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Social Science Division Proposal for SPUR
Several of our social science division members are working on a proposal for a paper for SPUR’s special edition on Career Readiness. Doreen Sams is the contact author and wrote the first draft. Anne Price & Brian Lagotte have contributed to it and passed it back. I doodle invitation to meet to discuss it has been sent to all coauthors. It is not too late to join. If you would like to participate as a co-author, please email Doreen Sams.

Interview with Dr. Mary Rickard, Social Science Division Councilor

This month spotlights Mary Rickard, CUR Social Sciences Division Representative. Dr. Rickard is Associate Professor of Marketing at Georgia College & State University. She received her doctorate in Business Administration from Kennesaw State University.

What CUR committees or task forces are you currently serving on?

I serve on the NCUR Oversight committee (NOC)

How long have you been mentoring undergraduate research?

I started mentoring undergraduates in research when I first started teaching 21 years ago. At the time, I felt it was best to have students work on hands-on projects to help them understand how to put the skills they were learning to work. The students would put together an entire marketing plan for a profit or nonprofit business. They would present the findings to the board or owners of the company at the end of the semester. This also gave them something they could take with them and put in their portfolio to show prospective employers.

What influenced you to join CUR?

My mentor, Dr. Dee Sams encouraged me to join CUR. After learning more about it, I knew I needed to be part of this great organization. I look forward to working with every one of you.

“Among the many activities and networking opportunities that CUR provides, the organization also offers support for the professional growth of faculty and administrators through expert-designed institutes, conferences, and a wide range of volunteer positions.”

“CUR’s advocacy efforts are also a large portion of its work as we strive to strengthen support for undergraduate research. Its
continued growth in connections with representatives, private foundations, government agencies, and campuses worldwide provides value to its members and gives voice to undergraduate research.”

**CUR September Professional Development Opportunities**

**Creating Accessible Activities: Making Your Work Accessible for Individuals with Disabilities**—Interactive Expert Seminar. [Link](#)

Wednesday, September 20\(^{th}\) | Facilitator: Julee Farley, PhD, Director of the Science Outreach Initiative at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Learn to Leverage Research and Creative Inquiry as a Career-Readiness Tool**—Online Intensive. [Link](#)

Friday, September 22\(^{nd}\) | Facilitators: Jeanne Mekolichik, PhD, Associate Provost of Research, Faculty Success & Strategic Initiatives; Joe Wirgau, PhD, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research & Scholarship; and Leah Ellis, Undergraduate Researcher and Work-Study Assistant, Radford University.

**Upcoming Opportunities & Deadlines**

 Submission Window Opens for NCUR- September 15, 2023
 First Social Science Division Meeting – October 2023

**Contact Information:**

**Anne Price, CUR Social Science Division Secretary**

[annprice@valdosta.edu](mailto:annprice@valdosta.edu)

229-333-5473 [https://www.cur.org/who/governance/divisions/socsci/](https://www.cur.org/who/governance/divisions/socsci/)