

Academic Affairs Committee
Final Report AY11-12
Appendix 2 of 2: Undergraduate Research

Project: Look for ways to increase undergraduate participation in faculty scholarship.

Craig Roberts (Student Affairs), Vitor Trindade, and John Dwyer (Academic Affairs) met with Jim Spain and Linda Blockus, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research on September 13th.

Items that were brought up:

1. Need a better way to communicate to faculty about the Undergraduate Research Program.
2. There are monies available as stipends for undergraduates to do research. The application deadlines for these project proposals needs a more flexible timeline to somehow match the semesters and flow of requests.
3. Need to work on getting mini-grants to fund supplies which are not covered.
4. Needs to be an input for reporting undergraduate education scholarship activities in the annual faculty reporting system.
5. How can they make faculty more aware of the UGR opportunity and how can they track the students who participate in it. If students are not funded then Linda can't know who is in the program. Students can enroll for 0 credits to have it on their transcript.
6. Faculty members of Academic and Faculty Affairs will get a VIP invitation to the annual spring research forum held at Bond Life Science Center.
7. Maybe we need a campus and college website for Undergraduate Research opportunities. This website could be used to identify potential projects and a list of faculty who are participating in the program.

Linda volunteered to come visit with faculty council or any faculty meeting to explain the program. Craig suggested that we bring this to faculty council for their inputs. The list above is items that Jim Spain felt that they should be working on.

John Dwyer
9.16.11