Undergraduate Research Office

Faculty Workshop on Vertically Integrated Projects
February 13, 2018
Research/Creative Work Defined

...an inquiry or investigation [conducted by an undergraduate student] that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline

-The National Council on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)
Undergraduate Research Office (URO)

• The “What”:
  • Started in 2017 by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research (OVCR), but builds on past efforts (e.g., UROP and the Honors Program)
  • Mission: promote, enhance and support meaningful undergraduate research and creative work experiences by integrating the educational and research missions that distinguish UHM as a top research university
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- The “How”:
  - Coordinate opportunities for undergraduate students across disciplines to meet degree program requirements while developing new skills and competencies, building self-efficacy, and preparing for careers in an enriching environment that inspires discovery, creativity, innovation, collaboration, responsibility, and integrity
    - Matchmaker for interested students and available opportunities
The “Why”:
- Undergraduate students engaged in research/creative work are more satisfied with their educational experience and more likely to graduate
- Both course-based and mentored research/creative work experiences are related to improved student outcomes
  - Early involvement
- Undergraduate research/creative work involvement contributes to student success and life-long learning
Main Components

- Innovation Lab (iLab; https://ilab.hawaii.edu/; Dr. Chad Walton)
  - An initiative of the OVCR at UHM (i.e., not URO but related)
  - Mission: *Expose UH Manoa campus students to experiences that help them get involved with innovation and entrepreneurship*
  - ‘Hub-and-spoke’ concept
    - iLab as hub: meetings & presentations for exchange of ideas & concepts
    - UH Mānoa departments/colleges/schools as spokes: provide tools & spaces to further advance ideas & concepts, creating a wheel of innovation
  - Well-matched for VIPs in innovation and entrepreneurship
Main Components

- Summer Research Immersion Program (S-RIP)
  - Pilot in Summer 2018 (funding opportunity coming soon!)
  - 8-10 week, cohort-based, summer research/creative work program
    - Orientation, professional development group sessions, and end-of-summer symposium (e.g. Summer Undergraduate Showcase)
  - Call for proposals coming soon:
    - Faculty/faculty groups/VIPs apply for funding to mentor undergraduate students within a larger, existing research/creative work project
    - Allow undergraduates to participate in larger project
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• Main Components
  • Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)
    • Created in 2011 by the Honors Program, moved to OVCR on 1/1/18
    • $400,000/year in merit-based scholarships to undergraduate students doing faculty-mentored research/creative works
    • Presentation Funding: Application cycle the 1st of every month
    • Project Funding: Application cycles Fall & Spring semester (2/2-3/3)
      • Individual ($5,000 limit) & Group ($10,000 limit) proposals considered
        • Either could work well within a VIP
        • If Group proposal, need to clearly articulate what the student is proposing, and how it fits into the larger project (idea and timeline)
Main Components
- Adding in 2018 to tie the other components together
- Website and social media campaigns to:
  1. Inform students of the benefit of these opportunities
  2. Match student interest with on and off-campus opportunities in research and creative work
Questions?

URO
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URO Program Coordinator, coming soon!

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