



Dear Colleagues,

We have widespread interest in expanding the engagement of students in original research, either as individuals or as part of collaborative teams ([See the Provost's blog post for 10/23](#)). This goal has informed a significant thread of work in the [Designing the Future\(s\) Initiative](#), either integrating research experience into existing courses or creating new kinds of credit-bearing experiences (and for faculty, load-counting courses) that integrate mentored learning into faculty-led research and field experiences.

Under the umbrella of the Designing the Future(s) experiments, we are beginning a process where we hope to support faculty who incorporate more student engagement with research into their teaching. This could take the form either of semester-based courses or ad hoc credit-bearing experiences (of varying length and extent) that focus on research opportunities that would involve groups of students outside the classroom. In the latter category (as with the former) faculty would lead these experiences as part of, not an increase in, their teaching load.

In order to develop the guidelines for an initiative, we first want to census existing activity along these lines. Please send us any and all examples you lead or know of in the following domains:

- In the context of a semester-long course, students develop research skills and experience by working on faculty-led research projects, collaboratively or individually, contributing to new knowledge through data collection, inquiry and documentation;
- Groups of three or more students receive credit for working collaboratively on faculty-led research projects (lab, archive or field-based) outside the classroom and outside the context of traditional semester-based courses, tutorials and thesis research.

Short, 1-2 sentence descriptions, and any relevant documentation should be sent to the Provost Office at apa29@georgetown.edu. Please forward examples no later than Nov 1.

Once we have gathered and synthesized the results, we'll share those as well as plans for supporting more of these experiences.

Sincerely,

Robert Groves
Provost

Randy Bass
Vice Provost for Education

Janet Mann
Vice Provost for Research