



Teaching Matters

April 22, 2020

Office of the Vice Provost for Instruction

A note from the Vice Provost

Dear Faculty,

We know Teaching Matters. And we also know that sometimes in typical and ordinary teaching spaces that our students and faculty, working together, inspire each other to new and extraordinary levels of performance, knowledge, and a sense of being. That type of enlightened moment is for many of us a goal for each lesson. We most often miss it, but sometimes we get it right. In this newsletter, we highlight three programs at our University where we intentionally design opportunities for inspiration for both students and faculty. We thought it might be a nice change of pace to take this moment and remember some of the work we do really well, and even at a distance. Dr. Sadenwasser is our Director of the Honors Program. Dr. Davis leads the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship. Ms. Maria Darley is our Director of Study Abroad. I enjoy each of these fine people and I celebrate their contributions to our community at Augusta University. Their leadership matters!



Sincerely,

Zach Kelehear

Study Abroad and Study Away Opportunities for Faculty



Deadline for Proposals Extended to May 1st

The Office of Study Abroad is accepting proposals for study abroad and study away programs to run in Fall 2020, Spring 2021 and Summer 2021. The deadline has been extended to May 1st.



USG Mini-Grants for Education Abroad

The USG International Education office is announcing the availability of **five \$2,000 International Education Grants**. Note that the availability of funds is expected at this time, but this is subject to change pending final budget approval.

USG Goes Global

Faculty and Program Director Applications for Summer 2021

USG Goes Global (USGG) is looking for faculty to teach in summer 2021. Any eligible USG faculty are welcome to apply to teach undergraduate courses on the 2021 study abroad programs. Teaching Faculty Application is now live!



Honors Program Highlights



Honors Program Objective

Beyond the classroom experience, the AU Honors Program engages our students in activities to enhance their undergraduate education and help them compete for scholarships, fellowships, internships, and places in the nation's top graduate and professional schools.



Impact of the Honors Program

Honors students are a diverse representation of undergraduates at AU and take their scholarly and creative work all over the nation. This year the Honors Program funded 11 students to present their original work at state, and 12 at regional or national conferences.

News from CURS



A Year of Firsts

CURS expanded our reach this year. In our eleven years we have long supported faculty mentored undergraduate research, but are proud of several 'firsts' this academic year including new student grants, faculty mentor awards, and students presenting their research to a virtual audience.



Serving the University Mission

By working side by side to create, problem solve, write, and discover together, students become junior colleagues and learn side by side with mentors, fulfilling the missions of research, discovery and education.

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Deadline for Proposals Extended to May 1st

The Office of Study Abroad is accepting proposals for study abroad and study away programs to run in Fall 2020, Spring 2021 and Summer 2021. The deadline has been extended to May 1st.

Completed proposals include the proposal form, contact hours, budget, a syllabus for each course within the program and an itinerary. New and reoccurring programs need to be submitted in this format.

Study Abroad proposals are for credit-bearing and clinical experiences outside of the United States, while Study Away proposals are for credit-bearing experiences within the United States.

Conversations about these proposals should start in your department, as they will require signatures from your chair, appropriate committees and the dean's office before coming to the study abroad committee, but the Study Abroad office is available to help with additional questions. If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please allow enough time to secure the signatures needed before the deadline.

For more information about the proposal process or these programs, contact Maria Darley, Director of Study Abroad at mdarley@augusta.edu.



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USG Mini-Grants for Education Abroad

The USG International Education office is announcing the availability of **five \$2,000 International Education Grants**. Note that the availability of funds is expected at this time, but the International Education Grant proposals are open to a broad range of topics, but are in place to assist individual USG campuses in the development of Study Abroad (including). There are 4 categories:

1. Embedded Study Abroad (2 grants available)
2. USG Goes Global
3. International Student Retention
4. International Virtual Exchange

Only one proposal per institution, per category will be accepted. If you have an idea that you would like to explore, please contact [Maria Darley](#), the director of study abroad, to discuss. The application deadline to the USG is June 1, 2020 and funds will be disbursed in FY 21.

Full information is available on the USG website: [USG International Education Grant](#)



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USG Goes Global

Faculty and Program Director Applications for Summer 2021

USG Goes Global (USGG) is looking for faculty to teach for the summer of 2021. Currently, the Teaching Faculty Application is now live. Any eligible USG faculty are welcome to apply to teach undergraduate courses on the 2021 study abroad programs. The application can be accessed at <https://usg-goes-global.via-trm.com/visitor/programs/9762>. Full eligibility information & instructions can be found on the program page & application. Faculty are required to create a Via TRM profile to complete the application. Any questions can be directed to Margaret Mullins at margaret.mullins@usg.edu or global@usg.edu. Applicants should read through all instructions on the "USGG Programs: Faculty Application" program page & the "2021 Faculty Application" page.



Important: Applicants should only apply to the "USGG Programs: Faculty Application" program under the 2021 Faculty Application. It is the applicants' responsibility to notify approvers & recommenders that they will receive an email directly from the Via TRM application system to approve/recommend their applications (so be sure to notify them to check spam/junk as these approval requests will come from an unfamiliar email address).

USGG expects to run study abroad programs to the following locations in 2021: [China](#), [Edinburgh](#) (2 two-week sessions), [Germany](#), [London](#), [Madrid](#), [Paris](#), [Porto](#), [Waterford](#), & [Vietnam](#). If you wish to propose a new USGG program, please reach out to the appropriate [WRC Chair](#) & [USG Goes Global staff](#) (margaret.mullins@usg.edu or tammy.rosner@usg.edu).

Also, if you have participated in a previous European Council program, you are eligible to apply to be a director of one of the locations. Currently, 4 of our 9 USG Goes Global programs (Germany, London, Madrid, & Waterford) are at the end of their director terms. Contact Margaret for more information on how to apply.

Further information on USG Goes Global can be found at <https://www.usg.edu/usggoesglobal>. You may also contact Maria Darley, the Director of the Study Abroad program at Augusta University at mdarley@augusta.edu.

The application deadline for both the faculty and program director application has been extended to May 1st, 2020 at midnight.

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Honors Program Objective



The Augusta University Honors Program provides all motivated and high-achieving students the opportunity to enhance their undergraduate education. Honors students start the program by taking small classes taught by some of our best professors, but beyond the classroom experience, we engage our students in activities to enhance their undergraduate education and help them compete for scholarships, fellowships, internships, and places in the nation's top graduate and professional schools. We help students conduct independent research or creative activity with experts in their fields, we assist and guide them as they turn their work into honors theses, and we fund them to present their work at state, regional, and national conferences.

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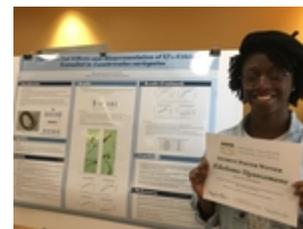


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Impact of the Honors Program



HP Students: Who are they?

Take a look at who are students are and where they come from.

- 115 HP graduates since 2015-16
- 30 HP graduates in 2019-20
- HP graduates represent 12 majors across 4 colleges
- HP faculty advisers represent 7 colleges and centers

HP Accolades: Students Represent AU on the National Stage

- 414 student presentations at academic and professional conference since 2015
- 45 presentations at the national honors conference
 - Acceptance rate of 97.8% at national conference (compared to overall rate of 65%)
- Presentations at 25 different professional conferences and publications in 7 different professional, peer-reviewed journals
- 7 National poster presentation awards

HP Graduates: Our Graduates Go Places

We're proud to announce that the 2019-20 honors graduates have been accepted to the following programs:

- Augusta University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program
- Augusta University's Master of Arts in Intelligence and Security Studies (MAISS) program
- Augusta University's MEd in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program
- Dental College of Georgia
- Florida State University's Masters in Higher Education program
- Medical College of Georgia
- Mercer University's School of Medicine
- University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine

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A Year of Firsts

Fall 2019 CURS awarded our first **Student Travel Grants**. While travel funds are competitive no matter who you are, CURS specifically seeks to enhance opportunities for students to conduct and present their scholarly work. We awarded 15 students travel grants to go places such as the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatrists in Chicago IL, the Wildlife Society National Meeting in Reno, Nevada and to perform an original play at Louisiana State University.



CURS also instituted a new award for research and scholarship mentors. Our **High Five My Faculty Award** is a way that student researchers can nominate deserving faculty mentors for their guidance in scholarship and professional development. We were pleased to give out 7 High Five My Faculty Awards this year and the accompanying Blue Ribbon to excellent examples of research mentors. This is one more way we help students say Thank You to the amazing people who simultaneously provide our students with challenge and compassion.

CURS also hosted our **first Virtual Research Week**. This one, due to our orders to shelter in place, allowed students to share their research and faculty to connect with research veterans about research skills via WebEx. While we're not opposed to distance education, we hope to hand out some awards and be in the same room as our student presenters shaking hands next spring!

This summer we will host our **first virtual Summer Scholars Program**. Check out the [CURS Newsletter](#) for a complete list of participants.

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Serving the University Mission

CURS serves the university missions of integrating active education with our research and scholarly activities of faculty. Faculty from all of our colleges work with undergraduates on independent and faculty led research. These mentorship opportunities offer students some of the most valuable education they receive during their collegiate career. By working side by side to create, problem solve, write, and discover together, students become junior colleagues and learn side by side with mentors. Whether this occurs on the stage, in a math lab, collecting cultural data in the field, or in a more traditional bench science laboratory, our students have endless opportunities to seek more knowledge outside the classroom. CURS supports these endeavors through grants, a student speaker series, summer program, undergraduate research fair, socials and more. If you would like more information on how CURS can assist your department or you as a faculty researcher, please contact CURS@augusta.edu.

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