Undergraduate Research and Student Success at Carolina

Krista M. Perreira, PhD and Donna M. Bickford, PhD
2015 Student Success Conference

Promoting Educational Achievement

- Innovative Research & Mentored Scholarship
- Entrepreneurship
- Creative Expression

OUR’s Signature Programs

The Office for Undergraduate Research (OUR) works to facilitate access to research experiences for undergraduates through:

- Research-Exposure and Research-Intensive courses
- The Carolina Research Scholars Program (CRSP)
- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURFs)

Research-Exposure and Research-Intensive Courses

- Research-Exposure Courses embed a research component in a course
- Research-Intensive Courses are a small portion of the course and include research activities

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships

- The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship allows eligible undergraduates to receive at least $3,000 to carry out original research under the supervision of a UNC-Chapel Hill faculty research advisor.

Carolina Research Scholar Program

- The Carolina Research Scholar Program provides the opportunity for undergraduates to earn a special designation on their transcripts recognizing their engagement in research at UNC-Chapel Hill and preparation for research-related careers.

Number of Undergraduates in Research-Exposure Courses, by Academic Year

- Declining ORC Funding

SURF Trends, by Academic Year

- Funded (% of Applicants)
- Global (% of Funded)

Carolina Research Scholars, Registered since 2008 (N=1401)

Undergraduate Research Makes a Difference

2014 SURF recipient Olivia Branscum (Studio Art/Philosophy) observed that the freedom to work on an independent project "means that scholars and researchers have to cultivate self-discipline and a strong self-motivated work ethic, but it also allows for a flexibility of approach and discovery that is very exciting to me." Dr. Susan Irons (ENGL) says, "Working with a GRC last semester greatly enriched the depth of what I could do with the students and greatly enriched the students' experience. I would not have been able to undertake the project we did without the GRC's expertise."