



**CSUPERB CURES NETWORK
FALL 2020 MINI-SYMPOSIUM ON “VIRTUAL CURES IN TIMES OF CRISIS”
2020 REQUEST FOR ABSTRACTS**

www.calstate.edu/csuperb

KEY Dates & Information:

RFA Release Date: June 15, 2020

Abstract Due Date: July 20, 2020

Follow Up Call for Videos from Promising Abstracts: July 27, 2020

Video Due Date: August 10, 2020

Notification of Acceptance of Abstract and Video: August 24, 2020

Public Gallery Period for Accepted Abstracts and Videos: Sep. 21-25, 2020

Mini-symposium: Sep. 26, 2020

Program Description:

Studies showing the benefits of undergraduate research have led to national calls for institutions to engage more undergraduates in STEM research. Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs) deliver research instruction as part of the course curriculum, thus making these experiences more accessible and equitable. While some computer-based/bioinformatics CUREs may lend themselves to online instruction, many CUREs are designed and clearly optimally delivered as face-to-face laboratory courses. Disruptions from COVID-19 forced faculty teaching face-to-face CUREs to re-envision their curriculum. The gains made in modifying CUREs in Spring 2020 could be valuable in Fall 2020, and in future crisis-oriented disruptions triggering virtual class delivery. We invite faculty to share their experiences (positive and negative) adapting their CUREs for online instruction in a “mini-symposium” format. The topics for the “mini-symposium” will include: the state of knowledge about CURE instruction in the midst of COVID-19, innovations that may be incorporated into both online courses and more traditional courses in the future, attempted innovations that did not work well, and opportunities for future research and practice.

Abstracts for participation in this meeting should summarize and highlight specific CUREs course content that was innovated or modified in response to a move to online instruction in response to COVID-19 in Spring 2020. Following submission of the written abstract, applicants may receive a follow up “Call for Video” at which time they should create a short (two-minute) video in which a specific example of a course modification is highlighted and its purpose and impact explained. Following review of videos, successful applicants will be notified of their inclusion in the mini-symposium. Accepted submissions will be publicly available for view during the week of Sep. 21-25 and a small cohort of submissions (3-5) will be selected as panelists for the Sep. 26, 2020 Mini-symposium.

Written abstracts should contain:

- 500 characters or fewer
- A brief description of the original CURE research and/or learning goals
- A summary of the modifications to the CURE due to a switch to online instruction
- A brief description of the perceived impact (positive or negative) of the modification
- A brief description of what worked well and what could have been improved

Videos (If requested following written abstract submission):

- Highlights an example of your course modification
- Between two and five minutes long
- Prepared in the .mp4 format

Abstract Review Criteria:

- Description of course and course modification is clearly a CURE
- Abstract conforms to character lengths
- Abstract clearly articulates the bulleted list of attributes in the Program Description.
- Special consideration will be given to submissions for mini-symposium presentations that will directly involve students (as presenters and possible panelists)

Video Review Criteria:

- Video shows a specific example of a CURE course modification in the context of the corresponding written abstract
- The modification (vs. the original approach) of the CURE is clear
- CURE modification being shown is innovative (including unsuccessful attempted innovations)
- Video includes a discussion of the perceived impact (positive or negative) of the modification
- Video is between two and five minutes in length
- Video is in the .mp4 format
- Special consideration will be given to submissions that show/ directly involve students

Eligibility Criteria:

- Abstract must be submitted by a CSU faculty member
- CURE being described in abstract and on video was a CSU course offered in Spring 2020
- It is acceptable that the CURE being described involve faculty at non-CSU campuses as long as the CURE being described was contained within a CSU course offered in Spring 2020 and the course instructor was a CSU faculty member
- CSU students connected to the CURE course described in the submission are encouraged to be involved in the crafting of the abstracts and videos and delivery of presentations at the mini-symposium, but the CSU course instructor must submit the official abstract and video.