

10 October 2012

TO: All Faculty and Academic Staff
College of Arts & Sciences

FROM: Dean Yohnk, Interim Dean
College of Arts & Sciences

RE: Undergraduate Research Opportunities for **Spring 2012**

Many of you collaborate with undergraduate students in your research/creative artistry projects. This commitment to work one-on-one with undergraduates is directly supportive of the University's mission, and I believe it should be acknowledged, supported, and rewarded. To provide tangible support for these efforts, the College of Arts and Sciences initiated a college-wide Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (**URAP**) to provide funding for collaborative research projects.

The College's **URAP** program is designed to facilitate opportunities for students to build closer professional connections with their teachers through involvement in a collaborative research experience. Faculty and academic staff, for their part, have been supported in their efforts to engage undergraduates in research/creative artistry activities in one-on-one mentorships, to stimulate additional student interest in the major, and to perhaps lead students to pursue graduate studies in the discipline.

The goals of this program are:

- to create and expand opportunities for undergraduates and faculty/academic staff to work as collaborators in the search for knowledge; to involve students in the creation of that knowledge and to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of undergraduate researchers.
- to foster critical thinking and active learning in students.
- to create a better understanding of what research and creative artistry entail and why people do it.
- to further demonstrate and reinforce the synergistic relationship between teaching and scholarship.

The College is seeking proposals for collaborative research projects to take place during the **Spring 2012** semester. Students participating in a **URAP** will receive **\$400.00**.

Please submit the attached application form to the College Office by **Monday, 21 November**. If you require more space than is provided on the form, please be sure to organize your application material so that it follows the sequence of items on the attached application form. Each semester there is a limit of two funded projects per faculty /academic staff member. If two are submitted, please rank them. Previous involvement in a **URAP** does not disqualify one from applying for a subsequent **URAP** this **Spring**.