Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP): Facilitating opportunities for MIT Undergraduates to conduct research, in any discipline, as junior colleagues to faculty

Michael Bergren
Associate Dean, MIT Academic and Research Initiatives

Participation Highlights
- 87% of students in the Class of 2010 participated in at least one UROP project
- 64% of students began their first UROP project during their freshman year
- 57% of students participated in UROP projects outside their major
- 51% of faculty supervised undergraduate research during AY 2009-10

Program Outcomes
- 78% of students were satisfied or very satisfied with their level of comprehension of the project aims and goals
- 75% of students were satisfied or very satisfied with their level of involvement in their project
- 72% of students were satisfied or very satisfied with the types of project tasks that they were asked to complete

Motivation for Student Participation
- 87% of students in the Class of 2010 participated in at least one UROP project
- 64% of students began their first UROP project during their freshman year
- 57% of students participated in UROP projects outside their major
- 51% of faculty supervised undergraduate research during AY 2009-10

Learning Outcomes
- 78% of students were satisfied or very satisfied with their level of comprehension of the project aims and goals
- 75% of students were satisfied or very satisfied with their level of involvement in their project
- 72% of students were satisfied or very satisfied with the types of project tasks that they were asked to complete

Skills Development
- 81% of students felt their experience at least moderately enhanced their understanding of the demands of working in a research setting
- 73% of students felt their experience at least moderately enhanced their ability to conduct a research project
- 73% of students felt their experience at least moderately enhanced their ability to work as a member of a research team

Funding for UROP
In 40 years, MIT has allocated more than $100M in funding support to UROP students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2008 UROP Student Experience Survey</th>
<th>2009 Senior Survey</th>
<th>2010 Enrolled Student Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Support Provided 2009-2010: $6.7M (US)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% UROP Projects for which students are paid</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% UROP Projects for which students receive academic credit</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% UROP projects for which students volunteer</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acknowledgements
- Dr. Lisa O'Leary Shuler, MIT Teaching and Learning Laboratory
- Dr. Gregory Harris, MIT Office of the Provost, Institutional Research
- MIT Office of Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programming