

## Institutionalize Student Research Integrative Excellence Strategic Initiative Task Force

CI will institutionalize Student Research by increasing support for infrastructure, funding and opportunities for research activity and presenting research. Student Research will cooperate closely with Student Affairs, Foundation, Communication, and Academic Affairs. (Strategic Plan Priorities: Facilitate Student Success and Provide High Quality Education)

Among the action items associated with this proposal are:

- Create a Center for Student Research
- Invest permanent funding for existing Student Research initiatives including general fund for research-related student travel, and begin to institutionalize OLAS funding
- Add an advisor to the Center for Student Research to promote major scholarship opportunities (e.g., CSU Doctoral, Goldwater, Truman, etc.) and help prepare students to apply for these opportunities
- Work with the Writing and Multiliteracy Center to prepare students for conferences
- Collaborate with the Graduate Studies Center to improve diversity in the graduate school pipeline
- Work with the Broome Library to create a Digital Scholarship Lab
- Assume responsibility for the SAGE Student Research Conference
- Coordination among capstone and research classes in programs across the schools
- Support one first year learning community per Academic Year
- Continue funding for SPIRaL and UNIV 498 programs
- Preserve and institutionalize the Summer SURF faculty-mentored student research program
- Create funded and unfunded professional development opportunities for faculty involved in student research
- Work with the Foundation to identify support from external constituencies
- Coordinate with enrollment management to promote opportunities to potential students
- Continue to develop [Student Research](#) website, monthly newsletters for faculty, a semester newsletter for students, monthly student-faculty research lunches.

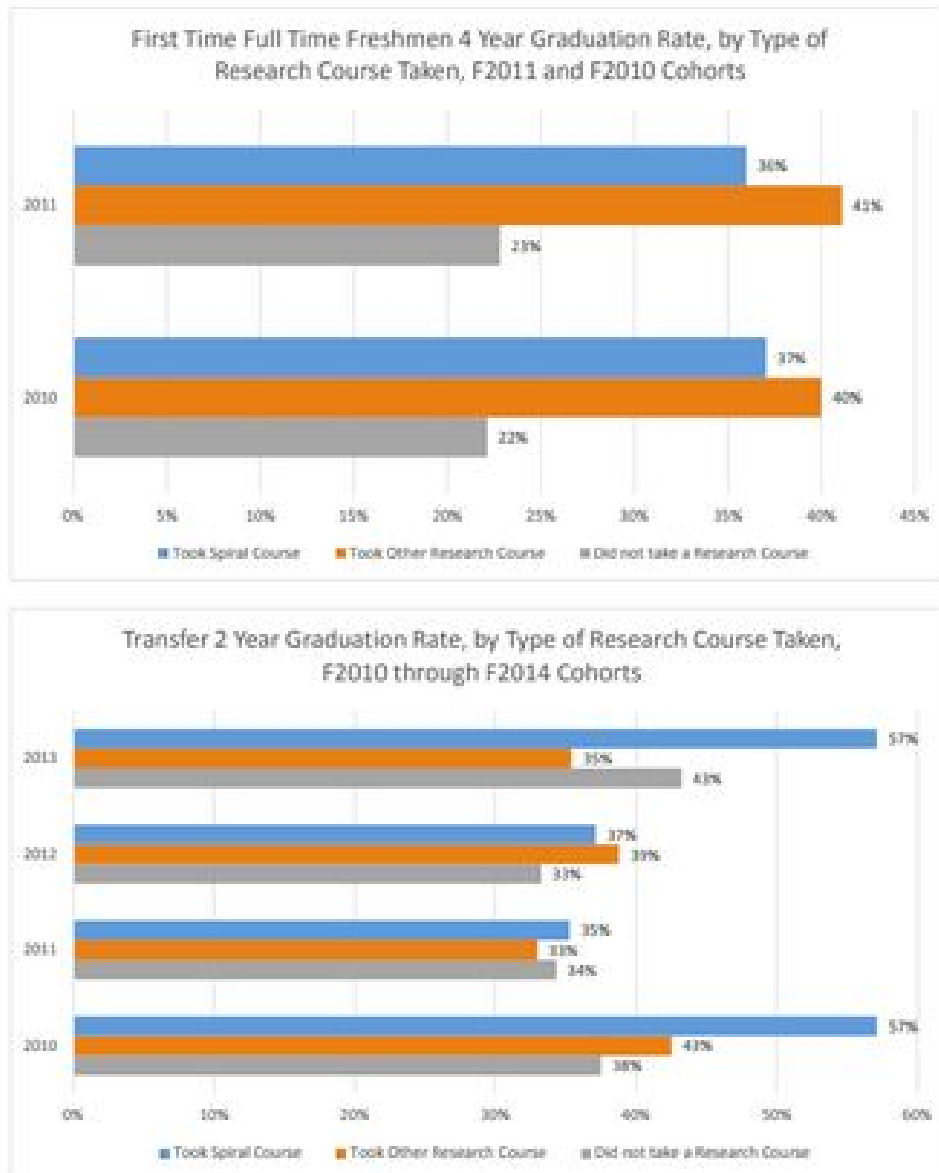
### **1. What population or populations does this project serve to impact in Spring 2018? Fall 2018 and/ or beyond?**

Established as an interdisciplinary resource, Student Research supports students across all disciplines, including students in graduate programs. Currently, about one in five students benefits from a student research experience during their time at CI.

### **2. What is the data or evidence that we will examine to gauge the effectiveness of the project?**

Data from SPIRAL Program and Student Success (2010-14) demonstrate that both first-time full-time freshman students and transfer students take less time to graduate if they took a Spiral course and had higher GPAs than those who did not take any research class.

#### Graduation Rates



We have a demonstrated high level of student involvement in research. For instance, about 1,500 students have participated in the SAGE conference over the last nine years. An average of 100 students attend the SCCUR conference annually.

According to a survey of CI alums conducted in 2017, 94% of respondents responded that they would encourage current students to pursue a faculty-mentored research experience. Ninety-three percent rated their research experience as “good” or “excellent.” Among

respondents, 84% of students who conducted research with faculty presented their research at a conference.

One respondent related the value of their research by stating that “Doing research as an undergrad really helped solidify what I was learning in the classroom. I used what I learned in the classroom in the lab and it helped me better understand certain biology concepts. Doing research helped me develop as a student and as a person because it helped me with communication and presentation skills. It also helped me tremendously when I interviewed for my current job.” Another commented that “It is the part of my college life I look back most fondly upon. I do not believe I would have enjoyed my time there as much without it.”

Metrics that will be used to determine success of this Strategic Initiative will include:

1. Increase in the number of faculty who participate in student research activities including SURF and the Sage Research Conference by 15%.
2. Increase SURF opportunities for students by 20% by the end of academic year 2018-2019.
3. Increase the number of students who participate in the Sage Research Conference by 20% each year through academic year 2019-2020.
4. The graduation GPA of students who participate in student research activities such as SPIRaL and SURF will be 0.25 points higher than counterparts who do not take a research course.
5. Among students who participate in student research activities (SURF, SPIRaL, UNIV 498, Research Lab), time to graduation will be 0.5 years shorter than counterparts who do not take a research course.

**3. What is the implementation timeline? Include budget and/or allocation determination.**

Semester/ Year	Initiative	Budget
Spring 2018	Propose Student Research Center to Academic Senate	
	Assume organization of the SAGE Conference (in-progress)	
May 2018	SAGE Student Research Conference	
	Submit MSFT for Digital Research Lab	
Summer 2018	Expand Summer SURF Scholars Program, faculty and student stipends and Island trip expenses	\$20,000

	Build collaborations with Graduate Studies and Writing and Multiliteracy Centers	
Fall 2018	First-year SURF Learning Community under Integrative Mission Pillar	
	Establish General Fund student travel fund	\$5,000/yr
	Implement Graduate Studies Center & Writing Multiliteracy Center collaborations	
	Provide funding for a Student Research faculty lead (course reduction and Summer Stipend for coordinating the Summer SURF program)	\$9,000/yr
Spring 2019	Begin work on Digital Research Lab	
	Integrative Pillar SURF Learning Community continues	
Fall 2019	Current Staff Coordinator transitions to full-time, stateside	\$45,000/yr + benefits
	Hire Major Scholarship Advisor	\$50,000/yr + benefits

**4. Who (person, unit, etc.) will be responsible for implementing, tracking, and evaluating this project?**

AVP Academic Programs and Planning, Undergraduate Studies Administrator, Student Research Advisory Group, Student Research faculty lead

**5. What groups and/or individuals provided input during the development of this proposal?**

Student Research Advisory Committee, SURF Faculty Fellows, SURF Student Fellows, CIS Director, CI Alumni, Faculty Senate, Student Government Senators, Student Affairs staff, Business and Finance Division staff, University Advancement Staff, SASEI, Arts and Sciences Chairs, Deans and AVP, Town Hall

**6. If successful, how could or should this project be scaled up?**

As the campus grows, the core programs associated with student research can grow with additional growth funding.

