**Grant Submissions and Professional Development**

UROC collaborates with faculty to support grant submissions and ensures professional development opportunities are available for their grant supported students. Examples of support letter descriptions are listed below including SURI professional development workshops.

These are copied to UC Merced letterhead and signed prior to submission.   
If you have specific language or formatting, please forward documentation in your request for a letter of support.

Dear National Science Foundation Selection Committee,

If the proposal submitted by Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ entitled “*Grant Proposal or Program Title*” is selected for funding by NSF, it is my intent to collaborate and/or commit resources as detailed in the Project Description or the Facilities, Equipment or Other Resources section of the proposal.

Jorge L. Arroyo

Director, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center  
Division of Undergraduate Education  
University of California, Merced

From: Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center at UC Merced

By signing below, I acknowledge that I am listed as a collaborator on the proposal titled “*Grant Proposal or Program Title*” with Professor ­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as the Principal Investigator.

Notably, with a 55% Hispanic undergraduate student enrollment, UC Merced has been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) since its inception; UC Merced is also a Minority Serving Institution with over 50% of students being members of underrepresented minority groups. The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center (UROC) at UC Merced was established in Spring 2014 with a mission to encourage and facilitate faculty-mentored undergraduate research projects and creative activities across all schools and academic disciplines.

As the Director of UROC, I commit to help PI \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to recruit underrepresented undergraduate students to participate in research. UROC will also support PI \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to evaluate the outcomes of participating undergraduate students with assessment surveys taken during SURI.

Jorge L. Arroyo

Director, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center

**Summer Undergraduate Research Institute (SURI)**

<https://uroc.ucmerced.edu/suri>

UROC hosts a series of workshops to support students in research programs during the summer and faculty can register their students to participate in SURI from early June through early August. The cost of participation in UROC SURI includes:

* Graduate school admissions, CV/resume review, writing for publication, abstract development, communicating and presenting research, fellowship applications, and career planning
* Dissecting journal articles, research project management, and library research training
* Lab safety and fire safety training provided by Environment Health and Safety with certification upon completion
* Bootcamp options for skill development including Matlab, 3D modeling, Python, R, machine shop certification, data analysis, ArcGIS, SAGE research methods, NVIVO, SPSS, Stata, Archival research methods, text and content analysis, and Wetlab skills where participation is based on research projects and student development needs
* Discussion about impostor syndrome and resilience specifically for overcoming challenges Research ethics and conducting responsible research with a presentation by the Office of Research Compliance
* Networking events and social activities including attendance at graduate admissions fairs at other institutions
* Reflective writing and application statement development with graduate student mentors
* Full participation in the Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, including poster sessions and oral presentations