



COUNCIL ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

2024-2025 Elections At-Large Division: Councilor Candidates

Position Purpose: The CUR Council is a multidisciplinary body providing advisory input to the Board, so they have a broader perspective when making resource investment decisions. The Council serves in a communication capacity, surfacing key items arising from the Divisions, bridging the insight of the Division to the work of CUR as a whole, and serving as one means of information and resource dissemination from the central organization to the Divisions and members.

Needed Qualifications:

- Communication: Professional and effective communicators, experienced in difficult conversations and able to hear and disseminate community needs
- Foresight: Individuals able to look to the best interests of CUR into the future when discussing various issues impacting CUR members and higher education
- Creativity: Thoughtful supporters of change, able to think outside the box to find new initiatives
- Collaborative Spirit: Team players making space for all voices to be heard, furthering the collective understanding of the group, and cultivating outcomes to best serve CUR and its membership

There is 1 individual running.

You may vote for the candidate presented to be elected as a councilor for this division.

Candidate information is presented on the following pages. Click on each candidate name below to be taken to their Information In the document.

- [Sibdas Ghosh](#)

Sibdas Ghosh, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

At-Large Division Nominee

NOMINEE STATEMENTS

Describe your leadership experience both within CUR and extramural.

Building and maintaining relationships have become one of my greatest strengths acquired through leadership experiences in higher education of the United States, Canada, Nigeria, the United Kingdom, and India. Briefly, working collaboratively with stakeholders, linking my progressive experience in leading complex teams and units, and advancing the academic vision aligned with the institutional mission and values as a Professor of Biology, Advisor for Pre-Health Professional Programs (including Pharmacy), Faculty Senator, Undergraduate Research Program Director, Department Chair, Associate Dean, Dean, Provost/VPAA, Co-Chair of Strategic Planning Committee, Member of the President's Cabinet, and the University Liaison to the Board's Academic and Student Affairs Committee, I have championed and facilitated the creation and implementation of strategic plans and priorities, including intercollegiate athletics, on campus student/faculty housing; academic programs and pedagogies; enrollment, retention and graduation; legal and accreditation; financial management and reporting; resource management; budgeting/forecasting; and governmental reporting. Outside of the university, I have been on the local, national, and international boards, serving at various capacities. Currently, I am serving my twenty-seventh year as a CUR councilor, and recently completed my third year as member of the Board, Oakland Business Improvement District, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Working with the Advancement Office, my team and I were able to secure a \$0.3M Congressional Fund from Senator Casey to launch Carlow University's Community Scholars Program, providing students who have experienced foster care and homelessness, the resources they need to feel a true sense of belonging and realize their full potential. Furthermore, I was instrumental in bringing the Annual NCUR-2002 and NCUR-2007 at UW-Whitewater and Dominican University of California, respectively, and played a key role in bringing NCUR 2024 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, enhancing, showcasing and celebrating the reputations and brands of undergraduate research.

How will your skills help the Council successfully uphold its charge?

Given my institutional affiliation and noteworthy positions, grants received/professional accomplishments, relevant publications or presentations (over 60% co-authored with students), and the active involvement with functionalities of CUR (and NCUR), I will bring my demonstrated aptitude to successfully to "serve in a communication capacity, surfacing key items arising from the Divisions, bridging the insight of the Division to the work of CUR as a whole, and serving as one means of information and resource dissemination from the central organization to the Divisions and members." I have been engaged with CUR (and NCUR) in various leadership capacities since 1997, including Councilor in the Divisions of Biology, and At-Large, NCUR Board, CUR Executive Board, CUR Finance Committee Chair, and CUR/NCUR merger team. As Councilor in the At-Large division I would continue to bring forth innovative ideas and initiatives aimed at moving the national undergraduate research agenda forward including promoting diversity in CUR, improving the level of recognition for faculty work with undergraduate research during the tenure process, and enhancing the globalization of undergraduate research. I would seek opportunities for CUR to expand its influence in the development of affordable undergraduate research programs across the U.S. by proposing strategies that I have used in the past to identifying and recruiting qualified adjunct and full-time-faculty of color, building on the institutions position within its boundary of disciplines. I have championed the values of undergraduate research and faculty mentoring across disciplines and in every academic setting that I have found myself. My work at Dominican was recognized by the Minority Access Inc., Washington D.C., and received the 2009 National Role

Model – Administrator and Mentor Award for Exemplary Achievements in Expanding Opportunities for Others. Furthermore, I will continue to advocate and foster expanding international undergraduate research experience leveraging CUR collaborations abroad.

NOMINEE ABBREVIATED CV

An abbreviated CV highlighting the candidate’s accomplishments with respect to undergraduate research is available on the next page.

SIBDAS GHOSH, PhD, Professor of Biology
ghosh.sibdas@gmail.com; 415-717-7976 (cell)

Curriculum Vitae
December 2024

Higher Education:

- Ph.D. (1984-1989) Molecular Biology, Biology Department, University of Waterloo, Canada.
- M.Sc. (1978-1979) Crop Physiology, Agricultural Botany Department, University of Reading, UK.
- B.Sc. (1976-1978) Biological Sciences, Biology Department, University of Lancaster, UK.
- B.Sc. (1971-1974) Botany Honors, City College, University of Calcutta, India.

Professional Experiences:

- Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Biology (June 2024–Current; Interim: June–October 2024), Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Albany, New York
- Adjunct Faculty, Professor of Biology (October 2023–June 2024), Carlow University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Five years as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Biology (2018 – September 2023) and Professor of Biology (2018 – Current), Carlow University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with two additional locations: (i) Westmoreland County Community College, Pennsylvania, and (ii) Cranberry, Pennsylvania, providing flexibility, affordability, and convenience for the students.
- Five Years as Dean (2013–2018), School of Arts and Science and Professor of Biology, Iona College, New Rochelle, New York.
- Three Years as Associate Dean (2009–2012), School of Health and Natural Sciences, Dominican University of California
- Twelve Years (2001–2013) as Department Chair, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Professor of Biology, Dominican University of California.
- Two Years (1999–2001) as Undergraduate Research Program Director (an annual budget of \$60K), Associate Professor of Biology (1999–2001), and Assistant Professor of Biology (1994–1999), University of Wisconsin–Whitewater.
- Three Years (1981–1984) as Lecturer, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Calabar, and Calabar Polytechnic, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria.
- Elected Biology Councilor (1997–2016), Elected At-Large Councilor (2016–present) and Academic Program Reviewer (1999–Present): Council on Undergraduate Research, Washington, DC. Twelve Years as Board Member:
- Twelve Years as Board Member:
 - Board (2021 – September 2023), Oakland Business Improvement District, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
 - Board of Governors (2006–2011), National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR).
 - Executive Board (2011–2014), Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), Washington, DC, USA.
 - Board (2011-2013) Scientific Board of the AKBARALY FOUNDATION (associated with the Union for International Cancer Control and the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer – The project is supported by World Health Organization (WHO)).

Promoting/Celebrating Undergraduate Research:

- Played a key role in bringing 2025 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in Pittsburgh to highlight and celebrate faculty mentored/guided scholarly activities.
- Co-Organizer
 - 21st National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2007, Dominican University of California
 - 16th National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2002, University of Wisconsin–Whitewater
 - Council on Undergraduate Research Link 2000 in 1997
 - Annual Upper Midwest Honors Council Conference in 1999

Commitment and Contribution to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, Belonging and Anti-racism:

- Working collaboratively with all stakeholders, throughout my career, I have focused on ensuring increased access/opportunity to first generation college students, especially those from underrepresented groups, modest

means, from rural and urban communities, and immigrant families. Selected examples of my leadership in securing funding at institutions with whom I have been affiliated are listed above: (i) **as a faculty member** and director of the undergraduate research program I collaborated with Academic Support Services, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater to establish an undergraduate research program for all students with special focus on McNair Scholars, (ii) **as a department chair**, I collaborated with County of Marin, Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Dominican Neighborhood Association to launch an Intergenerational Experiential Learning Program to provide access to older adults; and secured funding from Marin Community Foundation and San Francisco Foundation to launch California MESA – a Mathematics Engineering and Science Achievement Program for underserved students to succeed in school, career, life, and STEM related disciplines; (iii) **as a dean**, I collaborated with student support services to secure funding to enhance the New York Liberty Partnership Program – a program designed to assist students in Grades 5-12 to stay in schools; and New York Collegiate Science and Technology Entry program – a program to increase the number of students from under-represented groups pursuing professional licensure and careers in mathematics, science, technology, and health-related fields; and (iv) **as a provost** partnering with Student Affairs, I led the efforts and secured federal funding to established TRIO-Student Support Services program, and a Title III grant for empowering students through institutional change, enhancing advising and tutoring to augment Carlow's retention and graduation.

Grants and Gifts

- My team and I as principal investigator (PI), co-PI, and collaborator, have been successful in securing over \$82M in grants and gifts (\$29M at Carlow, \$27M at DUC, \$16M at UW-Whitewater, and \$10M at Iona) for various projects including capital improvement, research, instrumentation, and conference/workshop. One such example includes developing and executing a plan to build a \$21M Science and Technology Center at DUC, which received a “Top Project Award for Educational Facilities,” promoting undergraduate research from the North Bay Business Journal.
- Through my collaborative spirit I was able to secure approximately \$1M of federal funds from the Center for Plant Health Science and Technology, United States Department of Agriculture, to establish the National Ornamentals Research Site at DUC (NORS-DUC) – the only research facility in the nation working on prevention of the spread plant pathogens in nursery settings.
- Recently, working with the Advancement Office, my team and I were able to secure a \$0.3M Congressional Fund from Senator Casey to launch Carlow's Community Scholars Program. Furthermore, I was instrumental in bringing the Annual NCUR-2002 and NCUR-2007 at UW-Whitewater and DUC, respectively, enhancing the reputations and brands by placing the institutions on the national map.

Publications and Conference Presentations (Out of 57 Articles/Chapters + One Patent + Two Edited Books and 163 Presentations Over 60% are Co-Authored and/or Co-Presented by Undergraduate Students) – Advocating Significance of Undergraduate Research:

- Tracey JK**, A Choudhury, JM Cheng**, **S Ghosh 2009** A New Opecoelid Species (Trematoda: Opecoelidae) from the Threespine Stickleback *Gasterosteus Aculeatus* L. in California. *J of Parasitology* **95**: 1177-1182.
- Quinn LD, M Kolipinski**, VR Coelho, B Davis, JM Vianney**, O Batjargal**, M Alas**, **S Ghosh 2008** Germination of Invasive Plant Seeds after Digestion by Horses in California. *Natural Areas Journal* **28**:356- 362.
- Palladino M, **S Ghosh**, T Lyden, M Spell, L Temple-Rosebrook 2010 Involving Undergraduate Students in Biological Research: Practices from the Biology Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). International Perspectives on Undergraduate Research and Inquiry: A Scholarly Discussion, Liverpool, UK.
- Spain D, **S Ghosh**, M Peck**, K Frost 2010 Sustaining Undergraduate Research at a Small University. International Perspectives on Undergraduate Research and Inquiry: A Scholarly Discussion. Liverpool, UK.
- Little R**, R Chavez**, **S Ghosh 2003** Three newly isolated plant-growth promoting bacilli facilitate the seedling growth of canola, *Brassica campestris*. Annual Posters on the Hill Presentation, Council of Undergraduate Research, Washington DC, USA.
- Leonard R**, A Ganguly, **S Ghosh 2002** n-Nitrosation of pyrrolizidine alkaloids – a mutagenic pathway. Annual Posters on the Hill Presentation, Council of Undergraduate Research, Washington DC, USA.