

Welcome to CUR Dialogues 2019!

We are looking forward to seeing you at [CUR Dialogues 2019](#), which will offer a vibrant and interesting program of breakout sessions with grant funding administrators, topical keynote speakers, and plenty of opportunity for networking sessions. So far, the weather seems to be cooperating, with partly cloudy skies, and hopefully, no snow for the Washington, DC area next week!

We would like to share information with you concerning the meeting schedule, registration for specific sessions, and lodging, transportation and logistics information:

**Meeting Location: Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, VA**

The CUR Dialogues meeting site is the Crystal Gateway Marriott hotel, located at 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Their phone number is 703-920-3230. It is fairly close to the Reagan (National) Airport (DCA).

**Meeting Schedule**

For those of you who haven't had a chance to review the draft meeting schedule, it may be accessed via the CUR website at:

[https://www.cur.org/assets/1/7/CUR\\_Dialogues2019summaryprogram10242018.pdf](https://www.cur.org/assets/1/7/CUR_Dialogues2019summaryprogram10242018.pdf)

Please be aware that the schedule may change between now and February 14<sup>th</sup>, so we do recommend that you review the condensed version of the overall schedule/room assignments, available when you pick up your packet at the CUR Dialogues registration desk.

**Make a Plan to Attend Sessions in Advance**

There are two sessions for which we would like to suggest you pre-register in advance, as they have limited seating and advance reading required (**email [tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org) to express interest and to receive advance reading materials**):

Mock Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Panel: Friday, February 15 – 1:30-3:45 p.m. Facilitated by NSF program directors Corby Hovis, Michelle Bushey, and Lisa Rom, this highly interactive session will mimic the experiences of NSF reviewers, when they are assessing a proposal submittal, and offers a unique window onto the proposal review process. Ideal for any faculty member or administrator looking for greater insight on how to write a successful REU proposal, OR to help advise students at your campuses who are interested in applying for an REU summer experience. **Email [tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org) to express interest and to receive advance reading materials.**

*Remember that REU programs span all disciplines funded by NSF, including Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE).*

NSF Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) and S-STEM: Saturday, February 16 – 8:30-10:45 a.m. Facilitated by NSF program directors Andrea Nixon and Rupa Iyer, this highly interactive session will mimic the experiences of NSF reviewers, when they are assessing a proposal submittal, and offers a unique window onto the proposal review process. This session is ideal for all faculty and administrators who are interested in support for their cutting-edge ideas on how to advance undergraduate education on their campuses through proposals to either the IUSE or S-STEM programs. **Email [tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org) to express interest and to receive advance reading materials.**

*Again, IUSE and S-STEM span all disciplines in NSF, including Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences.*

**Sign up for our post conference workshops:**

**Post-conference Workshops (a separate registration/application) is required ([email tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org) to express interest, as space is limited):**

**CUR Beyond-the-Basics (BTB) – February 16-17, 2019**

**Cost: \$130**

This workshop is designed to provide insight into crafting more competitive research grant proposals. Anyone who expects some day to be writing grant proposals or assisting others who are writing grant proposals will benefit from the activities at this workshop. The workshop will help faculty members who have submitted grant proposals but have not yet been successful in securing funding. The workshop will help faculty members in the planning stages in refining their ideas and presentation to enhance their odds of obtaining funding. The workshop will be helpful to individuals in grants offices who work with faculty during the proposal submission process. Faculty participants will submit a 1-page summary of their intended project and will be given direct feedback on strengthening the case for funding of their project.

It will begin at 1:30 pm on Saturday, February 16, and end at noon on Sunday, February 17. There is an additional \$135 fee for this workshop. Rate includes breakfast on Sunday. Register for this post-conference workshop via the registration portal of the conference registration site. To submit your required project summary, please contact Tavia Cummings at [tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org).

**NEW! CUR Introduction to Beginning-a-Research Program (iBRP) – February 16-17, 2019**

**Cost: \$300**

This 1.5-day workshop is focused on the earliest steps of starting up a research program. Topics include selecting and managing research students, applying the best strategies for time management, and infusing a research program into the curriculum. Participants will attend plenary sessions and work individually and in small groups with a mentor/facilitator to develop short- and long-term goals for establishing a sustainable research program with undergraduate collaborators. The workshop is ideal for faculty members new to management of a research program or who wish to revamp a research program from scratch. Faculty participants will leave with a strategic plan and will receive long-term mentoring from their facilitator and other members of their disciplinary-based group.

It will begin at 1:30 pm on Saturday, February 16 and end at 5:00 pm on Sunday, February 17. There is an additional \$300 fee for this workshop. Rate includes breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Register for this post-conference workshop via the registration portal of the conference registration site. To submit your required project summary, please contact Tavia Cummings at [tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org).

**Special and/or Dietary Concerns**

Please email me directly at [tcummings@cur.org](mailto:tcummings@cur.org) to indicate your special and or dietary concern by no later than Friday, February 8.

**Hotel Reservations**

For those of you who have already made reservations at the Crystal Gateway Marriott, we encourage you to reconfirm your rooms. If you haven't yet identified a hotel room for your stay, please contact the hotel directly:

**Hotel website** - <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/wasgw-crystal-gateway-marriott/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2>

### **Map and Directions**

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/wasgw-crystal-gateway-marriott/>

### **Transportation**

Closest Area Airport

[Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport - DCA](#)

Airport Phone: +1 703-417-8000

Hotel direction: 2 miles NW

- Airport shuttle service, scheduled, complimentary
- Mon-Sun: 05:00 AM - 00:00 AM
- Shuttle Phone: +1 703 9203230
- Courtesy Phone Available
- Estimated taxi fare: 10 USD (one way)
- Subway service, fee: 3.1 USD (one way)
  
- Alternate transportation: SuperShuttle; fee: 15 USD (one way); a reservation required; for more info call – 800-BlueVan (800-258-3826) or visit [Super Shuttle's website](#)

### **Questions**

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