

Attachment 18

Office of Undergraduate Research

2018-2019 and 2017-2018 Academic Year 1-page Dashboards Followed by the Detailed Assessment Plan

VISION To create opportunities for every student to participate in undergraduate research, such that research becomes a hallmark of what it means to earn a UT Austin degree

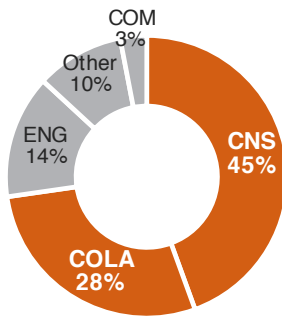
MISSION The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) supports student engagement in the research and creative activity of the university. We foster undergraduate participation in research across the disciplines by raising the visibility of undergraduate research on campus, facilitating students' searches for research opportunities related to their interests and goals, and helping students share their work with others.

UGS Program Review Fall 2019



STUDENT POPULATION SERVED

73% of students served by OUR were from **Natural Sciences and Liberal Arts**



Undergraduate Research Fellowship funded proposals and awards **increased in the past year**

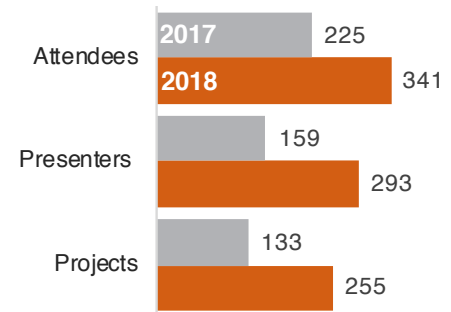
116 +12%

Funded proposals

\$96,291 +8%

Total Awards

Participation in the Longhorn Research Poster Event **doubled in size**



SERVICES OFFERED

Facilitated student access to undergraduate research opportunities

Information sessions **430 attendees**

Individual advising **71 appointments**

EUREKA project database

Project updates **89**

Faculty profile updates **339**

Active student users **3,267**

Provided opportunities for undergraduate researchers to develop marketable research skills

Poster workshops **198 attendees**

Course credit for engagement in research **85 enrolled**

Texas Research Showdown **55 attendees, 27 videos**, and **5,445 video views**

OUR contract courses supported student groups conducting summer research in **7 foreign countries through the President's Award for Global Learning**

OUTCOMES

Survey data found that....

98.6% (504/511) of respondents agreed that **research improved their educational experience.**

88.5% (23/26) of UGS course students **identified at least one example of research skills or knowledge acquired during their experience.**

>179 student presentations at external conferences.

>231 student publications as authors or co-authors on academic papers.

Student survey quotes....

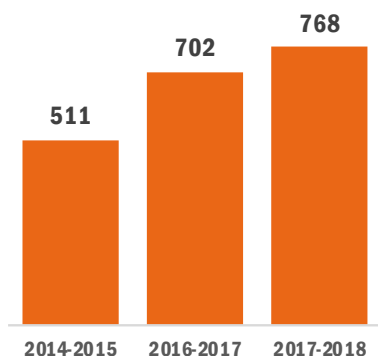
"I was able to learn about the vast and very helpful resources this institution has access to, as well as how to search through thousands of scholarly articles and pick out, with increasing accuracy, which ones would be the most helpful. I also appreciated the opportunity to make mistakes." — Government/Psychology freshman, UGS 310 contract course student

"Overall, this experience was valuable and helped me reflect on the clinical and research skills that I am good at and reflect on the skills I need to work on improving. This process has not only provided me with a valuable clinical and research experience but it has also further sparked my interest in stuttering and stuttering treatment." — Speech/language pathology senior, UGS 320 contract course student

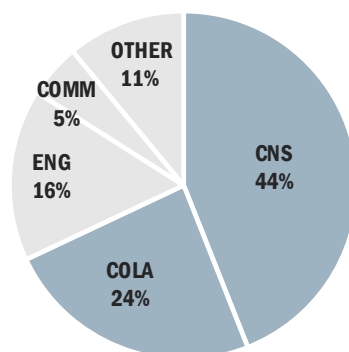
"LGBTQ+ students mentioned the need for an LGBTQ+ engineering student org and more communication between students and faculty to facilitate a more inclusive climate. ... I plan to go to graduate school at UT Austin and get a master's degree in electrical engineering ... I anticipate continuing my research in diversity/inclusion in engineering as I establish myself in electrical engineering." — Electrical engineering senior, URF recipient

STUDENT POPULATION SERVED

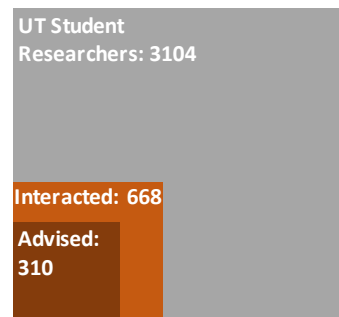
The number of students advised by OUR increased by 50% since 2014-2015



68% of students served by OUR were from Natural Sciences and Liberal Arts



22% of UT student researchers from the 2014 Cohort had some interaction with OUR services and 10% received OUR advising (n=3,104)



SERVICES OFFERED

Facilitated student access to undergraduate research opportunities

Information sessions **658** attendees

Individual advising **110** appointments

EUREKA project database

86 project updates (+ 65% since 16-17)

484 faculty profile updates

1,766 active student users

Provided opportunities for undergraduate researchers to develop marketable research skills

Poster workshops **168** attendees

Course credit for engagement in research **125** enrolled

Longhorn Research Poster Session **225** attendees, **159** presenters, **133** projects

Texas Research Showdown **50** attendees, **27** videos, and **4,868** video views

104 Undergraduate Research Fellowship (URF) proposals funded, totaling \$89,000 awarded

OUTCOMES

Survey data found that....

Since 2014, **52%** (343/655) of advising recipients who have since graduated were **successful in finding a research experience**.

92% (159/173) of graduating respondents agreed/strongly agreed that **participating in research was valuable**.

90% (26/29) of respondents from poster workshops reported having a **better awareness of how to design a poster**.

91% (181/199) of Longhorn Research Poster Session attendees agreed/strongly agreed that they gained a **better awareness of research opportunities as a result of the event**.

> **129 students presented papers** at external conferences.

> **90 students were authors or co-authors** on academic papers.

Student quotes:

"Research has truly been the most rewarding part of my undergraduate career." – Economics senior, Texas Student Research Showdown participant, URF recipient, Student Research Ambassador, AURA-Texas participant

"The 2017-2018 Undergraduate Research Fellowship allowed me to conduct valuable research related to materials, which has strongly influenced my future, post-graduation endeavors." – Biomedical engineering senior, URF recipient

Program Mission The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) supports student engagement in the research and creative activity of the university.

Program Description OUR fosters undergraduate participation in research across the disciplines by connecting students with faculty who are conducting ground-breaking research, raising the visibility of undergraduate research on campus, facilitating students' searches for research opportunities related to their interests and goals, helping students share their work with others, and funding student research and creative activity.

Student Population Served **Number of students who pursued research through OUR:** 768 students were advised by OUR (compared to 511 in 14-15; 50.3% increase).

Colleges of Information session/Advising students: 68% of students served by OUR were from Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences." CNS = 44%, COLA = 24%, Engineering = 16%, Communication = 5%, Other = 11%

For students who matriculated in Fall 2014, the OUR interacted with 22% (668/3104) of student researchers and 10% (310/3104) of student researchers in this cohort had OUR advising prior to their research involvement.

Services Offered **Facilitated student access to undergraduate research opportunities**

Info sessions help students identify and secure research opportunities. 658 students attended Fall '17 and Spring '18 information sessions compared to 576 in 16-17, for an increase of 14%.

Students also have the option to meet with an OUR advisor to learn about the process for finding an undergraduate research opportunity. 110 students received individual advising in Fall '17 and Spring '18 (compared to 135 in 16-17).

With the newly relaunched Eureka research database, students can identify faculty members who are doing research that matches their personal interests and search for research opportunities. In 17-18, there were 1,766 active student users and a total of 86 new and/or updated projects to the Eureka database, compared to 52 in 16-17 (an increase of 65%).

Provided opportunities for undergraduate researchers to develop marketable research skills

Poster workshops: OUR hosts a variety of professional development workshops that teach students how to communicate their research to a general audience, how to design an effective poster, and how to conduct independent research on their own. In 17-18, a total of 168 students attended poster workshops.

Course credit for engagement in research: Students are given the option to earn course credit by engaging in research through UGS 310K, UGS 320K, and UGS 320L courses. 125 students were enrolled in a UGS course for engagement in research, compared to 107 in 16-17 (an increase of 17%).

Longhorn Research Bazaar: Colleges, departments, research units, programs, and student organizations from across campus provided information for students about their undergraduate research activities and opportunities. 159 students presented work from 133 projects at the 2018 Longhorn Research Bazaar (compared to 175 presenters and 118 projects in 2017).

Texas Research Showdown: Offers a video and presentation competition for UT Austin undergraduate researchers. Winners receive up to \$1,500 in scholarships to recognize their excellence in research. This event resulted in 27 video submissions and 50 attendees at the final round event; 4,868 video views before the voting deadline, compared to 3,845 views in 16-17 (an increase of 27%).

Outcomes **Survey data revealed that...**

Since 2014, **52%** (343/655) of advising recipients who have since graduated were **successful in finding a research experience**.

92% (159/173) of graduating respondents agreed/strongly agreed that **participating in research was valuable**.

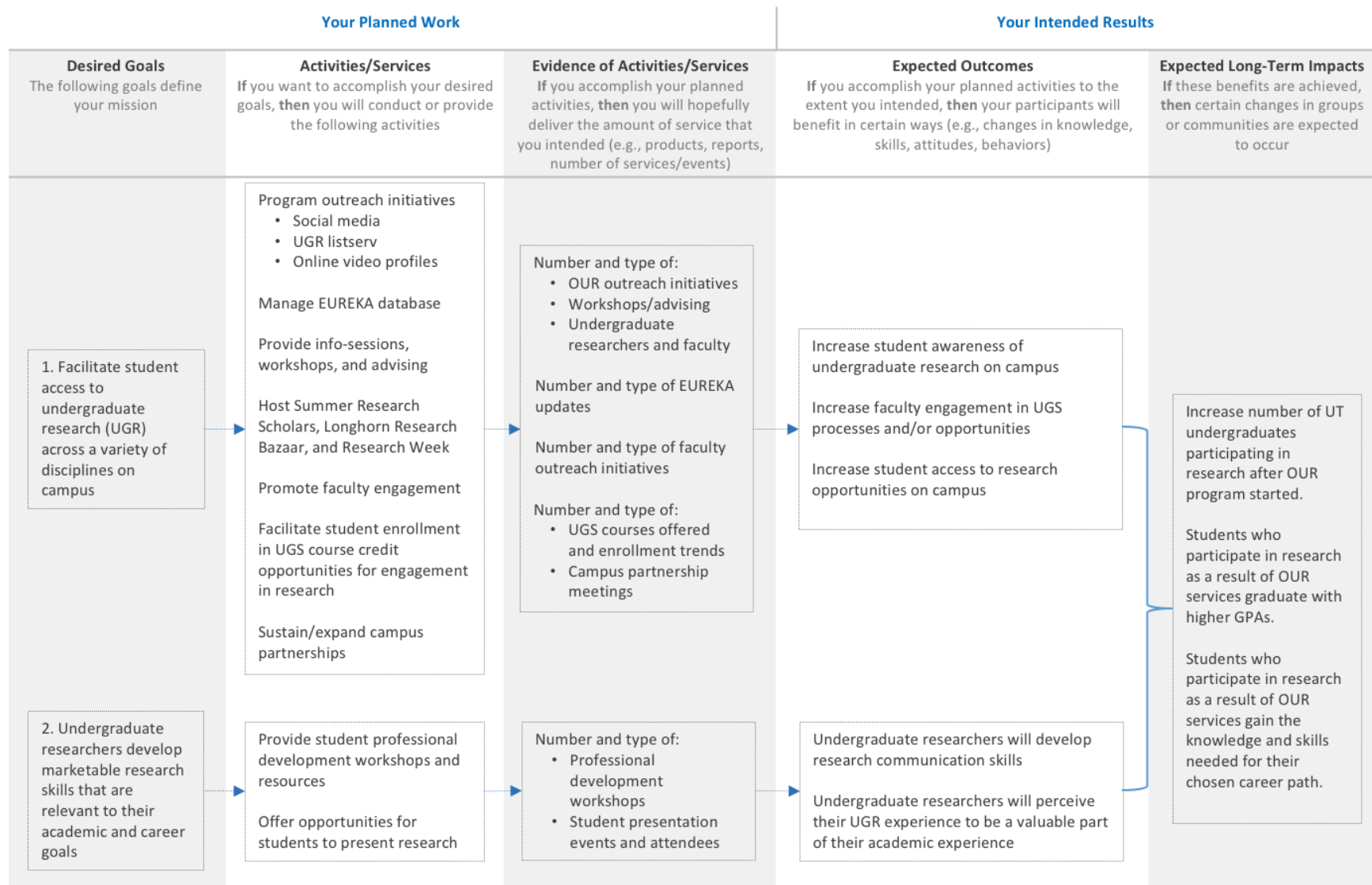
90% (26/29) of respondents from poster workshops reported having a **better awareness of how to design a poster**.

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Mission: The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) supports student engagement in the research and creative activity of the university. We foster undergraduate participation in research across the disciplines by raising the visibility of undergraduate research on campus, facilitating students' searches for research opportunities related to their interests and goals, and helping students share their work with others.



| Your Planned Work | | | Your Intended Results | |
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| Desired Goals The following goals define your mission | Activities/Services If you want to accomplish your desired goal, then you will conduct/provide the following activities | Evidence of Activities/Services If you accomplish your planned activities, then you will hopefully deliver the amount of service that you intended | Expected Outcomes If you accomplish your planned activities to the extent you intended, then your participants will benefit in certain ways (e.g., changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviors) | Expected Long-Term Impacts If these benefits are achieved, then certain changes in groups or communities should occur |
| <p>1. Facilitate student access to undergraduate research (UGR) across a variety of disciplines on campus</p> | <p>Program outreach initiatives: OUR conducts a variety of events, ongoing information sessions, visits to Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) and other UT programs, in addition to social media outreach efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media (Facebook, etc.) • UGR listserv • Online video profiles: Sharing of student stories that demonstrate the importance of UGR and different modes of engagement in UGR <p>Manage EUREKA database: Using EUREKA, students can identify faculty members who are doing research that matches their personal interests and search for research opportunities</p> <p>Provide information sessions, workshops, and advising: Info sessions: A Summer Orientation info session is provided to incoming students, in addition to weekly info sessions throughout fall and spring about research opportunities on campus and how to approach faculty to become involved in research. During these sessions, OUR provides students with information to help them identify and secure research opportunities. Workshops: OUR provides online resources and workshops for developing effective research poster presentations and talks aimed at a non-expert audience. Advising: Students have the option to meet with an advisor in the Office of Undergraduate Research to learn about the process for finding an undergraduate research opportunity.</p> | <p>Number and type of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OUR outreach initiatives • Workshops/advising • Undergraduate researchers and faculty <p>Number and type of EUREKA updates</p> <p>Number and type of faculty outreach initiatives</p> <p>Number and type of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UGS courses offered and enrollment trends • Campus partnership meetings <p>Number and type of scholarships and awards</p> | <p>1.1 Promote student awareness of undergraduate research (UGR) 15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19 Fall & Spring <i>Track attendance, social media, and presentation trends</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ≥600 attendees at info sessions 2. ≥300 1st generation students (may reduce target depending on 17-18 findings) 3. ≥125 COLA students 4. ≥120 advising attendees 5. ≥150 attendees at summer orientation session 6. ≥400 Research Week student presenters from non-OUR events 7. ≥110 Longhorn Research Bazaar presenters 8. Track attendees and presenters at Texas Research Showdown 9. Track sign-ups and interaction via listserv, Facebook, Twitter 10. Track # of UGR student success story video views <p><i>Information session student feedback survey</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ≥80% of respondents agree that info session workshops/advising sessions met expectations 2. ≥80% of FIG visit respondents learned about benefits of research 3. ≥80% of Longhorn Research Bazaar survey respondents agree that they have a better awareness of research opportunities attending the event <p>1.2 Promote faculty engagement in UGS processes and/or opportunities 15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19 Fall & Spring <i>Track faculty profiles and reminder emails</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ≥40 project updates per year 2. Track # of Eureka reminder emails <p>1.3 Increase student access to research opportunities on campus 15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19 Fall & Spring</p> | <p>Increase number of UT undergraduates participating in research after OUR program started.</p> |

| Your Planned Work | | | Your Intended Results | |
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| The following goals define your mission | If you want to accomplish your desired goal, then you will conduct/provide the following activities | If you accomplish your planned activities, then you will hopefully deliver the amount of service that you intended | If you accomplish your planned activities to the extent you intended, then your participants will benefit in certain ways (e.g., changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviors) | If these benefits are achieved, then certain changes in groups or communities should occur |
| | <p>Host Summer Research Scholars: OUR supports visiting undergraduate researchers from other universities who are hosted at UT by faculty members with NSF-funded grants, OUR hosts a welcome reception and social event to facilitate networking among participants and provides logistical info to REU coordinators on summer housing, dining, rec sports and health insurance. At the end of the event, OUR also hosts an end-of-summer research poster session</p> <p>Promote faculty engagement: OUR encourages faculty to use the EUREKA database via reminder emails and outreach efforts. OUR also sends ongoing EUREKA reminder emails to faculty each semester.</p> <p>Facilitate student enrollment in UGS course credit for engagement in research: Students are given the option to earn course credit by engaging in research through, UGS 310K, UGS 320K, and UGS 320L courses. Information will be collected from students that are enrolled in a UGS course while also gaining UGR experience.</p> <p>Sustain/expand campus partnerships: OUR develops partnerships with colleges, schools, and research units to identify enhanced opportunities for collaboration and to determine and remedy gaps that may prevent students from finding and completing appropriate research experiences</p> <p>Award research funding to students: OUR administers several different programs for funding research, and seeks out additional funding for these awards.</p> | | <p><i>Info session feedback survey</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Of those students who stated that they were interested in pursuing a research opportunity, ≥60% of respondents will report being in the process of searching or are done searching for UT faculty members with similar interests and/or they are in the process of contacting or have contacted >1 faculty member <p><i>Tracking student trends</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Of those students who actively sought a research opportunity after attending an information session, ≥50% will have secured a research opportunity. Track # of students enrolled in UGS 310K, UGS 320K, and UGS 320L <p>1.4 Award research funding to students 15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19 Fall & Spring Establish baseline number of students applying for URF, Student Researcher, and Research Travel awards</p> | |

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| <p>2. Undergraduate researchers develop marketable research skills that are relevant to their academic and career goals</p> | <p>Provide student professional development workshops and resources: To ensure that students have the opportunity to develop research communication skills, OUR hosts a variety of professional development workshops that teach students how to communicate their research to a general audience, how to design an effective poster, and how to conduct independent research on their own</p> <p>Offer opportunities for students to present research: OUR also hosts several university-wide events that allow students to practice the communication skills they learned by gaining experience in sharing their research with others. With these events, OUR also hopes to share undergraduate research findings and publicize the different possibilities for engagement in student research. Examples of events hosted by OUR include:</p> <p>Texas Student Research Showdown: a video competition for student researchers to tell their stories to a general audience</p> <p>Research Week: UT's annual celebration of undergraduate research and creative exploration</p> <p>Longhorn Research Bazaar: a festive event that occurs during Research Week where colleges, departments, research units, programs, and student organizations from across campus provide information for students about their undergraduate research activities and opportunities</p> | <p>Number and type of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional development workshops Student presentation events and attendees | <p>2.1 Undergraduate researchers will develop research communication skills <i>15-16, 16-17, 17-18, 18-19 Fall & Spring</i> <i>Workshop student feedback survey</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥80% of respondents from poster workshops and advising sessions will report having a better awareness about how to design a poster and/or present their research with the aid of a poster ≥80% of respondents from Showdown survey will report that the event and supporting workshops improved their ability to present research to a non-expert audience (<i>Showdown survey</i>) ≥60% of all UGR presenters agree that their communication skills improved as a result of their UGR experience (<i>Graduation survey & faculty survey</i>) <p><i>Track student workshop attendance</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥125 attendees at poster workshops by the end of spring semester ≥15 attendees at independent research workshops ≥15 attendees at PCL poster design workshops ≥60 attendees at combined workshops: Independent Research, Publishing, How to go to a Conference, Establishing yourself as Researcher, Poster Making, Funding, and Communication workshops ≥5 students earn an informal certificate for participating in UGR workshops/events <p>2.2 Undergraduate researchers will perceive their UGR experience to be a valuable part of their academic experience <i>Student feedback survey</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ≥80% of respondents enrolled in a UGS course will agree that their research experience has enhanced their academic experience (<i>UGS course survey</i>) ≥80% of respondents will agree that their research experience was valuable (<i>Graduation survey</i>) | <p>Students who participate in research as a result of OUR services graduate with higher GPAs.</p> <p>Students who participate in research as a result of OUR services gain the knowledge and skills needed for their chosen career path.</p> |