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Division Officers:

Doreen Sams, Chair

doreen.sams@

columbiasouthern.edu

Brian Lagotte,

Vice Chair

lagotte@ku.edu

Anne Price, Secretary

annprice@valdosta.edu

Undergraduate Research Quick Tip

How do we recognize and support faculty mentors? Valdosta State University's Mentoring Task Force suggests a process to allow for student and faculty nominations of outstanding mentors, a university-wide faculty award for excellence in mentoring, competitive funding for departments with the highest levels of student mentoring, and greater emphasis on student mentorship in the promotion and tenure process.

Source: Valdosta State Faculty Mentoring Task Force, 2025

Recap of Social Science Division Spring Meeting from Chair

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The Social Science Division meeting was held from 2-3pm EST on March 27. The Social Science Division Chair discussed upcoming events and sought volunteers for chair and vice chair positions. She also discussed the organization of events, the need for volunteers, and the challenges of communicating complex ideas to non-academic audiences. Lastly, she expressed gratitude for the volunteers' efforts in helping students.

Action Steps:

- Dee to put out a call for a third person to join the Student Committee with Ethan and Matthew.
- Chris to work with Brian on the Faculty Awards Committee.
- Chris to develop a strategic vision and communication plan for the Faculty Awards at the upcoming leadership retreat.
- Chris to send finalized Faculty Awards information to Dee for distribution to other members.
- Dee to set up a meeting with Jeanetta, Todd, and others to work on the website.
- All members to provide content for social media to Jennifer and Ethan.
- All members to consider running for chair or vice chair positions and inform Dee.
- All members to send information about their campus Undergraduate Research celebrations to Todd at CUR.

Research Spotlight

1) Sams, Doreen. (2025), "Online Institutions and Course-Based Undergraduate Research for Adult Learners, *Online Annual Teaching and Learning Surfing the Wave of Innovation Symposium*, May 14, 2:55 p.m.

2) Sams, Doreen and Lisa Theo. (2025), "Turning Your State and Local Partners into Undergraduate Research Influencers," *ConnectUR 2025 Online Conference, Councilor on Undergraduate Research*, June 24, 2025 (1-2 pm ET).

3) Anne Price, Mary Rickard, Doreen Sams, Jeanetta Sims*. (2025) "CUR's Next Frontier: Strengthening Online Learning through Course-Based Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Inquiry," *ConnectUR 2025 Conference, Councilor on Undergraduate Research*, Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 16-June 18, 2025. *authors listed in alphabetical order

The Social Sciences Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research provides networking opportunities, activities, and resources to assist administrators, faculty members, students, practitioners, mentors, and others in advancing undergraduate research.

Upcoming Opportunities and Deadlines

April 7th – 9th – for details visit CUR.org – National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) 2025 Pittsburg, PA

April 21st – April 25th – for details visit CUR.org - Undergraduate Research Week 2025

June 10th 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET – CUR Award Celebration Ceremony 2024-2025 (Virtual)

June 12th 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET - CUR's Annual Leadership Meeting 2025 Session 1 (Virtual)

June 16th 12:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. ET - CUR's Annual Leadership Meeting 2025 Session 2 (hybrid)

June 16th – June 18th for details visit CUR.org - CUR Connect 2025 Annual Onsite Conference – (onsite - Grand Rapids, MI)

June 24th – June 25th – for details visit CUR.org - CUR Connect 2025 Annual Online Conference

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Contact Information



Anne Price, CUR Social Science Division Secretary

annprice@valdosta.edu

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