



Undergraduate research is a high-impact practice that enhances student engagement, retention, completion, and success.

University of Alaska Fairbanks
Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity (URSA)
Annual Report AY 2018-19

The mission of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity (URSA), which was established

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Major Accomplishments

1.1 URSA Administration

- a. Trent Sutton, UAF FOS Department of Fisheries continues as the URSA Director (18% of time year-round).
- b. Kate Pendleton continues to serve as the title URSA Coordinator during the academic year and title during the summer.
- c. The URSA Faculty Advisory Board was expanded to include the following UAF faculty: Brian Healy and Charles Mason from College of Liberal Arts (CLA), Josh Lupinek from School of Management (SOM), Carie Green and JoAnne Healy from School of Education (SOE), Steffi Ickert-Bond and Kris Hundertmark from College of Natural Science and Mathematics (CNSM), Sunwoo Kim and Sveta Stuefer from College of Engineering and Mining (CEM), David Valentine and David Verbyla from School of Natural Resources and Extension (SNRE), Andrew Seitz from College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (FOS), Anshul Pandaya from College of Rural and Community Development (CRCDC), and Alexandra Fitts UAF Vice-Provost.
- d. An URSA Student Advisory Board members include the following UAF undergraduates: Cole Berne from School of Management (SOM), Jeremy Thomas from College of Natural Science and Mathematics (CNSM), Noah Khals from College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (FOS), Sierra Vonhatter from

semester and around an URSA application deadline date). URSA has not tracked or followed up with these ad hoc advisees because they do not all apply for funding and, as a result, are not entered into the database.

4. Student Tracking and Project Cataloging

- a. The URSA database currently has 2,335 UAF undergraduates that have been involved in research and creative activity since its creation in 2012.
- b. The 2013-2014 UAF accreditation report stated that 41% of UAF undergraduate students have participated in an academic research experience over the course of their baccalaureate studies. Further, 205 students in the URSA database support that quantification of undergraduate student participation in research. Not included in the accreditation documents and not yet included in the URSA database are undergraduate students who are employed as (e) 1 () 4

that can participate on a review panel). However, both groups are essential for disseminating URSA information and increase the understanding of URSA funding policies and processes for all interested faculty, staff, and students at UAF. A new addition two years ago was the creation of a Student Advisory Board that meets once each semester to discuss policy initiatives and opportunities from the student perspective. The Student Advisory Board consisted of one student representative from each school or college, and the feedback that these individuals contributed was unique in providing the student perspective and perception on the implementation

were administered through an EvaluateUR dashboard. The results of this outcomes assessment program will be available fall 2019 semester and the URSA staff will evaluate the results, discuss them with the student and mentor participants, and discuss with the Provost's Office whether this initiative should be continued and expanded to include the fall and spring pr

Table 1

College/ School	Department/ Unit	Apps	Awards	Dollar Amt.
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