Let us help you reach your research and creative engagement goals!

PLUS!
Get a head start on 2020
2019 ISN’T OVER YET...
FINISH OUT THE SEMESTER ON TOP AND EXCEL INTO 2020

WHAT’S INSIDE?

APPLY NOW FOR CURCE GRANTS

- Travel grant: up to $500
- Research grants: up to $500
  - Fall 2019 deadlines: 12/6
- Poster printing: submit 2 weeks prior to event
- Student memberships: up to $100
  - All semester long!

GET READY TO GO TO NCUR
p.3

CONSIDER THESE OPPORTUNITIES
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FACULTY, ALUMNI, & AMBASSADOR FEATURE
p.4-6

SPOTLIGHTS:

ALUMNI:
Maksim Papenkov
Graduated UAlbany 2019
B.S. Mathematics & Economics
Current Graduate Student:
Columbia University
M.A. Mathematics of Finance

REU STUDENT:
Juan Varela
REU at Columbia University
Undergraduate Student, SUNY
Albany

CURCE AMBASSADOR:
Zerah Isaacs
Undergraduate Research Assistant in Dr. Poulos’ Behavioral Neuroscience Lab
Biology major

STAFF:
Jacqueline Ledermann
Assistant Director of Global Academic Programs
Fulbright Advisor
REASONS TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE

Reason 1
Not only are conferences a great way to showcase your work, but they give you a chance to practice presenting and speaking to faculty and staff.

Reason 2
Presenting in a conference enhances your resume and skill set when it comes to applying to graduate schools and jobs.

Reason 3
When presenting in conferences, it is likely that you will meet important connections that can help you further your interests and career. Faculty will ask questions and take an interest in your work. This may open doors for you!

NCUR: WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER GOING

National Conference on Undergraduate Research

- NCUR puts on several annual conferences all over the nation specifically for undergraduate students involved in research.
- This year, their national conference is at Montana State University on Thursday, March 26, 2020 - Sunday, March 28, 2020.
- Abstract submission deadline: December 6, 2019
- Visit: http://www.cur.org/what/events/students/ncur/2020/ for more information and to submit an abstract
- Email: ncur2020@montana.edu with questions
- REMEMBER: CURCE will provide you funding!! (see previous page for details)

EVENT COMING UP

CURCE Summer Research Opportunities Workshop!
Friday, December 6
10AM - 11AM
LC13
Consider Your Future Opportunities:

- **Fulbright**
  - Offers research, study, teaching opportunities in 140+ countries to recent graduates and graduate students.
  - Subsections: academics, arts, English Teaching Assistantship.
  - Applicants must have sufficient proficiency in the written and spoken language of the host country.
  - Contact: Jacqueline Ledermann, jledermann@albany.edu
  - [https://www.albany.edu/international/Fulbright_scholarship.php](https://www.albany.edu/international/Fulbright_scholarship.php)

- **REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates)**
  - **Summer 2020**
  - Initiate and conduct projects that engage a number of students (~10) in research.
  - Provides indirect funding for students to participate in research.
  - Students must contact the individual sites for information and application materials.
  - You can search for an REU site on the NSF website.

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**Faculty Feature:**

Jacqueline Quevedo Ledermann is the Assistant Director of Global Academic Programs and Distinguished International Scholarships and Fellowships in the Center for International Education & Global Strategy, in addition to her role as a Globalization Studies Program Instructor for the Department of Geography and Planning.

Jacqueline manages the U.S. Student Fulbright Program which offers fully funded grants for individually designed Study/Research projects, English Teaching Assistant Programs and M.A. degrees abroad. Fulbright is open to U.S. citizens who will hold a Bachelor’s Degree by the time the grant commences.

"THE NEXT CYCLE OF FULBRIGHT IS AY 21/22 AND ADVISEMENT WILL BEGIN IN THE SPRING 2020 SEMESTER."

During their grants, "Fulbrighters will meet, work, live with and learn from the people of the host country, sharing daily experiences. The program facilitates cultural exchange through direct interaction on an individual basis in the classroom, field, home, and in routine tasks, allowing the grantee to gain an appreciation of others’ viewpoints and beliefs, the way they do things, and the way they think. Through engagement in the community, the individual will interact with their hosts on a one-to-one basis in an atmosphere of openness, academic integrity, and intellectual freedom, thereby promoting mutual understanding."

**Please contact Jacqueline to learn more about this grant opportunity and other possibilities!** jledermann@albany.edu
ALUMNI FEATURE:

MAKSIM PAPENKOV

I graduated SUNY Albany with honors last May 2019 with a B.S. in Mathematics & Economics.

This fall, I began my graduate program at Columbia University in Mathematics of Finance.

I was recently selected as the winner for the International Atlantic Economic Society’s 15th annual Best Undergraduate Paper Competition for my SUNY Albany undergraduate thesis, "An Empirical Asset Pricing Model Accounting for the Sector-Heterogeneity of Risk". I presented my research at the 88th International Atlantic Economics Conference in Miami earlier this month.

This past summer, I designed neural network architectures in Python (programming language) at Air Force Research Lab in Dayton, Ohio.

When I graduate from Columbia University, I will be looking for jobs in NYC in the area of Quantitative Risk Management.

PAST STUDENT OF AN REU

JUAN VARELA

Participating in the REU (Research Experience for Undergraduate) program at Columbia University this past summer was one of the best experiences I’ve had so far in my academic career. The opportunity to spend a couple of months conducting research at a high-class laboratory such as Nevis Laboratories, the labs Columbia owns about forty minutes north of the city, and work alongside like-minded students from other universities and faculty is one I always be grateful for.

Besides being able to live and enjoy New York city with eight other students, the professors at Columbia gave us many other opportunities to take part of the scientific community as well- we took part tour of some of the facilities at Brookhaven National Labs on Long Island, presentations done by professors at Columbia about their research; such as GAPS with its mission to detect cosmic dark matter and IceCube trying to observe neutrinos passing through the ice shelves. It was also enough to have the chance to talk to the graduate students and post-docs there to know more about graduate school life firsthand, as well as from the professors and their advice. Research is very important for a person in the STEM field, more than getting good grades in classes, as it is real world experience and one I am very grateful to have as I apply to graduate school.
Jidyz Ubraeva is an associate professor in the School of Social Welfare. She conducted a study regarding how opportunity structures and social mobility impact women's views on gender roles in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Results:
Separating the women into classes revealed that: "Women belonging to the traditional views class represented a smaller part of the sample (17 percent). Women in this class manifested a preference for domestic roles for women and breadwinner roles for men. They also reported that political connections and breaking the law, not grit or merit, were important factors of success. They reported downward mobility compared to that of their parents..."

Hi, I'm Zerah, I am a junior majoring in Biology and minoring in Neuroscience. I am doing Neuroscience research in Dr. Andrew Poulos's lab as an undergraduate research assistant. Here I am working on finding the developmental sex differences of context fear neural circuits in rats. I am also conducting research on the effects of rodent development and environmental scaling in scientific research. I have been in the Poulos lab for almost a year and I have learned so much. Over the summer I visited Dr. Arshad Khan's lab at the University of Texas, El Paso where I learned how to use Adobe Illustrator to map, parcellate and overlay brain images. This summer I hope to attend an undergraduate summer research program at another university. I really believe that research has enhanced my undergraduate experience because it has helped me gain a complex understanding of scientific concepts. I believe it is the perfect way to apply the information you get from lectures.

Because of being in the Poulos lab my career path has changed. Rather than planning on going to medical school, I would like to peruse a Ph.D. in Neuroscience. After obtaining my degree I hope to continue doing meaningful work that will contribute to the science community.