

Call for Applications: CUR Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC)

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) is now accepting nominations for divisional seats on the National Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC). The NLDC plays a critical role in strengthening CUR's leadership pipeline by identifying, recruiting, and supporting the development of future leaders across the organization. Committee members help ensure CUR continues to benefit from strong, diverse, and well-prepared leadership by engaging in thoughtful nomination, recruitment, and leadership development efforts.

Why Serve?

Serving on the NLDC is an opportunity to help shape CUR's future by identifying and cultivating the next generation of volunteer leaders. Committee members contribute to the long-term strength of the organization by helping ensure CUR's leadership reflects the perspectives, experiences, and skills needed to advance excellence in undergraduate research.

Who Should Apply?

We seek thoughtful and collaborative members who are interested in leadership development, identifying future leaders, and supporting the growth of CUR's leadership pipeline.

Members of the NLDC bring a blend of the following competencies and skillsets:

Strategic and Servant Leadership

- Demonstrated experience as a values-oriented leader, administrator, manager, or key contributor to strategic initiatives
- Proven ability to lead complex and mission-driven organizations or initiatives

Communication and Collaboration

- Demonstrated competence as a professional and effective communicator including amid difficult, complex, or conflicting situations
- Experienced collaborator who participates and facilitates inclusive spaces, engages diverse stakeholders, and advances collective impact
- Willingness to be an ambassador for CUR by engaging the CUR community, the National Office, external partners, and the broader community

Strategic Thinking and Foresight

- A forward-thinking mindset, with the ability to apply foresight to organizational needs and opportunities
- Evidence of innovative and multi-faceted work that results in performance and organizational outcomes
- Demonstrated competence in data-informed decision-making aligned with strategic objectives

Governance, Policy, and Nonprofit Expertise

- Knowledge of nonprofit fiduciary responsibilities, including the 501(c)(3) structure, governance, risk management, and financial oversight
- Familiarity with board and leadership development within nonprofit organizations

Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC) Expectations

NLDC members help uphold a fair and transparent nominations process, identify emerging leaders, and align leadership recruitment with CUR's long-term vision and organizational needs. Members serve as year-round contributors and:

- Participate in NLDC meetings and required CUR leadership gatherings, including the Annual Leadership Meeting
- Partner with CUR leadership and staff to assess the skills, experiences, and perspectives needed in each Board election cycle
- Identify and recruit qualified candidates for Board-level positions
- Conduct a fair and thorough vetting process and present a slate of candidates for Board-level positions
- Support election procedures in collaboration with the CUR National Office
- Promote leadership development opportunities and cultivate future CUR leaders
- Commit to a two-year term and maintain active CUR membership

Application and Selection Process

Deadline: November 23, 2026

Available Positions:

- Three positions serving two-year terms
- Open to members from divisions that will not already be represented on the committee in the upcoming term, including: Arts & Humanities, Biology, Chemistry, Education, Engineering, Geosciences, Health Sciences, Mathematical, Computing & Statistical Sciences, Psychology, and Social Sciences

We encourage applications from individuals representing a wide range of institutions, disciplines, career stages, and backgrounds who are committed to excellence and innovation in undergraduate research.

Qualified candidates should submit their application and supporting materials via the appropriate link on the CUR Nominations and Elections webpage. Please collect all materials prior to beginning your submission, as partial submissions will not be reviewed.

Application Requirements

- **Nominee Information**
Full name, institution, and a link to relevant supplemental information (e.g., CV, LinkedIn profile, biography, campus website, personal website, or blog)
- **Leadership Development and Stewardship Statement (750 words maximum)**
The NLDC plays a critical role in identifying, recruiting, and developing future leaders while ensuring a fair, ethical, and transparent nominations process. Drawing on relevant experiences, examples, and approaches that would inform your service on the NLDC, please describe:
 - How you identify leadership potential within an organization or team
 - How you would contribute to cultivating a strong and representative leadership pipeline for CUR
 - How you would approach sensitive decisions related to nominations, candidate evaluation, and leadership development while maintaining fairness, integrity, and confidentiality
- **NLDC Contribution Statement (500 words maximum)**
The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee strengthens CUR's governance by identifying, vetting, and presenting a slate of qualified candidates for Board-level positions through a fair and transparent process. In collaboration with CUR leadership and the National Office, the committee

assesses the evolving needs of the organization and ensures the recruitment of diverse, skilled leaders to drive CUR's mission forward.

In what ways would you use your experience, skills, and perspective to contribute to this purpose?

Nominee Vetting, Notification, and Election Timeline:

The national NLDC will review candidate nominations and select candidates to appear on the ballot. In early Spring 2027, approved nominations will appear on a ballot voted on by CUR members. All candidates will be notified of election outcomes in April 2027, and results will be announced in mid-May 2027.

Successful candidates will serve a term from June 1, 2027 – May 31, 2029.