EvaluateUR supports virtual undergraduate research experiences

EvaluateUR provides the structure to facilitate virtual undergraduate research projects with faculty mentors because it can be done completely online and supports focused conversations about the outcomes that matter. For any research project that does not require the physical presence/oversight of a mentor, EvaluateUR is the perfect vehicle for using remote connections.

Implement EvaluateUR virtually in 4 easy steps:

1 Site administrators (UR director /coordinator) enter and activate each student- research mentor pair from their program's dashboard.

2 Site administrators conduct virtual orientation sessions, which can be recorded for asynchronous viewing.

3 Students and mentors schedule virtual meetings to discuss all the outcomes, assign scores, and add project-specific outcomes if desired. They can also identify ways in which students should document their progress.

4 Students and mentors complete the outcome assessments at mid-point and end-of-research. In advance of completing these assessments, students can provide their mentors with examples of their work.

Tips for conducting virtual check-ins:

1. Students and mentors set up meeting schedule and agree on what video conferencing software to use (Zoom or Skype are free options)

2. Mentors email student meeting invitations with the video conferencing access information

3. Prior to the calls, student-mentor pairs should be prepared to complete the initial assessment (done together) or to discuss the mid-research and end-of-research assessments. Both the students and the mentors should review the Score Reports prior to the video calls.

4. Conduct the video calls as if they were in-person meetings.

5. More frequent email check-in's may be helpful to ensure the research is on-track.

6. The site administrator should consider holding "virtual office hours" for all research mentors to review next steps and address any issues.