



UROOP Newsletter

Official Newsletter of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities
Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Office Information

- Current location: Hawai'i Hall 127
- Office hours: 10:00am-3:00pm, M-F
- To schedule an appointment, please email us 24 hours in advance
- Desks and meeting spaces available during office hours

Campus Resources

Counseling and Student
Development Center
956-7927 | QLC 312

Office of Title IX
956-2299 | Hawai'i Hall 124

UHM Safety Escort
956-SAFE (7233)

University Health Services
956-8965 | 1710 East-West Rd.

Financial Aid
956-7251 | QLC 112

LGBTQ Center
956-9250 | QLC 211

New Opportunities

Summer Undergraduate Research Experience

This summer, UROP is launching the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE). SURE is a FREE, 9-week program for undergraduate students in any discipline conducting research and creative work under the mentorship of UHM faculty this summer. The SURE provides program infrastructure like organized professional development modules and social activities. Students can build professional and academic skills while actively engaging in research and creative work projects. Modules are held once every two weeks on topics like how to explore graduate school programs, how to give quality presentations, and more. The program concludes with the end-of-summer SURE Symposium on August 2!

In 2018, UROP piloted the SURE with the SURE Symposium. The event was a big success, thanks to our partners: Institute for Astronomy REU, Earth Sciences on Volcanic Islands REU, and Biodiversity REU. We showcased 13 oral presentations and 46 poster presentations from both UHM and non-UHM students. Nearly 200 people attended the 2-day event. We hope to make 2019 even bigger and better!

The 2019 SURE schedule is as follows:

- Week 1 (6/7): Initial kickoff celebration
- Week 3 (6/21): How to identify and apply to graduate schools
- Week 5 (7/5): Community engagement field trip to Lyon Arboretum
- Week 7 (7/19): How to prepare for oral and poster presentations
- Week 9 (8/2): SURE Symposium

Go to our website to register now!

[Register here!](#)

Faculty Mentoring Grants

UROP recently launched its inaugural Request for Proposals (RFP) for Faculty Mentoring Grants in an effort to increase undergraduate student participation in research and creative work opportunities during the summer. The RFP was a huge success! We received 30 proposals requesting a total of \$263,736 to support 62 undergraduate students. With \$75,000 in available funding, choosing recipients from the high quality pool of applicants was a particularly difficult decision. We greatly appreciate the time and effort our faculty dedicate to mentoring undergraduate students!



Douglas S. Yamamura Scholarship

UROP is honored to present the Douglas S. Yamamura Scholarship to outstanding undergraduate students, enrolled in any field of study, who are engaged in research and creative work initiatives. The scholarship was established with a generous endowment from the estate of Paul T. Yamamura, in order to support scholarly research at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Each semester, UROP considers all project funding applicants for the prestigious scholarship. Staff members select the best STEM, and the best non-STEM student or student group to receive the scholarship. In an effort to support continued education of local students, strong preference is shown to undergraduate students who have graduated from high school in Hawai'i.

2019 Scholarship Recipient: Camryn Shiroma



Camryn Shiroma

This semester's recipient for a non-STEM project is Camryn Shiroma. Her project, "Classical Culture in Hawaiian Education (1778 – 1893)," examines the impact of classical culture on Hawaiian society from the first arrival of Europeans in 1778, through the end of the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893. Camryn studies Classics at UH Mānoa and is mentored by Dr. Daniel Harris-McCoy. Camryn is a graduate of Mililani High School on O'ahu. "This is a huge step for me in my lifetime goal of conducting scholarly research and working in academia." - Camryn

A Message From the UROP Director

Dr. Creighton M. Litton

Aloha mai kākou! In support of UROP's mission to coordinate and provide opportunities for undergraduate students from all disciplines across campus to engage in research and creative work scholarship, we are pleased to highlight a number of exciting initiatives in this issue of the UROP Newsletter. **First**, we will be hosting the first Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program in Summer 2019, a program for all undergraduate students from all disciplines that are conducting faculty mentored research and creative work on campus in the summer, and we invite all students to join us for SURE this summer (page 1). Associated with SURE, we just wrapped up the inaugural faculty funding opportunity to mentor undergraduate students in the summer, which was a huge success (page 2). **We are also** very excited to roll out our new social media campaign (page 3) and student opportunity database (page 3), both of which strike at the core of our mission by providing up-to-date information on new and ongoing opportunities, activities and developments in our office. Please scan the QR codes and stay connected with UROP! **Finally**, we report on several undergraduate student presentation venues held on campus in Spring 2019, including the Undergraduate Showcase Event that was the largest ever for our campus (page 5). We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Honors Program to grow this event even more moving forward. On a more personal note, we wish our longtime program assistant, Jasmine Samiere, all of the best as she embarks on the next phase of her professional career post-graduation. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming UROP events and activities, and we hope to see you on campus this summer!



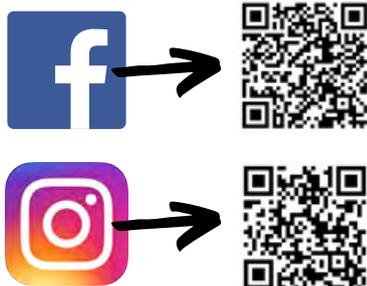
Dr. Creighton M. Litton

Connect to UROP on Social Media

On March 4, 2019, UROP launched its first-ever Facebook and Instagram accounts! This effort to reach more members of the UHM community has been long-in-the-making, beginning with a search for a new Communications Assistant in January 2019. In February we selected a qualified candidate, who quickly took to the task of launching UROP's social media accounts. Our assistant reached out to hundreds of UROP funding applicants, surveying them about which social media platforms would best serve the community. Sixty-eight students provided critical feedback. Of these students, 68% had active Facebook accounts and 78% had active Instagram accounts. Seventy-five percent said they used social media several times a day! Mahalo to our survey respondents!



Search
@UROP.UHM
or scan the QR
codes to
connect!



Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on:

- Student & faculty highlights
- Program updates
- Upcoming deadlines
- New opportunities

Introducing the Student Opportunity Center

UROP is very excited to announce that the Student Opportunity Center (SOC) is now available to all UHM undergraduate students, faculty, and staff!

[Sign up here!](#)

WHAT IS SOC? The SOC is a third-party website that curates thousands of opportunities listings, including: undergraduate research and creative work opportunities, internships and co-ops, conferences, seminars, publication outlets, and more! This will soon replace UROP's "Opportunities" webpage.



Student
Opportunity
Center

WHAT IS SOC FOR? For years, students have cited difficulty in searching for opportunities as a barrier to engaging in research and creative work activities. UROP has subscribed to SOC in order to better serve undergraduate students, potential faculty mentors, and staff at UHM. The website provides thousands of opportunities from a diversity of fields, for students at any stage of their research and creative work endeavors. The SOC also allows faculty to advertise their own opportunities to UHM students, directly on the website!

HOW DOES IT WORK? You can access the site by visiting StudentOpportunityCenter.com and creating an account with your valid @hawaii.edu email address. The subscription grants access to the Mānoa campus only.

National Database

Students: Search to find thousands of:

- Undergraduate research and creative work opportunities
- Conferences, seminars, workshops
- Publishing opportunities
- Internships, Co-ops

UHM Database (coming soon!)

Students: This database will be your one-stop shop for finding on-campus, faculty-generated listings! More opportunities coming soon!

Faculty: Instructions for posting opportunities to SOC are coming to the UROP website soon. Email Jessieqc@hawaii.edu if you would like to post an opportunity now.

Undergraduate Student Spotlight

Makena Duffy & Briana Smith

Makena and Briana were a part of the production of the short film entitled "Not So Crazy Quilt." This film centers on two Native Hawaiian main characters, an elderly aunty and her young nephew, who spend the day at a Hawaiian quilting club. Makena, the director of this film, alongside Briana, the assistant

director, had the opportunity to revise the script, cast the film, shoot the film, and edit the footage, all within a given time-frame. Their film was significant because it touched on several important topics in the final version of the script, including family drama, heritage, and inter-generational conflict.

Pictured: Makena Duffy (bottom center holding clapperboard) and Briana Smith (far right in the top row, smiling) with film crew



"It was a great experience to be able to help make a film that centers on the culture and values of Hawaii'i. Our cast and crew were all local, so it was great to support one another in this endeavor." - Briana Smith



Mahalo, Jasmine!

We bid Jasmine Samiere farewell, as she moves on to her new job after graduation. Jasmine has been UROP's program assistant for the past 3 years, and was often the first face students saw when visiting the office. She graduated with her Master's degree in Public Administration in May 2019. Her favorite part about her UROP job was facilitating student development through assisting with the UROP application process. She loved to see the ingenious ideas that students proposed. Mahalo, Jasmine!

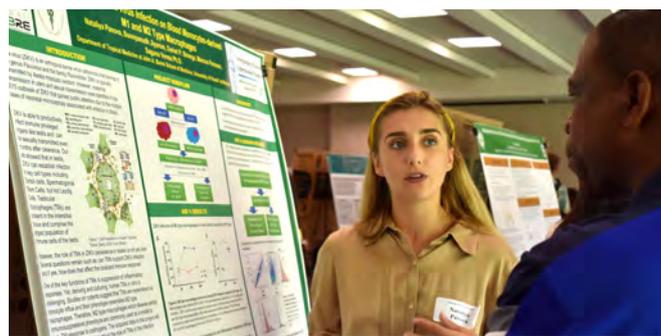
Undergraduate Presentation Venues

Spring 2019 Undergraduate Showcase

The Undergraduate Showcase is a biannual event hosted by UROP and the Honors Program. The Spring 2019 Showcase on May 3 was the largest in recorded history, with a record-breaking 175 students presenting their work! The free event was held at the East-West Center to a crowd of about 275 attendees. This year's event showed a boost in numbers from several sources. Nearly 30 students who entered the Library Treasures Video Shorts competition presented at the Showcase. Both UROP and the Honors program were also pleased to provide funds for poster printing, thereby increasing the number of poster presentations. We hope to continue growing the event in the future!

Event Statistics:

- 28 poster presentations
- 92 oral presentations
- 175 individual presenters
- 275 attendees
- 36 majors represented



Above: A poster presenter explains her project to an interested attendee.

2019 Tester's Symposium

Event Statistics:

- 19 UG poster presentations
- 13 UG oral presentations
- 9 departments represented, 3 by UG alone
- 170 attendees at closing banquet at Waikīkī Aquarium

The Tester Symposium was another success! Sixty graduate and 33 undergraduate (UG) students showed off their research in the biological sciences. This year's goal was to encourage broader undergraduate participation from a larger range of departments. UROP was happy to facilitate this goal by providing free printing to UG poster presenters. This year's event implemented zero-waste practices by providing reusable cups and utensils, minimizing printing, and increasing awareness. Well done!

2019 CTAHR Student Research Symposium

The 2019 CTAHR Student Research Symposium on April 15 showed off some big changes, for the better! Traditionally held at the Agricultural Sciences Building, this year's event moved to the Campus Center Ballroom. This new venue was more easily accessible to the public. This fit well with the goal of better communicating science, research, and creative works to a broader audience. With over 200 guests in attendance, CTAHR did a great job meeting its goal!

Event Statistics:

- 19 UG oral presentations
- 200 attendees
- \$20,000 awarded



Above: A student presents to a crowded room of over 25 attendees

Highlighted Opportunities

Singapore Summer Program

- Program 1: Exploring New Space Technologies & Application
 - Date: Jul 8 - 19, 2019
- Program 2: Design Thinking for a Better Designed World
 - Date: Jul 22 - 26, 2019

<http://bit.ly/2VxmNs0>

General Smithsonian Internship

- Options for business and public administration, history, art, science, culture, and education
- For someone seeking a guided learning opportunity related to their academic or professional goals
- Deadlines:
 - Fall Semester (Sept - Dec): Jul 15
 - Spring Semester (Jan - May): Nov 15
 - Summer Semester (May - Aug): Mar 15

<https://www.smithsonianofi.com/internship-opportunities/general-smithsonian-internship-pool/>

The Bert and Vonnie Turner Research Grant Fund at Lyon Arboretum

- Grants to assist UHM students conducting research at Lyon Arboretum
- for research related to biology, propagation, and conservation of Hawai'i's native plants
- must be enrolled full-time pursuing degree in CNS or CTAHR
- Deadline: May 24, 2019

<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/undergrad/urop/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Bert-and-Vonnie-Turner-Fund.pdf>

Hawai'i Space Grant

- Grants to assist UHM students conducting research at Lyon Arboretum
- for research related to biology, propagation, and conservation of Hawai'i's native plants
- must be enrolled full-time pursuing degree in CNS or CTAHR
- Deadline: May 24, 2019

<http://www.spacegrant.hawaii.edu/fellowships.html>

UROP Project Funding

- Funding available for UHM undergraduate students or students groups to work on research or creative work projects
- Create a graphic novel, write a play, or model climate change. Design your own project!
- Must be mentored by eligible UHM faculty
- Get funded up to:
 - \$5000 per individual
 - \$10000 per group
- Application cycles:
 - Fall: Sept 9 - Oct 10
 - Spring: Feb 2 - March 3

<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/undergrad/urop/about-project-funding/>

UROP Presentation Funding

- Funding available for UHM undergraduate students or students groups to present ongoing or completed research or creative work at local, national, and international professional venues
- Must be accepted to present or perform at a professional venue
- Get funded up to:
 - \$2000 per individual
 - \$4000 per pair
 - \$5000 per group
- Deadline: 1st of each month by 5:00 pm

<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/undergrad/urop/presentation-funding/about-presentation-funding/>

For more opportunities, visit:

UROP Opportunities Page*

<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/undergrad/urop/find-opportunities/>

Student Opportunity Center (UHM Database portion in progress)

<https://www.studentopportunitycenter.com/>

**will be phased out and replaced with Student Opportunity Center soon*



Undergraduate Research
Opportunities Program

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa



Student
Opportunity
Center