

2024-2025 Nominations + Elections

Everything you need to know.

CUR is looking for elected volunteer leaders from all institution types who are committed to supporting and promoting high-quality mentored undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative inquiry and advancing the strategic initiatives of CUR.

CUR members are encouraged to apply for available positions during the nominations window, which will open on October 15, 2024. Keep reading to learn everything you need to know about the 2024-2025 nominations and elections timeline and available positions. Interested in being considered, visit [CUR.org/elections](https://cur.org/elections) to submit your nomination.

“CUR offered me the guidance to lead my organization, at this point, from an organization where people were establishing offices to mature ways of thinking of undergraduate research as a high impact practice. They gave me a network of people, men + women across the country, that I learned from and worked with to be able to think of not only what we were doing as an institutions but think nationally about the model of undergraduate research.”



*Bethany Usher, PhD
Radford University
Immediate Past-President
NLDC Chair*

Qualifications

Successful candidates must demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- **Equipped leader:** An individual able to bring a set of demonstrated leadership experiences as servant leader, administrator, manager, or key contributor
- **Strategic Thinking:** Forward thinking leader, able to put what is best for the organization above all else
- **Capable mentor:** Experienced guide and supporter of others looking to advance their personal growth and development in areas connected to but not limited to undergraduate research
- **Communication:** Professional and effective communicators, experienced in difficult conversations and able to hear and disseminate community needs
- **Foresight:** Individuals able to look to the best interests of CUR into the future when discussing various issues impacting CUR members and higher education
- **Evidence-based decision making:** Informed decision maker, using evidence from assessment and literature to support the strategic objectives and ongoing priorities of CUR
- **Collaborative Spirit:** Team players making space for all voices to be heard, furthering the collective understanding of the group, and cultivating outcomes to best serve CUR and its membership

Success candidates for the CUR Presidential Path must also:

- Have prior service as a division chair, as a member on the BOD (previously Executive Board), or have had other leadership roles within CUR that have provided a broad perspective on the organization. Prior service on other nonprofit board, while not required, is a plus.
- Be familiar with CUR's strategic plan and goal areas and be prepared to provide leadership to move the strategic vision of the organization forward.
- Maintain a current membership with CUR and have the considerable time and interest to serve the larger CUR community in this role. Preparation and attendance at BOD trainings and meetings is mandatory. Attendance at other CUR events may be required.
- Have support from their home institutions for the time and effort required for regular meetings and events, and other issues as they arise throughout their term in the CUR President cycle.
- NOT be a member of the CUR Nominations and Leadership Development Committee during their nomination or election.

Submissions

*Qualified candidates should submit their self-nomination and supporting materials via the appropriate link on the [CUR Nominations and Elections webpage](#) by **December 1, 2024 at 11:59pm Eastern**.*

Partial submissions will not be reviewed. The nomination form will require the following materials:

- Nominee information (full name, institution, link to any website with any relevant supplemental information: e.g., CV, LinkedIn page, Biography on campus website, other websites)
- An abbreviated 4-page CV highlighting professional accomplishments with respect to undergraduate research;
- A description of your leadership experience both within CUR and extramural and how they qualify you to serve in the CUR Presidential Path. (1 page maximum)



Board of Directors - Presidential Path

Governance Body:	Board of Directors
Position Start Date:	June 1, 2025
Committment Length:	2025-2026 (Treasurer) 2026-2027 (President-Elect) 2027-2028 (President) 2028-2029 (Immediate Past-President)
Availability:	One Position Open

About the Position

CUR is seeking a strategic member with strong leadership skills to serve in the CUR Presidential Path, which is an elected volunteer leadership role that serves a four-year term with a stepped rotation of: Treasurer (year one), President-Elect (year two), President (year three), and Immediate Past President (year four).

Individuals in the CUR Presidential Path serve as officers of the Board of Directors (BOD) and as members of the Executive Committee. The BOD is the highest governance leadership body of CUR, holds fiduciary responsibility for CUR, and implements the strategic direction to advance the organization. The BOD meets quarterly through video conference, in-person annually, and engages regularly via virtual means between meetings. The Executive Committee meets regularly in between BOD meetings.

Each of the roles in the CUR Presidential Path have their own set of specific responsibilities and requires visibility and interfacing with CUR members and stakeholders as a CUR ambassador. In addition to serving on the BOD and Executive Committee, individuals in the CUR Presidential Path have the following key chair roles during their term:

- **1st year: Treasurer** – serve as chair of the Finance Committee and a member on the Council
- **2nd year: President-elect** – serve as chair of the Council
- **3rd year: President** – serves as chair of the BOD and chair of the Executive Committee
- **4th year: Immediate Past-President** – serves as chair of the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee

Candidates should review the [Board of Directors Handbook](#) in full to learn more about the responsibilities for this role prior to submitting a nomination.

Board members are expected to operate in alignment with CUR's Core Values and support the development and execution of CUR's strategic plan.

Qualifications

Successful candidates must demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- **Equipped leader:** An individual able to bring a set of demonstrated leadership experiences as servant leader, administrator, manager, or key contributor
- **Strategic Thinking:** Forward thinking leader, able to put what is best for the organization above all else
- **Capable mentor:** Experienced guide and supporter of others looking to advance their personal growth and development in areas connected to but not limited to undergraduate research
- **Communication:** Professional and effective communicators, experienced in difficult conversations and able to hear and disseminate community needs
- **Foresight:** Individuals able to look to the best interests of CUR into the future when discussing various issues impacting CUR members and higher education
- **Evidence-based decision making:** Informed decision maker, using evidence from assessment and literature to support the strategic objectives and ongoing priorities of CUR
- **Collaborative Spirit:** Team players making space for all voices to be heard, furthering the collective understanding of the group, and cultivating outcomes to best serve CUR and its membership

Success candidates for the position must also:

- Have prior service in leadership roles within CUR that have provided a broad perspective on the organization or a dedication to CUR's value and strategic expertise the NLDC has identified as necessary. Prior service on other nonprofit board, while not required, is a plus.
- Be familiar with CUR's strategic plan and goal areas and be prepared to provide leadership to move the strategic vision of the organization forward.
- Maintain a current membership with CUR and have the considerable time and interest to serve the larger CUR community in this role. Preparation and attendance at BOD trainings and meetings is mandatory. Attendance at other CUR events may be required.
- Have support from their home institutions for the time and effort required for regular meetings and events, and other issues as they arise throughout their term.
- NOT be a member of the CUR Nominations and Leadership Development Committee during their nomination or election.

Submissions

Qualified candidates should submit their self-nomination and supporting materials via the appropriate link on the CUR Nominations and Elections webpage by December 1, 2024 at 11:59pm Eastern.

Partial submissions will not be reviewed. The nomination form will require the following materials:

- Nominee information (full name, institution, link to any website with any relevant supplemental information: e.g., CV, LinkedIn page, Biography on campus website, other websites)
- An abbreviated 4-page CV highlighting professional accomplishments with respect to undergraduate research;
- A description of your leadership experience both within CUR and extramural and how they qualify you to serve as Director. (1 page maximum)



Board of Directors - Director

Governance Body:	Board of Directors
Term Date:	June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2028
Commitment Length:	3 years
Availability:	Three (3) Positions Open

About the Position

CUR seeks strategic members with leadership skills to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD) in the Director role. The BOD is the highest governance leadership body of CUR, holds fiduciary responsibility for CUR, and implements the strategic direction to advance the organization. The BOD meets quarterly through video conference, in-person annually, and engages regularly via virtual means between meetings.

Individuals serving in a Director role may be invited to serve on additional committees, task forces, or working groups at the request of the CUR President.

The Director role is an elected volunteer leadership role that serves a three-year term. The Director role has specific responsibilities to the organization and requires visibility and interfacing with CUR members and stakeholders as a CUR ambassador. Candidates should review the [Board of Directors Handbook](#) in full to learn more about the responsibilities for this role prior to submitting a nomination. Candidates should review the Board of Directors Handbook in full to learn more about the responsibilities for this role prior to submitting a nomination.

Board members are expected to operate in alignment with CUR's Core Values and support the development and execution of CUR's strategic plan.



Councilor

Governance Body:	CUR Council
Term Date:	June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2028
Commitment Length:	3 years
Availability:	One (1) position per Division

About the Position

CUR seeks collaborative members with strong communication skills to serve as Councilors. The Council is a multidisciplinary advisory body to the Board of Directors. Councilors provide a crucial link between the Board of Directors and Divisions, serving in a communication capacity, bridging the insight of the Division to the work of CUR as a whole by encouraging meaningful sharing of trends, challenges, and opportunities from the Division level. In addition to meetings with the Council, Councilors will be expected to meet with their Divisional leadership to share information and facilitate conversations necessary to serve in their advisory role.

The Council will meet a minimum of 3 times a year, meeting attendance is required, and will also have an opportunity to collaborate in-person at ConnectUR. Participation in CUR's Annual Leadership Meeting is also required. Any meetings requiring a cost for travel will be the attendee's responsibility.

The Councilor role is an elected volunteer leadership role that serves a three-year term. The Councilor role has specific responsibilities to the organization and requires visibility and interfacing with CUR members and stakeholders as a CUR ambassador. Candidates should review the [Councilor Handbook](#) in full to learn more about the responsibilities for this role prior to submitting a nomination.

The Councilor role cannot be held concurrently with Division Representative or Board of Director roles.

Qualifications

Successful candidates must demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- **Communication:** Professional and effective communicators, experienced in difficult conversations and able to hear and disseminate community needs
- **Foresight:** Individuals able to look to the best interests of CUR into the future when discussing various issues impacting CUR members and higher education
- **Creativity:** Thoughtful supporters of change, able to think outside the box to find new initiatives
- **Collaborative Spirit:** Team players making space for all voices to be heard, furthering the collective understanding of the group, and cultivating outcomes to best serve CUR and its membership

Success candidates for the position must also:

- Have served as a Division Representative (or prior to the 2023-2024 volunteer year, as a Division Councilor). While this is technically note a requirement, the Councilor role is best suited for those who have served in this capacity.
- Demonstrates a commitment to CUR's strategic plan and mission.
- Maintain a current membership with CUR and have the considerable time and interest to serve the larger CUR community in this role.
- NOT be a member of the Division's CUR Nominations and Leadership Development Committee during their nomination or election.

Submissions

Qualified candidates should submit their self-nomination and supporting materials via the appropriate link on the CUR Nominations and Elections webpage by December 15, 2024 at 11:59pm Eastern.

Partial submissions will not be reviewed. Please prepare answers to the following required application questions before beginning the online nomination form (note that all answers must be 1000 words or less.)

- Describe your leadership experience both within CUR and extramural.
- How would you anticipate your skills will help the Council successfully uphold the following charge:

"The primary focus of this multidisciplinary body will be to provide advisory input to the Board, so they have a broader perspective when making resource investment decisions. The Council will serve in a communication capacity, surfacing key items arising from the Divisions, bridging the insight of the Division to the work of CUR as a whole, and serving as one means of information and resource dissemination from the central organization to the Divisions and members. Finally, Council will provide recommendations to the Board on Division creation, merging, and sunseting."



Division Representative

Governance Body:	CUR Divisions
Term Date:	June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2028
Commitment Length:	3 years
Availability:	Number of Positions Vary by Division

About the Position

CUR seeks collaborative and capable members with expertise in URSCI to serve as Division Representatives. Division Representatives are a crucial link between the organization and its members, helping to advance undergraduate research through programmatic resource development, networking and mentor development opportunities, advocacy at their home institution, and other activities and events.

Division Representatives are expected to attend their divisional meetings, participate in CUR's Annual Leadership Meeting, collaborate with other elected volunteer leaders at in-person events (such as ConnectUR), and represent their division in assigned committees, task forces, or working groups within the organization. Any meetings requiring a cost for travel will be the attendee's responsibility. If elected, CUR can provide a copy of your election letter to administrators you designate to help secure administrative support for your work with CUR and your division.

The Division Representative role is an elected volunteer leadership role that serves a three-year term. Division Representatives have specific responsibilities to the organization and require visibility and interfacing with CUR members and stakeholders as a CUR ambassador. Candidates should review the [Division Representative Handbook](#) in full to learn more about the responsibilities for this role prior to submitting a nomination.

Candidates are encouraged to apply to the Division most closely aligned with their discipline or area of expertise. This position is open to all CUR members interested in sharing their mentorship expertise, increasing awareness of URSCI, and developing connections within the community. Specific needs and responsibilities may vary depending on the Division. Potential candidates with questions are encouraged to contact their Division's Chair for additional specifics.

Qualifications

Successful candidates must demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- **Capable mentor:** Experienced guide and supporter of others looking to advance their personal growth and development in areas connected to but not limited to UR.
- **Communication:** Professional and effective communicators, experienced in difficult conversations and able to hear and disseminate community needs
- **Collaborative Spirit:** Team players making space for all voices to be heard, furthering the collective understanding of the group, and cultivating outcomes to best serve CUR and its membership

Success candidates for the position must also:

- Demonstrates a commitment to CUR's strategic plan and mission.
- Maintain a current membership with CUR and have the considerable time and interest to serve the larger CUR community in this role.
- NOT be a member of the Division's CUR Nominations and Leadership Development Committee during their nomination or election.

Submissions

*Qualified candidates should submit their self-nomination and supporting materials via the appropriate link on the [CUR Nominations and Elections webpage](#) by **December 15, 2024 at 11:59pm Eastern**.*

Partial submissions will not be reviewed. CUR values diverse opinions and experience to fully represent the undergraduate research community, so candidates will be evaluated on diversity with respect to institutional type, area of specialization, identity, and geographic location. Please prepare answers to the following required application questions prior to beginning the online nomination form (note all answers must be 300 words or less):

- Please comment on your involvement in UR activities in the context of your institution and its mission.
- In what ways have you helped promote diversity and inclusion in URSCI?
- If you have previously served a term as Division Representative (previously Division Councilor), are there any particular contributions during your previous term/s that you would like to highlight? (optional)
- How would you anticipate your skills will help successfully uphold the following charge:

"CUR Division Representatives advance undergraduate research by providing networking opportunities, activities, and educational content. Their aim is to create and foster community and value within the organization. Representatives support the members of their division in activities and programs that align with the CUR strategic plan, mission, vision, and values."

Qualifications

Successful candidates must demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- **Equipped leader:** An individual able to bring a set of demonstrated leadership experiences as servant leader, administrator, manager, or key contributor.
- **Strategic Thinking:** Forward thinking leader, able to put what is best for the organization above all else
- **Commitment to the Mission:** A strong understanding of and commitment to the organization's mission and goals.
- **Confidentiality:** Ability to maintain confidentiality throughout the nominations process and beyond.
- **Analytical Skills:** Ability to assess candidates objectively, considering diversity and the organization's needs.
- **Time Commitment:** Availability to attend meetings and engage in discussions, especially during peak nomination periods.
- **Collaboration:** Willingness to work closely with other committee members to identify and develop potential leaders.

Success candidates for the position must also:

- Maintain a current membership with CUR and have the considerable time and interest to serve the larger CUR community in this role.

Submissions

Qualified candidates should submit their self-nomination and supporting materials via the appropriate link on the CUR Nominations and Elections webpage by December 15, 2024 at 11:59pm Eastern.

Partial submissions will not be reviewed. Please prepare answers to the following required application questions prior to beginning the online nomination form (note all answers must be 500 words or less):

- Describe a time when you successfully identified a leader within an organization or team. What criteria did you use to recognize their potential? How would you apply similar strategies to identify leadership talent in our organization?
- Discuss the importance of inclusivity in leadership roles. How would you ensure that our nominations and leadership development practices promote an inclusive leadership pipeline? Share any relevant experiences or strategies you have employed in the past.
- Leadership development often involves sensitive decisions about candidate suitability and potential. Describe how you would handle ethical dilemmas related to nominations and leadership development. How would you ensure that fairness and integrity are maintained throughout the process?
- How would you anticipate your skills will help successfully uphold the following charge:

"Work with CUR leadership and staff to assess the qualities, skills, and diversity needed in board leadership in each election cycle; Solicit and identify top-tier candidates for Board level positions; Engage in a fair and transparent process of vetting those candidates to put forward a qualified and strong slate; Oversee the process of leader selection/election; and as needed, be available for input into the orientation and onboarding of each cycle of board leadership. "

Nominations + Leadership Development Committee

Governance Body:	Committee
Term Date:	June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026 June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2027
Commitment Length:	One (1) year or Two (2) years
Availability:	Three (3) One (1) year term Three (3) Two (2) year term

About the Position

CUR seeks collaborative and capable members to serve on the national Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC). The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee is a year-round committee that is responsible for working with CUR leadership and staff to assess the qualities, skills, and diversity needed in board leadership in each election cycle; Solicit and identify top-tier candidates for Board level positions; Engage in a fair and transparent process of vetting those candidates to put forward a qualified and strong slate; Oversee the process of leader selection/election; and as needed, be available for input into the orientation and onboarding of each cycle of board leadership.

Important Information

Candidate Vetting, Notification, and Challenge Information for Board of Director Positions:

The CUR Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC) will vet all Board of Director candidates. Additional information may be requested from candidates during the vetting process. As part of the vetting process, candidates who are selected by the committee to move to the second round of vetting will be invited to participate in a panel interview. The NLDC will present an approved candidate slate for all BOD roles to the membership as part of the election ballot in early Spring 2025. The membership shall receive up to 30 days to nominate an additional candidate to be added to the final slate by petition with 3% of the membership signing their support. The final slate will then be presented to the Board of Directors for a vote. All candidates will be notified of the election status in April 2025. Announcement of election results will be made in mid-May 2025.

Nominee Vetting, Notification, and Ballot Information:

The Division's Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC) will vet all Councilor and Division Representative candidates. The national NLDC will vet the NLDC candidate nominations and select candidates to appear on the ballot. In early Spring 2025, accepted nominations will appear on a ballot that will be voted on by CUR members within the Division. All candidates will be notified of their election status in April 2025. Announcement of election results will be made in mid-May 2025.

Nomination and Election Calendar:

October 15, 2024:	Nominations Open
December 1, 2024:	Nominations Close for Board of Directors
December 15, 2024:	Nominations Close for all other positions
February 17, 2025:	Elections Open
March 17, 2025:	Elections Close
May 15, 2025:	Public Announcement of Elected Candidates
June 1, 2025:	New Terms Begin

Nomination Seats Open:

- Board of Directors:
 - Presidential Path (1 position)
 - Director (3 positions)
- Councilor (1 position per division)
- Division Representative (Position availability varies by division)
- NLDC Committee
 - One-year Term (3 positions)
 - Two-year Term (3 positions)