

URCD Academic Year 2018-2019

During the 2018-2019 academic year, a budget of \$35,000 was established for the Undergraduate Research/Creative Discovery initiative. Six coordinators were selected with one from each college. The selection was made based on previous/current involvement with Undergraduate Research. The coordinators were paid a stipend of \$3,500 and provided a budget of \$1,200 for materials and supplies. This group met monthly to plan the initiative and determine strategies and activities to increase opportunities within their respective colleges. The following sections list the opportunities provided in each college.

The College of Sciences and Mathematics

The College of Sciences and Mathematics held a summer undergraduate research group with students and faculty from each department. The College, the Provost Office and supported this Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE). The program had 14 students and 13 faculty involved in the mentored projects. Students were guided through discussions on topics such as ethics, literature searches, and lab notebooks. This also prepared student to develop and present a poster of their work. The summer 2019 program had 15 students and 8 faculty.

The College of Liberal and Applied Arts

The College of Liberal and Applied Arts started the UR that evolved to the current UR Conference, a competitive conference led by Dr. Tkacik, Dr. Jones, and Dr. Cecil. The College planned and received approval from the Registrar to have four learning communities with 25 students in each. The students would stay in a cohort and take classes together including two core courses and a one-credit research course in the fall. It was planned that in the spring, the cohorts would have a follow up research project. This learning community plan did not get implemented because students did not register for it. The School of Social Work utilized a grant and 12 undergraduate students worked with Dr. Cooper as part of his research.

The Rusche College of Business

The College of Business held a competition for faculty and undergraduate students to increase the faculty involvement with UR. The number of undergraduate submissions for the URC increased to 14 and the faculty participation increase to eight from four. The top faculty received a financial award and the top student received a dinner for three at the Republic of Fredonia Steakhouse.

The James I. Perkins College of Education

The James I. Perkins College of Education held an undergraduate Research Symposium as part of the Showcase Saturday on March 30, 2019. Twelve students and seven faculty displayed the UG students' work with posters. The parents and their children was potential SFA students interacted with the UG students. This served as a recruitment strategy.

The Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture (ATCOFA)

The Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture reviewed all of their courses to determine which classes supported undergraduate research. The ATCOFA had 20 students participate in URC for 2017, 19 students for 2018, and 23 students for 2019.

The College of Fine Arts

The College of Fine Arts conducted a review of all opportunities for undergraduate students' research and mentored creative discovery projects. In 2018-2019, they had 1,827 students and nine faculty participate with creative projects.