

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW



DISCOVERING

Past, Present & Future: Letters from Leadership

INSPIRING
Breaking the Barriers:
Who is CUR?

VOLUNTEERING
Have You Met Them?
Who is Who in Your Community

ACHIEVING
CUR Celebrates:
2019 Award Winners

Pack Your Bags: Events Galore

EXPANDING
Have You Heard?
#CURINACTION

WE ARE THE FUTURE
What has CUR Been Up to:
Grants, Funding, and New Releases

Tell Me

More!

SUPPORTING
Let Us Be There for You:
National Office Contacts



OUR NEW MISSION:

The mission of the Council on Undergraduate Research is to support and promote high-quality mentored undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative inquiry.

Past. Present & Future: Letters from Leadership

CUR Community,

As the year draws to a close, what better time to stop and reflect on 2019's growth. collaboration, capacity building, and dynamic outcomes our organization has undertaken.

The CUR community spirit is palpable and a key factor within the successes of our organization. It is a gift to witness as your Executive Officer and more so for a new member—the supportive discussions in the CUR Community; informal hallway conversations at CUR events; enthusiastic volunteers at all levels; and the overall emphasis on sharing expertise, ideas, and the wisdom of experience. CUR is more than just an association; it is a community focused on supporting greater access to the benefits of participating in undergraduate research for mentors and students. You are changing the future. You are supporting each other. You are CUR.

In the pages that follow, we will highlight parts of CUR that you may have engaged in and some you may not have known about. Take a moment and join us in celebrating the success of your fellow community members. Big or small, all are important to applaud as they are critical to our mission and CUR's wider impact. The partnership between the National Office, our members, and volunteers results in a fantastic breadth of resource development for the community. There are the tangible journals and self-published publications; the interactive events, meetings, and institutes; and then, there are the less visible—mentoring, advocating for funding, resources, and support, and the thought leadership with partner organizations and the wider higher-education community—that makes CUR who it is. It makes CUR stand out above the rest. And, it makes CUR more than just an association. It makes it so that I can say,

"I am CUR. You are CUR. We are CUR."

With such an amazing community of members, volunteers and partners, I see 2020 as a year of engagement, growth, and opportunity. As we plan for a long-term future, I am excited for what CUR holds.

Yours in service.

Lindsay Currie
Executive Officer, CUR



CUR Friends and Colleagues,

This Year in Review allows us the opportunity to reflect on CUR's accomplishments during the past year, take a moment to marvel at the progress we have made as a community, and begin to look forward to new opportunities for learning and impact as we enter a new decade.

Although we are still in the process of re-defining our strategic plan for the next five years, I anticipate that we will be moving in some new directions and deepening our work on current priorities such as diversity, equity, and assessment. I see CUR engaging a more diverse cadre of undergraduate mentors to share proven practices, including future faculty, graduate students, post-doctoral associates, as well as industry- and community-based mentors.

Harnessing the power of web-based learning platforms in ways that complement in-person collaboration and provide more cost-effective delivery models will also be essential to our success in the future. As we continue to build CUR's reputation as the leading source of expertise on undergraduate research through our publications, advocacy, and other projects, we will also seek new partnerships with organizations that share our goals and help us to deliver on our mission.

As I explore this report, I am struck by the great energy of our volunteers and national office staff, who dedicate their expertise to CUR's institutes, conferences,

2020 CUR GOALS





Grow the Community. **Encouraging more** participation, more engagement, and more connection between our community for support and overall strength.



Testing & Listening. **CUR's National Office** will be bringing in new formats, testing out messaging and listening to your feedback on how you want to engage in your membership.

publications, activities, and grantfunded projects that support our participants. This work is fueled by the passion we all share for undergraduate learning, research, and success. I am truly inspired by all that you have helped to accomplish this past year on behalf of CUR. I look forward to working with you in 2020 to continue to create the future of CUR.

> Best Wishes. Janice DeCosmo CUR President, 2019-20

Breaking the Barriers: Who is CUR?

ARTS & HUMANITIES

AT-LARGE

BIOLOGY

CHEMISTRY

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

GEOSCIENCES

1,281

1,361

1,495

1,081

417

550

248

WE ARE COMMUNITY. Have you connected with your CUR community through our online forum? CUR has provided a place for knowledge exchange, content curation, idea incubation, and professional networking. See how your community has grown in 2019.

2019 10B POSTS

735

DISCUSSION **POSTS**

200

650



Anne Boettcher, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

> Janice DeCosmo, University of Washington

Linda Blockus,

Keenan Dungey,

Utah State University

a need for there to be a stable place for student journal editors, supporters, and contributors to collaborate, CUR introduced the

leaders to learn from their predecessors, for institutions to learn how to start a journal, and for faculty mentors who guide these students to share best practices and support.





Have You Met?

The success of CUR is brought on by our members and volunteers. Our community supports us. With that, **WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE**.

CUR Executive Board Officers



Janice DeCosmo **President** University of Washington



lain Crawford Immediate Past-President University of Delaware



Silvia Ronco President-Elect Research Corporation



Karen Havholm Treasurer University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire



Mark Marshall Secretary Amherst College



Lindsay Currie Ex Officio **CUR National Office**



Joanne Altman, Division Representative High Point University

Beth Cunningham, General Representative American Association of Physics Teachers

Carlos Escoto, General Representative Eastern Connecticut University

Bridget Gourley. Division Representative DePauw University

Marilyn Hart. Division Representative Minnesota State University - Mankato

Kymberly Harris, Council Representative Georgia Southern University

Maria lacullo-Bird. Council Representative Pace University

Jeanne Mekolichick. Division Representative Radford University

Ruth Palmer, General Representative The College of New Jersey

Lee Phillips, *Division Representative* University of North Carolina - Greensboro

Karen Resendes. Division Representative Westminster College

Charlotte Simmons, Council Representative University of Central Oklahoma

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

Michael Dorff (Brigham Young University) coauthored A Mathematician's Practical Guide to Mentoring Undergraduate Research, amongst other publications and amongst other publications and articles. He is the president of the Mathematical Association of the mathematical Association of America, a former CUR Councilor, and a former chair of the CUR Mathematics and Computer Sciences Division. Check out his lastest publication in the CUR store.



SEE YOUR NAME IN LIGHTS

Every week, CUR features a student's great achievements. From, "The Complexity of Engaging Third Graders with Word Problems," to, "An Investigation on Congenital Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum," students are the future, and they deserve the spotlight. Check out their great stories on our homepage under Featured Undergraduate Research Stories.



CUR congratulates our 2019 award recipients.

Faculty Mentor Award

This award is given to those faculty whose teaching, mentoring, and collaborative scholarship have distinguished themselves as transformative culture changers in the advancement of undergraduate research in each specific discipline.

Mathematics & Computer Sciences

Pamela Harris,

Williams College

Manda Riehl,

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Kenneth Berenhaut.

Wake Forest University

Physics & Astronomy

Sanju Gupta,

Western Kentucky University

Cristian Bahrim,

Lamar University

CUR Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Award

This award is to celebrate faculty mentors who have helped their students achieve one of the most prized awards an undergraduate majoring in science, engineering, and mathematics can achieve. These faculty have made a stance as being an innovator and supporter within undergraduate research community.

Suzanne O'Handley,

Rochester Institute of Technology

Mid-Career Mentoring Award

This award recognizes CUR Psychology Division members who have influenced undergraduate research through their own, scholarly, or creative projects and/or demonstrated leadership activities.

April Bleske-Recheck,

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research Award

This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated excellence in mentoring and supporting undergraduate researchers by supporting and influencing students' educational and career paths.

Biology

Jessica Malisch.

St. Mary's College of Maryland

Amelia Ahern-Rindell,

University of Portland

Marina Cetkovic-Cvrlje,

St. Cloud State University

Geosciences

David Gibson.

University of Maine-Farmington

Social Sciences

Sarah J. Purcell,

Grinnell College

Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments (AURA)

This award recognizes the most prestigious higher education institutions that have successfully implemented some or all of CUR's Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research (COEUR), have devised exemplary programs to provide high-quality research experiences, and have evaluated the success of these programs.

Bridgewater State University Florida State University Occidental College

Don't see your award listed? Reach out to CUR's National Office cur@cur.org

Student-Faculty Collaborative Research in Education Award

This award is presented to undergraduate dual- or double-majoring in teacher education or a related field who is currently or will be engaging in a faculty-mentored research project conducted as an independent study or a course-embedded research project.

Allison Lundy,

Eastern Connecticut State University

Honorary CUR Fellows Award

This award is presented to leaders who support undergraduate research through industry, advocacy, partnering, and beyond.

France A. Cordova,

National Science Foundation

Arts & Humanities Awards Trimmer Travel Fund (Student Award)

As a gift from Joe Trimmer, Professor emeritus of English at Ball State University, and the late Carol Trimmer, the fund is awarded to Arts & Humanities students who will be presenting their research at professional meetings.

Chloe Landis.

University of California at Los Angeles

Martha Whiteman,

Winthrop University

Samantha Fain.

Franklin College

Olivia Reyes.

University of Central Oklahoma

Faculty Mentor Award

This award honors mentors in Arts & Humanities who are leaders and role models for those involved in UR, scholarship, or creative activities.

Donald Lawrence.

Thompson Rivers University, Canada

Neel Smith.

College of the Holy Cross



Where we traveled in 2019...



CUR DIALOGUES

We brought faculty and administrators to the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area to interact with federal agency program officers and other grant funders.



BROADENING PARTICIPATION INSTITUTE

We helped faculty and administrators develop and enhance their knowledge, skills, and competencies in increasing access, fostering diversity, and creating an inclusive environment for all students in URSCA.



POSTERS ON THE HILL

A favorite event amongst many! We listened to many student researchers present their poster sessions to members of Congress and their staff on Capitol Hill.



It was my first time at the REU Symposium 2019, and I can't say which part was my favorite because I enjoyed everything-from the keynote speaker, the opportunity to meet other students, learning from the workshops, and getting the opportunity to go to dinner with other students.

Survey Response



WORLD CUR

We were grateful to network in Germany with the world's best undergraduate researchers that focus on some of the most significant challenges facing the global community. How will we wait another 3 years for this conference?



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

We encouraged faculty and academic professionals to share ideas, strategies, and best practices centered around building and enhancing undergraduate research and creative inquiry programs.



PROPOSAL WRITING INSTITUTE

We brought together faculty and administrators and helped prepare proposals for submissions to external funding agencies.



REU SYMPOSIUM

We listened and learned from student presentations on REU programs in all disciplines funded by the NSF.



CREATIVE INQUIRY (ARTS & HUMANITIES)

We helped spread the word on current research on learning outcomes for students engaging in undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity.

INITIATING & SUSTAINING UR PROGRAMS

We watched as campuses that are establishing UR programs or centralized UR offices and those expanding UR opportunities from a single department to a campuswide program exchange tips and tricks in an explosive learning environment.

BEGINNING A RESEARCH PROGRAM

We spoke to faculty members on how to establish and manage a research program with undergraduates.

Did You Make it to NCUR 2019?

It was our best year yet! Hosted in April by Kennesaw State University in Georgia. This is the premier national conference devoted exclusively to undergraduate student research and creativity in all disciplines for over 30 years.





WHAT WILL **NCUR 2020 ▲ BRING?**

FEBRUARY 14-16 CUR Dialogues: Arlington, VA

MARCH 20-22

Broadening Participation Institute: Carroll University | Waukesha, WI

MARCH 26-28 NCUR:

Montana State University Bozeman, MT

APRIL 20-21 Posters on the Hill: Washington, DC

APRIL 20-24 Undergraduate Research Week: Nationwide

COMING IN 2020
ARY 14-16

JUNE 25-27

CUR Annual Business Meeting: West Lafayette, IN

JUNE 27-30 CUR Biennial:

Purdue University West Lafayette, IN

JULY 8-12

Proposal Writing Institute: Daemen College | Buffalo, NY

OCTOBER 17-18 REU Symposium: Alexandria. VA



ENGAGING SUCCEEDING ACHIEVING E ARE THE FUTURE

CELEBRATING CUR'S SUCCESS IN 2019 PUBLICATIONS

SCHOLARSHIP & PRACTICE OF **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (SPUR)**

A subscription-based scholarly journal included in most CUR • memberships or through independent purchasing that was launched in fall 2017. In 2019, SPUR went live in database libraries such as ProQuest Education, and indexing began in ERIC.







2019 PUBLICATIONS

A Mathematician's Practical Guide to Mentoring Undergraduate Research (AMS/MAA/CUR) By CUR members: Michael Dorff, Allison Henrich, and Lara Pudwell

2019 WHITE PAPERS

Undergraduate Research: A Road Map for Meeting Future National Needs and Competing in a World of Change CUR Task Force: Joanne D. Altman, Tsu-Ming Chiang, Christian S. Hamann, Huda Makhluf, Virginia Peterson, and Sara E. Orel

Recognizing and Valuing the Mentoring of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity by Faculty Members: Workload, Tenure, Promotion, and Award Systems

CUR Task Force: Janet A. Morrison, John F. Barthell, Anne Boettcher, David Bowne, Cheryl Nixon, Karen K. Resendes, and Juliane Strauss-Soukup



2019 eBOOKS

CUR made it easier to read while you travel! Visit our bookstore to see what new publications and SPUR editions we converted into eBooks!

Improving Undergraduate Education Through Community Building and Adoption of an Evidence-based Practice to Evaluate **Undergraduate Research**

NSF - DUE IUSE 13-47681 Grant Period: Jan. 1, 2015 - Dec. 31, 2019

Jill K. Singer, Principal Investigator Sean P. Fox, Co-Principal Investigator

EvaluateUR will be available starting January 2020. It is a strategy for obtaining an objective assessment of the value of undergraduate

research (UR) by documenting student growth in critical academic and workforce-related knowledge and skills without placing a significant evaluation burden on students and research mentors.

Student Research Within Communities of Practice

NSF - DUE IUSE 16-10350 Grant Period: Sept. 15, 2016 - Aug. 30, 2020

Russell Genet, Principal Investigator Dwight Collins, Co-Principal Investigator John Kenney, Co-Principal Investigator Elizabeth L. Ambos. Co-Principal Investigator

This project is exploring the potential to positively transform undergraduate science education through student research seminars. These are specifically structured to produce peer-reviewed journal articles based on students' research within the confines of a single semester. The investigators are assessing opportunities for applying the seminar's community-of-practice approach to other sciences beyond astronomy and environmental science. They are also organizing a focus group of national education and policy experts, who will consider how to expand nationally and scaffold the research seminar's paradigm of students as scientists.

Integrating and Scaffolding research into Undergraduate STEM Curricula: Probing Faculty, Student, Disciplinary, and Institutional Pathways to Transformational Change

NSF - DUE IUSE 16-25354 Grant Period: Sept. 1, 2016 - Aug. 31, 2021

Elizabeth Ambos, Principal Investigator Kerry K. Karukstis, Co-Principal Investigator Jillian Kinzie, Co-Principal Investigator Mitchell R. Malachowski, Co-Principal Investigator Jeffery M. Osborn, Co-Principal Investigator

Over a sustained five-year period, the team is designing. implementing, and assessing efforts to deeply integrate the components and learning outcomes of high-quality undergraduate research throughout the undergraduate STEM curricula at 12 institutions recruited through a national outreach effort.

NSF Funding to AACC and CUR Program Nov. 20-22, 2019

Community College UR Experience Summit

Hosted by AACC in partnership with NSF and in collaboration with CCURI and CUR, underwritten by the NSF's Advanced Technological Education program. This summit was focused on the role of community colleges in building, implementing, and sustaining UREs in STEM education and workforce preparation. It highlighted community college leadership in STEM by raising awareness of the innovative use of UREs as an effective and proven strategy for career skill development, student retention, and academic success. A report will be published in early 2020 and disseminated nationally to broaden community college participation in UREs.

I AM CUR. YOU ARE CUR. WE ARE CUR.

The National Office is here to help you whenever and however you need it. Renewing membership, understanding what publication would be best for your institution or research project, or getting in touch with those members who can mentor your needs. Let us support you where we can and connect you when you need it.

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www.CUR.org

Make sure to continue to check our website event's page for upcoming educational opportunities, our bookstore for the latest member publications, volunteer in any capacity, and continue to communicate with your peers on our community.

Thank you for a successful 2019. We look forward to what 2020 will bring.