Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce the recipients of the College of Sciences Undergraduate Research Program (COSURP). As you may recall this is a competitive program in which each department can request up to $15,000 to support an initiative to increase or improve undergraduate research in that department. Last year these funds went to Computer Science and Biological Sciences. This year we again have two recipients:

**Ocean and Earth Sciences**  
Victoria Hill took the lead in proposing a one week residential field work trip to the Eastern Shore for 10 first and second year undergraduate students. The students will learn fieldwork techniques, deploy instrumentation, and collect data. They will work together and with mentors throughout the following academic year to analyze and interpret the data and build research skills.

**Physics**  
A team of faculty including Matt Grau, Charles Hyde, Yuan Zhang, Raul Briceno, and Ted Rogers proposed to establish a one-credit research course to help students learn the fundamentals of research. Topics will include Python programming, data analysis, and data visualization, delivered in the context of hands-on labs. Students will be exposed to some of the research in the department and will have professional development assignments.

These two proposals are very different, but they will both address barriers to research in early career undergraduates and will provide other benefits, such as the formation of a student cohort.

I am grateful to the Undergraduate Research Committee, led by Des Cook, for creating the COSURP program and for evaluating the proposals.

Best Regards,

Gail

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