and demographic information, a statement of anticipated expenses, a statement describing financial need, and a statement on expected outcomes from attending the particular conference. Individuals from underrepresented groups and first-time attendees will be given priority. Awardees will be selected to represent a diverse subset of the applicants across discipline/CUR divisions and geographic locations. Awardees will receive the conference grant as a rebate after their confirmed participation in the conference and the submission of reimbursement paperwork.

Apply here. DEADLINE: March 29, 2017

Want to Host NCUR 2021? Submit a Letter of Interest by March 30

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 March 30, 2017. For more information on the process, visit "Hosting an NCUR Conference—Submit a Bid to Host NCUR 2021."

Coming Soon! New CUR Online Community

CUR members will soon have a new way to collaborate via an online community platform. This CUR community will launch on March 28 as a way to 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. 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. Stay tuned!

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.

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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

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**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 a short description of your celebration (including a photo and/or logo for your institution) for inclusion on the event listing website. On Twitter, use the hashtag #URW2017 to spotlight your undergraduate research photos and activities. 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.

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**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).

Call for Proposals, ISSOTL 2017

The 14th annual conference of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) will be held in Calgary, Canada, on October 11-14, 2017. International scholars and educators will come together to share recent work and to discuss how collective efforts will elevate the future of higher education. SOTL projects on undergraduate research (UR) may be submitted to ISSOTL by March 22, 2017.

The ISSOTL conference will feature a CUR preconference workshop on October 11, “Incorporating the Mentoring of Undergraduate Research into Your Professional Portfolio.” During this workshop, panelists from different institutional types and countries will share models of incorporating undergraduate research into professional portfolios, including teaching, research, and service. Best practices for integrating UR into curricula and mentoring UR, strategies to assess effectiveness and impact, and integration of UR into workload will be discussed.

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 are encouraged to 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** 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.

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**CUR Events and Deadlines**

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