A Stout Advancement of Undergraduate Research

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Recent Successes and Accomplishments

- University Student Senate passed a resolution supporting integration of undergraduate research into all bachelor's degrees

- The university has expanded the Discovery Center, which helps facilitate research activities with industry, to include the Stout Sustainability Sciences Institute and the Fab Lab

- Broadened the celebration of undergraduate research into new venues such as the STEM Student Projects Expo which focuses on classroom activities

- Established the Student Jobs Initiative to provide students with on-campus jobs – primarily to improve first-year student retention

- All of these have fed into a broader discussion focusing on UW-Stout’s position as an Emerging Research Institution

Barriers Remaining

- A more coherent discussion about the Emerging Research Institution that includes all stakeholders

- Updating our common understanding of the models used to carry out research with undergraduates

- Better compensating faculty for doing research with undergraduates – with both time and monetary support

On The Horizon

- Sharing Community for faculty and academic staff focused on integrating undergraduate research in the classroom, developed with the Nakatani Teaching and Learning Center for Fall 2014

- Gather more metrics on the extent and impact of research on our undergraduates

Creative Solutions Needed

- Better ways to coordinate and communicate research needs, activities, and accolades across the campus and with the outside community

- Effective professional development activities for faculty research mentors

- Changing the culture on campus when it comes to doing research with students – during the academic year and during the summer months – by supporting and encouraging faculty mentored student research.

- Ways to secure funds to add more student research positions