

UPDATE – September, 2020: Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Continuity Guidance

Dear Colleagues,

A hallmark of a UW-Eau Claire education is the opportunity to engage in undergraduate research and the Blugold Flight Plan aims to ensure that transformative experiences can occur in a safe manner.

Researchers and collaborative research projects should continue to follow the safety procedures for research continuity that were established this June in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, returning students digitally signed the Fly Right Pledge to protect themselves, protect others, and protect the Blugold Community and researchers can reinforce with students the three W's: wear your mask, watch your distance, and wash your hands—both on and off campus.

In a very real sense, this shared responsibility to each other's health and well-being is a systematic extension of UW-Eau Claire's commitment to excellence.

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) recognized excellence at UW-Eau Claire in 2016 with a campus-wide award for exemplary programs providing high-quality research experiences to undergraduates and this year CUR conferred individual awards upon three exceptional faculty mentors:

- April Bleske-Rechek, professor of psychology – Mid-Career Mentoring Award
- Carolyn Otto, associate professor of mathematics – Mid-Career Mentoring Award
- Jim Phillips, professor and chair of chemistry – Outstanding Mentorship Award

Whether student-faculty collaborative research projects occur this year in-person, remotely, or in a hybrid manner, students are living the research experience – successes and frustrations alike – under the guidance of passionate mentors and are growing in remarkable ways, personally and professionally.

Though COVID-19 has forced a reduction in our in-person presence this year, [ORSP is open](#) and staff are available virtually to support proposal development and external submissions. ORSP's diverse internal funding programs are also still available to encourage research, scholarship, and creative activities.

Stay safe and be well.

Catherine Chan
Executive Director
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