

1154-00-2345      **Lola Thompson\*** (lola.thompson@oberlin.edu). *"I did it my way": making undergraduate research work for you.*

For many new faculty members, the prospect of mentoring undergraduate research can be daunting. The words “undergraduate research” can trigger mental images of applying for large NSF grants, reviewing hundreds of REU applications, managing teams of students with widely varying backgrounds, feeling pressure to produce a paper in a limited amount of time, giving up conference travel and family vacations for three consecutive summers,...

In this talk, I will discuss how I have created meaningful, yet manageable, research opportunities for undergraduate students. For me, the key has been to recruit students early in their undergraduate careers so that we will have several years to work together. I treat my undergraduate researchers as “mini PhD students,” working with them one-on-one and giving them a great deal of leeway in steering the direction of our work together. Topics will include: recruiting students early in their undergraduate careers, teaching research skills through IBL courses, finding appropriate research problems that might lead to other good questions, and strategies for keeping research students on track when they have many other demands on their time. (Received September 17, 2019)