

Best Practices in Cultivating a Research Mindset on Campus

CUR-URP Exchange

Wednesday 23 April 2024, 12-1 PM Eastern

Facilitators

- Anne Boettcher, Assistant Dean of Research, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University- Prescott (ERAU-PC), boettcha@erau.edu ERAU-PC is a STEM Aerospace and Aviation focused, primarily undergraduate, private with ~3000 undergraduates
- Kara Loy, Dean of University Credit, Sciences, Health & Human Services, Coast Mountain College (CMNT), kloy@coastmountaincollege.ca CMNT is a Canadian, publicly-funded post-secondary, regional college in northwest British Columbia that offers education and training across trades, First Nations Fine Arts, as well as career and academic-focused certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees.
- Tim O'Neil, Director, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, University of Colorado Boulder, tim.oneil@colorado.edu CU Boulder is a large R1 in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains.
- Stephanie Ramos Associate Director, Office of Undergraduate Research at Oregon State University (OSU) stephanie.ramos@oregonstate.edu OSU is a R1, Sea- Space- Sun- and Land-Grant university in Corvallis, Oregon.
- Jeffrey Ratliff-Crain, ratliffj@r.umn.edu, psychology professor and Academic Director for the University of Minnesota Rochester's (UMR) "Hub" for experiential learning, e.g., off-campus research, study away, and internships. UMR is a health sciences undergraduate campus (~850 students).

Abstract: Undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative inquiry (URSCI) experiences have been identified as High Impact Practices, with a wide range of benefits, including student perceived increases in critical thinking and problem-solving (Bauer and Bennett 2003; Hathaway et al. 2002; Thiry et al. 2011, Zydney et al. 2002), and communication skills (Monarrez et al. 2020; Zydney et al. 2002), as well as higher GPA, and increased retention and graduation rates (Battaglia et al. 2022 and references therein). In this session, facilitators will explore how institutions develop structures that help to build a research mindset for students and the institution as a whole, building the capacity for all to benefit. Facilitators are from a range of institution types and sizes with a focus on undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative inquiry (URSCI). Participants will be asked to consider approaches their institution is currently taking or could take in the future.

Drawing from John Willison's (2024) definition of Research Thinking and Kavalie and Carberry's (2023) study on research mindset, we are using the following for student research mindset: A systematic approach to inquiry that strategically collects and critically evaluates information for evidence-based decisions, and includes the following traits: Open-mindedness, believing in oneself and the research, persistence, honesty, being critical, and communication.

For Institutions: How can institutions prioritize and support research, scholarship, and inquiry, providing resources and training, and avenues to celebrate research accomplishments? How is the culture built to support the research mindset in students and the community as a whole?

- 1. What is your institution currently doing to build a research mindset with the students, for the university as a whole?**
- 2. What might your institution do to be more intentional about these processes?**
- 3. How are you or would you assess the research mindset at your institution?**
- 4. Who are your internal and external strategic partners?**

Resources

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