Take the Survey

UROP is asking faculty sponsors to take a brief survey to evaluate the UROP program and student researchers. Responses will inform UROP staff about student achievements and program initiatives UROP could offer to faculty and students to improve their experience in the program.

The survey is available online at:
http://ctlsilhouette.wsu.edu/surveys/ZS3668

Staff Changes

UROP staff bid farewell to Gail Kim, UROP Program Assistant, who left UROP at end of April, 2001. Gail was responsible for managing the UROP office activities and helped to create and update UROP publications. Many of you had contact with Gail over her two year stint regarding your research projects, student issues, etc. We wish her all the best as she begins Law school in Fall 2001.

UROP offered 22 positions to new peer advisors for the 2001-2002 academic year in April. During the 2001-2002 academic year, UROP will employ 27 peer advisors who will lead 9 biomedical, 8 social science, 1 natural/environmental science, 1 humanities, 2 women in science, 4 engineering/physical science, 1 research scholars and 1 junior/senior peer groups. Most of our 2001 graduating senior Peer Advisors are headed to graduate school or their first professional positions. Thanks to all of you who wrote letters of reference and encouraged them to pursue advanced work.

UROP Student Authors Database

Some UROP student researchers have become authors or co-authors of professional publications as a result of their undergraduate research efforts. UROP is now developing a database of student authors, their publications and their faculty sponsor. If any of your student mentees have been published as a result of their work with you, please contact Ann Sprunger at UROP or via email at asprun@umich.edu.

Wanted: Faculty Conversation Partners

During Fall 2001, UROP would like to sponsor Faculty Tea, an opportunity for new students to engage faculty in more personal conversations about their research, their career paths, etc. Small groups of students meet at UROP in informal setting. If you would like to participate, please send UROP your name for future contact.

Faculty Recruitment 2001-2002

UROP appreciates your past participation as a faculty sponsor and encourages you to continue to introduce the world of research to new students. Faculty Applications for the next academic year were mailed the week of May 7. New projects and project renewals will be accepted throughout the summer months. New faculty and projects are always welcomed, so tell a colleague about this opportunity. Faculty may complete the Research Application Form online at:

http://www.umich.edu/~urop/facres/Faculty-App.html

Meeting Space Available

Small meeting rooms can often be in demand and difficult to find, as one Medical School faculty member experienced Winter Term. The professor utilized UROP’s conference room for a weekly meeting of his research team. Faculty are encouraged to consider use of UROP’s conference room to host a meeting of up to 12 people. It would be ideal space for a UROP faculty/student research team meeting. Contact the UROP Office at 998-9381 to reserve the room.
UROP Students Go National

UROP sent over 40 students to present their research at national professional meetings and related sites. Students presented at the National Academy of Neuropsychology Conference, the International Conference on Infant Studies, the World Science Fiction Convention, the American Association for Public Opinion Research and the American Anthropological Association Conference among others.

The 15th National Conference on Undergraduate Research was held in Lexington, KY, March 15-17. UROP sponsored 26 UM students to participate. Some 2000 students representing over 220 U.S. colleges and universities gave oral presentations and presented poster sessions, creative arts performances and exhibits during the two and a half day event. The mission of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR®) is “to promote undergraduate research scholarship and creative activity done in partnership with faculty or other mentors as a vital component of higher education.” UM students had a chance to discuss their research with conference attendees and to attend plenary sessions with nationally recognized scholars. Attendees were treated to a festive reception at the Kentucky Horse Park.

UROP students attending were very appreciative of the opportunity, in particular noting the rewards of having other faculty and students to talk to about their research.

Posters on the Hill

Three UM students, Laura Breymann, Sarah Hansen and Brian DeBosch, were selected to present their research at the prestigious Undergraduate Research Posters on the Hill event held March 29, 2001, in Washington, DC. This event, sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research, aims to encourage U.S. congressional representatives and senators to continue to promote and fund undergraduate research programs. In addition to participating in a poster session which illustrated their research activities, student participants spent time discussing science education and policy with their U.S. Representatives and Senators. The students had the unique opportunity to meet with the staff of Senator Ted Kennedy, D-Massachusetts, and advocate for undergraduate research funding in the upcoming budget bill.

UROP Faculty Mini-Grant Awards  Spring 2001

In cooperation with the LS&A Dean's Office, UROP sponsors mini-grant competitions two times per academic year to award special research funding of up to $5,000 to faculty who propose to conduct interdisciplinary research which includes an emphasis on including undergraduate student research assistants. The Fall 2001 round of proposals will be announced October 1 and proposals will be due October 31. For additional information about the winning proposals and previous winners, check our website at www.umich.edu/~urop/facres

Winter 2001 Grant Recipients:
Real-time Ultrasound Elasticity Microscope
Dr. Kyle W. Hollman, Biomedical Engineering

Weaving: Inspirations from Mathematics, Science and Music
Sherri Smith, Associate Dean, School of Art & Design

The George Balanchine Critical Edition
Dr. Christian Matjias, Dept. of Dance, School of Music

Sensory Gene Microarray Node
Dr. Anand Swaroop, Dept. of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

The Family Development Project: A University of Michigan-Detroit Head Start Research Partnership
Dr. Michael Spencer, School of Social Work

Measuring Mental Vitality: Developing Field Measures of Attentional Capacity
Dr. Raymond DeYoung, School of Natural Resources and Environment

Mobility Assessment of Children with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
Dr. Bruno Giordani, Dept. of Psychiatry and Psychology