



COUNCIL ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

2024-2025 Elections Arts and Humanities Division: Councilor Candidates

Position Purpose: The CUR Council is a multidisciplinary body providing advisory input to the Board, so they have a broader perspective when making resource investment decisions. The Council serves 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.

Needed Qualifications:

- 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

There is 1 individual running.

You may vote for the candidate presented to be elected as a councilor for this division.

Candidate information is presented on the following pages. Click on each candidate name below to be taken to their Information In the document.

- [Jamie Gilbert](#)

Jamie Gilbert, Valdosta State University

Arts and Humanities Division Nominee

NOMINEE STATEMENTS

Describe your leadership experience both within CUR and extramural.

Since 2017, my leadership within CUR as a division rep has expanded significantly, demonstrating a commitment to fostering inclusive and impactful undergraduate research (UR) opportunities. Last year, I was honored to be elected to a one-year Councilor position, which has further energized my dedication to CUR's mission and allowed me to bring a diverse perspective to my advisory work. I have also participated in two CUR Strategic Plan Focus Groups, contributing as a passionate advocate for UR and underrepresented students. By combining advocacy with actionable strategies, I have shaped conversations that promote inclusivity and equity.

Currently, I am serving a third term as a CUR Division Rep in the Arts & Humanities Division. I have held critical roles on the Program Review Committee, Student Programs Task Force, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Committee. My contributions include developing strategies to increase engagement and mentoring students for conferences like NCUR and WorldCUR. My recent work, such as "Emerging Best Practices for Undergraduate Research in the Arts and Humanities," highlights my ability to translate theory into actionable frameworks.

Extramurally, I have transformed CWU's Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE) into a multi-day, inclusive event. My leadership extends to interdisciplinary, student-led initiatives, empowering underrepresented students to lead and collaborate. As founder and advisor for the National Students With A Purpose (NASWAP), I have enriched leadership opportunities for historically underrepresented students, exemplified by projects like "Meeting of the Minds: Developing Global Sustainable Social Solutions" presented at WorldCUR.

My efforts also include spearheading DEI-focused CUR workshops and upcoming events like "Adapting Access: Building Resilience in Inclusive Practices." Collectively, these roles reflect my leadership, bridging CUR, institutional, and extramural boundaries. I remain dedicated to equity, interdisciplinary collaboration, and student empowerment, fostering the next generation of scholars in the global research community

How will your skills help the Council successfully uphold its charge?

My three terms as a CUR Division Representative in the Arts & Humanities Division, coupled with work on interdisciplinary committees, have significantly strengthened my ability to align with the Council's mission. My extensive experience in interdisciplinary collaboration and program development equips me to provide the Board with comprehensive, multidisciplinary perspectives. As an interdisciplinary professor, I consistently integrate research into the curriculum, fostering a culture of academic inquiry that bridges diverse disciplines and aligns with CUR's strategic vision.

Last year, my election to a one-year Councilor position further enhanced my role as an advocate for underrepresented students and contributor to CUR's initiatives. Through active participation in CUR Strategic Plan Focus Groups, I have leveraged my diverse perspectives to shape meaningful discussions on the future of undergraduate research. My passion for creating equitable opportunities ensures policies and programs that support CUR's mission remain inclusive and effective.

My expertise in mentoring and grant writing allows me to articulate division needs while guiding financial and programmatic decisions. For example, I scaled CWU's annual research symposium from 335 to over 800 presenters, fostering growth, innovation, and inclusivity. This accomplishment highlights my ability to enhance interdisciplinary collaboration and visibility for underrepresented groups, key to advising the Council on impactful initiatives.

As founder and advisor of the National Association of Students With A Purpose (SWAP), I've empowered underrepresented students nationally through experiential research projects, fostering academic and professional success. My leadership in CUR's DEI Committee underscores my commitment to broadening participation and creating inclusive environments.

These contributions—spanning program expansion, DEI initiatives, and strategic leadership—position me as a valuable resource for CUR. I am confident in my ability to advance CUR's mission, ensuring it remains dynamic, equitable, and responsive to the evolving academic landscape.

NOMINEE ABBREVIATED CV

An abbreviated CV highlighting the candidate's accomplishments with respect to undergraduate research is available on the next page.

Jamie Gilbert, Abbreviated CV, Communication Arts Professor, Valdosta State University

EDUCATION

- **Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership/Communication** (Anticipated Fall 2025)
Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ
Dissertation: Engagement of underrepresented students in university research.
- **M.S. in Information Technology Administrative Management** (Dec 2019)
Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA
Specialization: Data Analytics Structures.
Research: Data-driven programs in Dublin, Ireland.
- **M.Ed. in Higher Education/Non-Profit Leadership** (Aug 2014)
Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA
Thesis: Learning strategies for college students with Asperger's Syndrome.
- **B.A. in Psychology; B.S. in IDS of Social Sciences**
Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA
Focus: Communication Studies, Social Change, English; Non-Profit Leadership.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- CWU Faculty Research Mentor of the Year Award (2020) (nominated 5 previous consecutive years)
- CWU Career Services Career Influencer Award (2019)
- People's Choice Award, CWU SOURCE for graduate research (2014, 2013)
- Women's Achievement Award for Student Empowerment (2013)
- Center for Excellence in Leadership Award (2012)

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FUNDING

Total to date: \$352,814

- VSU Provost Grants (2024)
- CWU Provost Grants (2022-2023)
- Faculty Senate and Graduate Studies Fellowship Grants (2018-2019)
- Len Thayer/AAUP Grant 2018)
- CWU S&A and University Advancement Funding (2016-2021)

MENTORED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Total to date: \$14,183

- Grants for conference presentations and travel (2017-2024)

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH SERVICE

- Advisor, Students With A Purpose (SWAP), Central Washington University and Valdosta State University Chapters (2019-present)
 - CWU OUR Mentorship Research Advocacy Committee, (2023-present)
- Abstract Reviewer for NCA, NCUR, UNM Mentoring Institute Conference (2020-present)
- Faculty Advisor & Founder, National Association of Students With A Purpose (SWAP) (2018-present)
- CUR Councilor, Arts & Humanities Division (2024-present), CUR Division Rep, 3rd term (2017-present) – served on Program Review (3 years), Student Programs Task Force (3 years), Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Committee (present 2+ years)
- CWU SOURCE Committee Chair and Member (2015-2020)
 - CWU University Advancement Scholarship Committee (2017 – 2018)
 - CWU TRiO BELONGS LLC (Learning Living Community) Advisory Council (2017 – 2018)
 - CWU OUR (Office of Undergraduate Research) Advisory Council (2015 – 2018)

Jamie Gilbert, Abbreviated CV, Communication Arts Professor, Valdosta State University

- Vice Chair CWU OUR Undergraduate Research Grants Committee (2015 – 2018)
- Chair of the CWU SOURCE (Symposium Of University Research & Creative Expression) Committee (2015 – 2018)
- CWUPUSH (President's United to Solve Hunger) committee (2015-2020)
- CWU Undergraduate Research Mentoring Initiative Committee (2015-2020)
- Faculty advisor for CWU Research & Professional Development Club (2015-2018)

UNIVERSITY MENTORED RESEARCH

- Fostering Student Empowerment and Community Engagement: The Impact of Student-Led SWAP Programs on Underrepresented College Student Success, NCUR 2024, Long Beach, CA
- Meeting of the Minds: Developing Global Sustainable Social Solutions Through Interdisciplinary Cross-Cultural Collaborations, CUR World Congress 2023, Warwick, England
- Transforming University Student Engagement Through Meaningful Student-Led Learning Experiences, CUR CONNECTUR 2022
- Barriers to Prolonged Student Led Civic Engagement: Utilizing a PESTLE analysis to Create Sustainable College Student Experiences and Activist Praxis that Withstand Annual Student Transitions & Attrition, NCUR Virtual Conference 2022
- Strengthening Interdisciplinary Leadership Teams through Team Development Intervention, CWU SOURCE Virtual Conference 2021
- Effectiveness of Balanced-Scorecard Performance Management on Organizational Team Innovation and Sustainability, CWU SOURCE 2021
- Effectiveness of Balanced-Scorecard Performance Management on Organizational Team Innovation and Sustainability: Interdisciplinary Team Development Intervention (TDI) Phase II, NCUR Virtual Conference 2021
- The Impact of a Team Development Intervention (TDI) on the Communication and Productivity of an Interdisciplinary Student Leadership Team, CWU SOURCE 2020
- Applying the PESO Model: Public Relation Strategic Content Marketing and Branding for Local Washington Restaurant, CWU SOURCE 2020
- CWU Students With A Purpose (SWAP) SWOT & Funding Analysis for Long-term Sustainability CWU SOURCE 2020
- 4-H (Head, Heart, Hands, and Health) Reaching Urban Youth Through Sustainable, Inclusive Youth Network Development Programs CWU SOURCE 2020
- The Impact of a Team Development Intervention (TDI) on the Communication and Productivity of an Interdisciplinary Student Leadership Team, National Conferences on Undergraduate Research 2020
- The Disproportionate Effect of Seattle's Urban Development on Social Welfare - (CWU SOURCE Winner) 2018
- Sustainable Funding for Education Based International Volunteer Experiences CWU SOURCE 2018
- Developing Sustainable Funding for "Combat on the Stage" at Central Washington University CWU SOURCE 2018 Kelsey McHugh won CWU Undergraduate Research Scholar of the Year for her mentored research in the Arts & Humanities under my mentorship
- Greenhouse Science Readiness Program CWU Westside SOURCE 2017
- Analysis of the Representation of Black Women and Positive Body Image Based Non-Profits CWU SOURCE 2017
- Mentorship: The Key to the Ultimate Higher Education Experience (online & campus student collaboration) CWU SOURCE 2017
- Oil Spills in the Marine Environment, CWU SOURCE 2017
- Engaging Undergraduate Students in Research: The Underrepresented Student Perspective (CWU SOURCE Winner) 2017

Jamie Gilbert, Abbreviated CV, Communication Arts Professor, Valdosta State University

- Importance of Inclusivity in Undergraduate Research CWU SOURCE 2017
- NACNA Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Food Gathering Program (Graduate CWU Student SOURCE Winner) 2017
- Advocating for Pet Partners at Central Washington University (CWU SOURCE Winner) 2017
- Expansion of CWU's Presidents United to Solve Hunger Program (PUSH) to University Center Campuses CWU SOURCE 2017

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- Greater Regard for Impacting Student Engagement, Career Preparation, and Institutional Success through Undergraduate Research, National Communication Association (NCA) 110th Annual Convention: Communication for Greater Regard 2024, New Orleans, LA
- Beyond Buzzwords: Upholding Undergraduate Research Practices Through Action, Not Words, ConnectUR 2024, College Park, Maryland
- Emerging Best Practices for Undergraduate Research in the Arts and Humanities, ConnectUR 2024, College Park, Maryland
- 21st Century Strategic Leadership: One Style Cannot Fit All, Leadership Kokomo 2021, Kokomo, Indiana
- CUR Critical Conversation Workshop: Student Recruitment, Virtual 2021
- Nonprofit Management: History, Governance, and Strategy, Leadership Kokomo 2021, Kokomo, Indiana
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): Barriers to Underrepresented Faculty and Student Engagement in Undergraduate Research, CUR Centering DE&I in UR and Creative Activity Virtual Conference 2021
- Creating Student-Centered Spaces for Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive Conversations , CUR Centering DE&I in UR and Creative Activity Virtual Conference 2021

- Webinar Crafting Your Professional Future/Assessment and Grad School Prep, National Conference on Undergraduate Research 2021: Virtual Graduate Fair

- Student Marketing and Advocacy, CUR2021 Critical Conversations Virtual Workshop
Student Marketing and Advocacy

- Strengthening Interdisciplinary Leadership Teams through Team Development Intervention. UNM Mentoring Institute Virtual Conference, Albuquerque, NM. 2020

- Broadening Participation in UR by Appealing to Stakeholders: The Case for Visual Marketing. CUR 2020 Conference: Inclusivity in Research: Scholarly Inquiry throughout the Undergraduate Experience

- Educate & Elevate: The power of stakeholder testimonials 2019, Greater Kokomo Chamber of Commerce, Kokomo, Indiana

- Breaking Down Cultural Barriers One Step at a Time: Zumba as a Communication Tool
Central Washington University College of Arts and Humanities Thursday Thinks Series 2019, Ellensburg, Washington

- Conversation with the CUR Student Programs Task Force: State Capitol
Days National Survey and Best Practices for State Capitol Days, CUR 2018
Conference: Creating Collaborative Connections in and through Undergraduate
Research, Washington D.C.

Jamie Gilbert, Abbreviated CV, Communication Arts Professor, Valdosta State University

· The Research Opportunity Center (The ROC): Innovative Transformations to Traditional Undergraduate Research and Mentorship Models, CUR 2018 Conference: Creating Collaborative Connections in and through Undergraduate Research Washington D.C

· Redefining “Undergraduate Research” Across Disciplines: Garnering Institutional Support and Creating Opportunities for Underrepresented Students, CUR 2017 Conference: Undergraduate Research Collaborations, Flagstaff, AZ

· Developing Undergraduate Research Opportunities for Underrepresented Populations, 13th Annual Globalization, Diversity, & Education Conference 2017, Spokane, WA

· Engaging Undergraduate Students in Research: Faculty, Staff, and Student Perceptions, Hawaii International Conference of Education (HICE) 2017, Honolulu, Hawaii

· Effective Learning Strategies for College Students with Asperger’s Syndrome SOURCE (Symposium Of University Research and Creative Expression) 2014, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA