Jenny Switkes* (jmswitkes@cpp.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Cal Poly Pomona, 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768. Mini Research Projects in a Collaborative Classroom Environment.

During the second course in my senior-level Mathematical Modeling sequence, the students spend almost two months working in teams on mini research projects. My goal is to provide my students with the opportunity to experience many components of genuine mathematical research in a team setting, including literature review, choosing and refining a topic, receiving and providing feedback, personal and team accountability, combinations of analytical and simulation techniques, professional-level oral presentations in a classroom research symposium setting, and a written final project. In a structured manner, the students experience the very different rhythms of research compared to regular classroom settings. And we all, both professor and students, experience the unique comradery of sharing the research life together as a class. I will share my structure for this course, as well as new changes I made this time around, along with examples of student projects and discussion of student impact. (Received August 13, 2018)