The Mathematical Computing Laboratory (MCL) at the University of Illinois at Chicago is an undergraduate research lab that hosts semester-long credit-bearing projects for teams of 2-4 students. These projects often focus on computational experiments and mathematical visualization related to the research of faculty members in the Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science. I will briefly summarize the history and organization of the lab (since its founding in summer 2015). Then I will focus the role of 3D printing in recruiting workshops and research projects hosted by MCL over the last few years. The talk will conclude by discussing the long term impact of the lab’s 3D printing activity. (Received September 21, 2018)