

# COUNCIL ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

## CUR & LEARNING SPACES

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) is an affiliation of academic institutions serving undergraduate students, their faculty and others committed to providing robust research opportunities in all disciplines for undergraduates throughout their career as learners. Started in 1978 by ten chemists from predominantly undergraduate institutions, CUR was among the earliest STEM reform communities in our nation. It was sparked by informal discussions among like-minded faculty about what promoted student interest and success in science and mathematics: mentoring, learning by doing, becoming socialized into a community of practice. Undergraduate research is an exemplar of today's active-learning movement.

With 13,000 members from more than 900 institutions, CUR is a truly multi-disciplinary organization, with 11 disciplinary divisions embracing arts and humanities, all STEM disciplines, and two administrative divisions. CUR's Strategic Pillars are:

- Integrating and Building Undergraduate Research into Curriculum and Coursework
- Assessing the Impact of Undergraduate Research
- Diversity and Inclusivity
- Internationalization
- Innovation and Collaboration.



## WHO THEY ARE

*CUR's mission is to support and promote high-quality undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research and scholarship.*

## WHAT THEY DO

CUR provides a variety of programs, services, and advocacy to its members, including professional development institutes for faculty, a peer-reviewed journal, online communities of practice, a *Posters on the Hill* showcase of undergraduate researchers, and a National Conference that draws more than 4,000 participants per year.

## QUESTIONS THEY ASK

- How can CUR engage stakeholders in promoting the value of undergraduate research for students in all disciplines throughout their undergraduate career?
- How can we use CUR's robust undergraduate research community, and its models of best practice, to communicate the value of undergraduate research in colleges and universities?
- How can CUR support efforts to assess the impact of undergraduate research on the individual learner, on faculty, and on the institution?
- How can CUR advance collaborations between higher education and community partners that highlight the diversity and impact of undergraduate research communities of practice?
- How can CUR nurture leaders in undergraduate research, and support them in shaping the future of CUR and transforming lives of 21<sup>st</sup> century students?

### RESEARCH & RESOURCES

- <https://www.cur.org/>

