



A guide to

The Office for Undergraduate Research & Artistry

The Offices for Undergraduate Research and Artistry (OURA) & Scholarship and Fellowship Advising (OSFA) are part of TILT

The Institute for Learning and Teaching ([TILT](#)) at Colorado State University (CSU) supports the educational mission of CSU and enriches the learning experiences of its students.





SCOPE OF WORK (OURA):

Coordinate efforts and provide support for disciplinary programs, mentors and undergraduate students. Promote and highlight student creative activities, centralize the tracking and assessment of research and artistic engagement at CSU.

tilt.colostate.edu/oura/



SCOPE OF WORK (OSFA):

Assists current students interested in applying for an external award.

- Recruit, Advise, Review, Nominate, and Celebrate Students

See [pdf](#) list of OSFA-promoted scholarships

tilt.colostate.edu/osfa/





How we serve

STUDENTS

EXISTING RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

1

CURC & Journal for
Undergraduate Research

2

MRAD

3

Ask an Ambassador

4

TILT OURA Lab

5

Student Workshops

6

Opportunity webpages

CURC

Celebrate Undergraduate Research and Creativity (CURC) is an annual event held in April that showcases the creativity and scholarship of undergraduate students across various disciplines. It is the largest campus event devoted to the dissemination of undergraduate student work.



Journal of Undergraduate Research

Fall 2019/Spring 2020 | Tenth Anniversary Edition

JUR

The Journal for Undergraduate Research (JUR) is a peer-reviewed, undergraduate journal registered with the Library of Congress that accepts submissions of any subject, from any undergraduate institution. It is headquartered at OURA. JUR Press is an undergraduate-run publishing house.



MRAD

The Mentored Research and Artistry Distinction (MRAD) is designed to enhance and recognize the learning experiences of undergraduates who are engaged in research, artistry, or other forms of creative work.

Ask an Ambassador

The **OURA Ambassadors Program** aims to advance undergraduate research at CSU through peer mentorship and leadership. The program pairs ambassadors knowledgeable about undergraduate research at CSU with newer students who have questions about how to get involved. Students can fill out a form to “ask an ambassador” for help.



TILT OURA Lab

The TILT OURA Lab provides an opportunity for students to learn laboratory skills that can be transferred to future research experiences. The Lab is intended to be a comprehensive experience that allows students to engage in the many phases of research.





Student Workshops

OURA hosts professional development [workshops](#) for undergraduate students. These are designed for students just getting their feet wet into research/artistry, those getting ready to present their work, and everyone in between. These are modeled after the [CIMER](#) “Entering Research” Curriculum and pairs with GCIM Mentor Well Certification for mentors.

Connect to Opportunity

Provides a place for students to learn about opportunities and how to serve for opportunities.

Resources Include:

- Summer research opportunity list
- Work page = jobs on Handshake
- Guide to searching Handshake
- Guide to reaching out to faculty
- Information about Grad Showcase

Grow your Skills

Directs students to resources at OURA and beyond to develop skills.

Resources Include:

- OURA Workshops
- How to guide to joining CUR

Showcase

Provides students with a list of venues for presenting their creative work.

Includes links to:

[CURC](#)

[MURALS](#)

[Engineering Days](#)

[More](#)

OURA uses the News and Events page and social media to advertise research and artistry opportunities available to undergraduate students at CSU.



Special Programs

OURA coordinates a number of programs that are designed to help students build skills and/or earn recognition for their work.

Resources include:

- [TILT OURA Lab](#)
- [OURA Workshops](#)
- [Ask an Ambassador Program](#)
- [Mentored Research and Artistry Distinction \(MRAD\)](#)

A large lecture hall with students seated at long tables, working on laptops. A presentation screen at the front displays a software interface. A person in a blue shirt and cap stands near the screen. The room has a high ceiling and large windows.

How we serve

FACULTY & DEPARTMENTS

EXISTING RESOURCES FOR FACULTY

- 1 Working with OURA on projects and proposals
- 2 Support to Post Opportunities
- 3 Free CUR Membership
- 4 Mentored Scholars Matching Fund
- 5 TILT OURA Lab
- 6 Website (Faculty and Grad Students)

Working with OURA on Projects & Proposals

Collaborate with TILT and OURA!

Working with OURA to meaningfully include undergraduate research or community engagement means your program or activities will have a broader impact, you will get access to the full range of resources OURA has to offer (including some assessment activities), and will demonstrate a strong partnership to potential funders.

Support with Posting Opportunities

OURA provides resources to help faculty and graduate student recruit students (paid and unpaid), and to help undergraduate students locate available opportunities. We ask that mentors advertise internal positions for students on Handshake. If you have an external opportunity to share, please submit an opportunity form.



Council on
Undergraduate
Research

Enhanced CUR Membership

CSU has an enhanced membership to CUR, an international organization that strengthens undergraduate research in STEM and non-STEM disciplines. All members of the CSU community can join CUR with a free associated membership ([activate](#)). You will then be able to access to free webinars, online professional development and other resources.

Mentored Scholars Matching Fund

This program is designed to address two barriers to undergraduate research identified by CSU students. The funding will help to reduce a financial burden, and a requirement for faculty to advertise positions via Handshake will help reduce an information barrier. Faculty from all disciplines are encouraged to [apply](#).

Fall/Spring match = \$600. Summer match = \$1000.

OURA Lab at TILT

The Lab provides an opportunity for students to learn skills that can be transferred to future research experiences. We are always looking for opportunities to place “graduates” and to help students build skills sought by PIs and departments.

Contact Courtney Ngai for more information:
(courtney.ngai@colostate.edu)



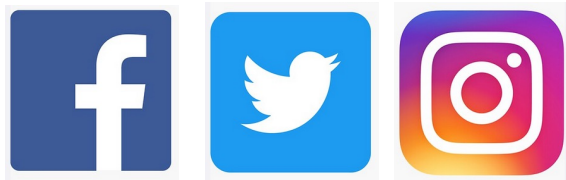
Pointing Mentors to Resources

Provides mentors with a list of resources from across campus.

Resources include :

- [GCIM Mentoring Well Certification](#)
- [CLA Undergraduate Research Academies](#)
- [Inclusive Communication from TILT](#)

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Best Practices

OURA aims to share best practices for successful experiences working with undergraduates in research and other creative work.

Sources include:

- The Center for Improved Mentored Experiences in Research ([CIMER](#))
- Characteristics in Excellence in Undergraduate Research (from [CUR](#)).



How we serve

THE UNIVERSITY

TRACKING

In collaboration with the Registrars' office and Institutional Research, OURA will be the data owners and be responsible for maintaining the data code (**UGRA**).

Attributes will be added as needed.

Data will be made available to the CSU community via IR.

OURA has asked faculty to ID students they are working with on research via a 1x/year survey.

ASSESSMENT

OURA administered a survey to identify and rank the barriers that exist that prevent or hinder students from getting involved in mentored research/artistry.

OURA plans to assess the quality of student experiences in research

*Equity in Undergraduate Research Taskforce
Report – Finalized March 2022*

*Barriers to Undergraduate Research Report –
Created January 2023*



THANK YOU!

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