

Call for Applications: Innovative Models for Undergraduate Research (IMUR)

Applications due: **October 5, 2020**
Decisions made by: **October 16, 2020**

Fall 2020 - Fall 2021

The **Innovative Models for Undergraduate Research (IMUR) Faculty Fellows Program** is designed to support faculty in exploring and developing innovative models for undergraduate research and creative inquiry. The traditional model of undergraduate research is usually limited to specific disciplines and involves a 1:1 model of mentor to undergrad researcher that does not adequately scale. Unfortunately, this limits the number and breadth of students who can benefit from this high-impact and pedagogically promising practice. And, participating students do not always have consistent experiences or clear outcomes.

Co-coordinated by the **Eberly Center** and the **Undergraduate Research Office (URO)**, IMUR gathers a faculty cohort from across all CMU Schools/Colleges to imagine and implement inclusive, aspirational, and innovative undergraduate research experiences that are scalable and that open new opportunities for student learning and engagement. We are intentionally interpreting "undergraduate research" broadly -- anything that helps give undergraduates deliberate practice at developing essential skills for research or creative inquiry within or across disciplines. Fellows' projects unfold over three phases:

Phase 1: Invent

(Nov 2020-Apr 2021, bimonthly)

Fellows engage in exploratory design and planning sessions to further develop their undergraduate research model.

Phase 2: Implement

(May-Aug 2021, monthly)

Fellows implement their plans and collect data on impact, while continuing to meet with their cohort to exchange lessons learned and troubleshoot challenges.

Phase 3: Iterate

(Sept 2021-Dec 2021, monthly)

Fellows use the data collected in Phase 2 to iterate on their initial designs, with an increased focus on transferability and sustainability.

Fellows will be supported by their cohort as well as the **Eberly Center** and **URO** at all phases of the program.

Funding

Through the generous support of the **Arthur Vining Davis Foundation** and the **Porges Undergraduate Research Fund**, each Fellow will receive a **\$4,000 stipend** to attend regular meetings and work closely with **Eberly Center** and **URO** colleagues for the duration of the program to invent, implement (with a cohort of students), and iteratively refine their undergraduate research model. Additional funds will be provided contingent on the number of undergraduate students who participate in your innovative model.

Students	Funds added to \$4,000 stipend
5-10	\$1,000
11-20	\$3,500
21-25	\$6,000
>25	\$6,000 + TA support

Eligibility

Any full-time faculty member from any track is welcome to apply. **No previous experience leading undergraduate research is necessary**, and we encourage faculty from disciplines that do not historically conduct undergraduate research projects to apply!

Expectations

This three-phase fellowship program involves a regular commitment from the Fellows:

- attend monthly or bimonthly 60-90 minute meetings with the other Fellows from Fall 2020 through Fall 2021 (accommodations for remote meeting will be made),
- participate in asynchronous activities to support the monthly meetings,
- individually work with Eberly Center and URO team members,
- collect data on student outcomes (with Eberly's help),
- contribute materials and resources to the IMUR toolkit, and
- disseminate the project (or part thereof) to CMU colleagues.

www.cmu.edu/teaching/

Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence & Educational Innovation

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Carnegie Mellon University

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Applications

Include the following sections (with a maximum of 5 pages):

Please note: **We are intentionally interpreting "undergraduate research" broadly** -- anything that helps give undergraduate deliberate practice at developing essential skills for research or creative inquiry within a discipline.

- 1. Current opportunities for undergraduate research:** Description of current undergraduate research options for your discipline, if they exist. What are the limitations, especially regarding scalability and inclusion?
- 2. Model Description:** Articulate the nature, scope, and goals of a potential new model for undergraduate research that could work in your discipline. During Phase 1, you will have the opportunity to flesh out this model, or change models if another is a better fit. But we are looking for proactive and creative thinking about the space you want to explore that's relevant to your discipline. Some questions to consider:
 - Learning Outcomes: What are the goals for student learning/development? Why are these relevant?
 - Format: project-based, course-based, etc.
 - Timing and duration: How would this model play out within a typical semester? How long will it run?
 - Recruitment: How do you plan to recruit a diverse body of students? What prior knowledge or skills are required? What language can be used to ensure students from a variety of backgrounds can recognize that they are a good fit?
 - Mentorship: How, specifically, will students be mentored by you during the course of the research?
 - Sustainability: Can this model be repeated? Can it scale to larger numbers of students?
 - Creativity/Innovation: How could this differ from the current modes of undergraduate research? (See item 1)
- 3. Expected Outcomes:** How will students benefit from participating in this model of undergraduate research? How will your project improve student learning of research skills?
- 4. Professional Development:** What are your expectations for this program? Specifically, what do you wish to gain from interacting with a cohort of faculty Fellows and from collaborating with Eberly consultants on your project?
- 5. Feasibility:** What will you or your students require to do the proposed project (e.g. equipment, space, etc.)? To what extent are they available and already in place? If not, what is your plan for securing them?

If you have questions about the application or the fellowship, email jstimson@andrew.cmu.edu

Applicants may request a consultation with an Eberly colleague on their project idea prior to submitting a proposal.

Submissions

Submit your application as an email attachment to eberly-ctr@andrew.cmu.edu:

1. Submit a **.pdf** file.
2. Name your file **LASTNAME_IMUR.pdf**
3. Subject of your email should be: **Innovative Models for Undergraduate Research Application**

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