

Zoom Chat Transcript from 2/26/21

Presentation by Dr. Erin Dolan

"How do we do this at a distance?!" Results from a cross-program evaluation of remote Research Experiences for Undergraduates sites during COVID19

11:54:19 From Erin Dolan : Hello all!

11:54:43 From Rita T : Hi great to se you again, Erin!

11:54:48 From Erin Dolan : Hi Hong! Hi Rita!

11:54:58 From Erin Dolan : Hi Sally!

11:55:09 From Hong Qin : Hello, good afternoon.

11:58:10 From Erin Dolan : Who is excited that it is Friday?!

11:58:30 From Dr. Daphne LaDue (she/her) : Me!

11:58:32 From Rita T : FINALLY

11:58:48 From Erin Dolan : Every Monday I start wondering if it is Friday yet...

11:59:17 From Session Chair, Sarah Harris : And then on some Mondays it actually is! (Days merge together these days.... :)

11:59:18 From Camellia Okpodu : I'm excited. Through it all, I am hopeful.

11:59:21 From Sally O'Connor : Thank you ALL for attending!!

11:59:50 From Erin Dolan : Yes, thanks for making time when you are already likely to be absolutely done with zoom...

12:01:07 From Gillian H Roehrig : Some of us are running REUs through ERCs - it would be great to be included in any of these events

12:07:06 From Rita T : expanded access without travel

12:07:10 From Gillian H Roehrig : Broadens access

12:07:11 From Dr. Daphne LaDue (she/her) : family support

12:07:11 From alan wilson : convenience

12:07:12 From Cora Baird (she/her) ESVA : Mentorship, use of practices

12:07:14 From Ana-Rita Mayol : learn discipline-specific expertise

12:07:19 From Veronica Acosta : Interaction with students and faculty at place across univ.

12:07:22 From Tom Roper : don't have to go to my lab which is 30 min from rest of university

12:07:22 From Veronica Acosta : nation

12:07:23 From Carly Sjogren : Develop experimental design

12:07:23 From Katie Gavenus : Flexibility

12:07:25 From Bryk, Mary E : networking

12:07:26 From Juyeong Choi : Involvement of a geographically broad range of students

12:07:27 From Ana-Rita Mayol : develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills

12:07:29 From Kurt Regner : Students may have family responsibilities

12:07:31 From Audrey BP (she/her) : Practice collaborations across place

12:07:31 From Juan Ramirez-Lugo : computational skills

12:07:31 From Michelle Richards-Babb : virtual speakers from other states and countries and time zones

12:07:32 From JANET L BRANCHAW : Focus on design of experiments and analysis of results

12:07:32 From Ana-Rita Mayol : technical writing

12:07:34 From Miriam O Krause : can support more students with stipends when don't have to pay for housing/airfare

12:07:34 From Tiffany Leighton Ozmina (she/her/hers) : Meet family needs

12:07:36 From Cherie Dotson : become familiar with the literature

12:07:37 From Idalis Villanueva Alarcon : may allow underrepresented groups to access this experience (i.e., tribal colleges)

12:07:39 From Ian Billick : makes us think about what is really important rather than just relying on what we have always done to be our guide

12:07:42 From Audrey BP (she/her) : focus on data analysis

12:07:44 From Diana M Dalbotten Geoscience Alliance, UMN : Focus on computer and data skills

12:07:56 From Cherie Dotson : lack of engagement

12:07:57 From Tiffany Leighton Ozmina (she/her/hers) : Supervision

12:07:57 From alan wilson : nothing gets accomplished

12:07:59 From Audrey BP (she/her) : social isolation

12:08:00 From Dr. Daphne LaDue (she/her) : lots of distractions being at home

12:08:00 From Diana M Dalbotten Geoscience Alliance, UMN : student fatigue

12:08:01 From Alison Cawood : Lack of connection

12:08:01 From Veronica Acosta : engagment

12:08:02 From Ana-Rita Mayol : equivalent "hand-on" lab experience

12:08:02 From Kurt Regner : Participants not fully committed

12:08:03 From Kristen Williams : Technical difficulties

12:08:04 From Gillian H Roehrig : Less personal

12:08:04 From Cora Baird (she/her) ESVA : project adaptation

12:08:05 From Miriam O Krause : can't practice "hands-on" skills

12:08:06 From Kristen Williams : Zoom fatigue

12:08:06 From Juan Ramirez-Lugo : zoom burnout

12:08:06 From Rita T : don't get rich field experience

12:08:06 From JANET L BRANCHAW : May not actually be able to "do" an experiment.

12:08:06 From miriam braunstein : distraction

12:08:07 From Ian Billick : Loss of immersion and development of self identity

12:08:08 From Gary Benson : limited mentoring from faculty and graduate students

12:08:09 From Diana M Dalbotten Geoscience Alliance, UMN : no field work

12:08:09 From David Weiss : Lack of ability to generate their own data

12:08:09 From Michelle Richards-Babb : lack of internet access for participants in rural areas

12:08:10 From Audrey BP (she/her) : some projects can't happen (field or lab)

12:08:11 From Alan Lloyd : Difficult to create community

12:08:11 From ashaki rouff : cohort building difficult

12:08:11 From Michael Sponsler : Is the remote project still valuable?

12:08:12 From Juyeong Choi : Not sure where students dedicate their time to REU activities

12:08:12 From Tadesse Ghirmai : lab access

12:08:12 From Katie Gavenus : limited access for those without good internet

12:08:12 From Cynthia Nelly Carrión : Limited technical resources

12:08:13 From Sue Carson - she/her : cognitive load

12:08:19 From Staehle, Mary McDonald : Lesser cohort development

12:08:19 From Timothy Allen : Loss of community with peers

12:08:20 From Kurt Regner : Lack of connectivity

12:08:20 From Carly Sjogren : Force me to change how I teach >_<

12:15:47 From Gillian H Roehrig : Erin, is it possible to share the focus group and interview questions with us?

12:16:39 From Caroline Freitag : I'll second that request!

12:17:05 From Gillian H Roehrig : Thank you!

12:20:25 From Sue Carson - she/her : All of this is also helpful for onsite programs!

12:21:14 From Amanda Smythers, UNC : By workspace do you mean something like slack?

12:21:40 From Sue Carson - she/her : I think, like, actual physical space. As in, not your bed.

12:21:55 From Amanda Smythers, UNC : Thank you!

12:33:48 From Gillian H Roehrig : Erin, can you share this survey as well?

12:37:38 From Carly Sjogren : How can we encourage MORE students who are NOT sure of attending graduate school to apply to URE? And are we selecting against them if they do apply? How can we address this?

12:38:24 From Cora Baird (she/her) ESVA : I second that, Carly.

12:39:23 From Rita T : Can you describe some of the types of student projects? Our REU is very field based so it seems hard to communicate those experiences if they do a project focused on analyzing existing datasets.

12:39:26 From Juan Ramirez-Lugo : 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌

12:39:49 From Barry Hibbs : Thank you that was very informative

12:39:59 From Idalis Villanueva Alarcon : Thank you for this great talk!

12:40:05 From Veronica Acosta : Thank you. I 2nd describing some of the types of projects that were offered.

12:40:09 From Lourdes Echegoyen : Excellent job, Erin!

12:40:16 From Veronica Acosta : Also will the slides be shared with the BIO REU slack group?

12:40:20 From Carolyn Nichol : Were any of the projects team based with pairs of REUs?

12:40:22 From Sue Carson - she/her : I want to ask about mentor overload.

12:40:28 From Amanda Smythers, UNC : We want pivot to virtual, but are concerned about NSF's requirement that it be the "equivalent" of an on-site. Is there anything you can suggest to ensure we meet this guideline?

12:40:56 From Gillian H Roehrig (she/her/hers) : Some of us are not part of BIO REU slack - is there a way for others to get slides, surveys etc.?

12:41:28 From Caroline Freitag : I'm in the same place as Gillian. It would be great to get access to these materials.

12:41:35 From Erin Dolan : I can share slides by email but would prefer not to post them until they are published - send me an email eldolan@uga.edu

12:41:50 From Erin Dolan : I can send the full survey with refs by email too

12:43:00 From Erin Dolan : For encouraging students who are not sure, I recommend course-based undergraduate research - CUREs - they get a taste of research before committing to a whole summer

12:44:32 From Tom Roper : I'm having problems convincing my faculty colleagues to be willing to conduct remote research. Any advice?

12:44:46 From Caroline Freitag : I wanted to ask if you did any evaluation of mentor experiences. In our virtual program this summer, we did evaluation with both students and mentors, and they were very revealing.

12:45:09 From Carolyn Nichol : yes

12:45:59 From Juan Ramirez-Lugo : Here is an incomplete list of our student projects:
<http://iqbioreu.uprrp.edu/index.php/2020-cohort/>

12:46:24 From Dr. Daphne LaDue (she/her) : There is a way to do pairs where each student branches to their own project mid-summer. Happy to send this paper if you don't have access (dzaras@ou.edu): <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/bams/101/3/bams-d-18-0190.1.xml>

12:46:58 From Sue Carson - she/her : In normal times, REU programs face mentor burn-out. Was this exacerbated in the virtual format? The cognitive effort to mentor virtually seems greater.

12:47:33 From rosemary smith : We had all different types of groups: onsite students with remote mentor, onsite mentors with one remote and one onsite students, onsite mentors with onsite students. We had fewer mentors so we had more students/mentor and allowed for group or more similar, overlapping team projects.

12:48:12 From Alex Keene : I second Tom's question. As someone who ran the REU last summer virtually, one concern is the structure of the program may not be consistent with what works best virtually (e.g. full time, individual projects). Any input about how not to overload students or mentors? Should it be a full time program if virtual?

12:49:23 From Camellia Okpodu : How long were the interactions? I did a GeoScience REU and as the only mentor and with students who participated in my class during the academic year, I was exhausted. But, I did not have a 8 week interaction. I limited it to four weeks. I got great feedback from all the participants but I was exhausted at the end of the summer.

12:49:25 From Katie Harper to Sally O'Connor(Privately) : At the height of the presentation we had 140 participants.

12:49:57 From Camellia Okpodu : I shouldn't call it an REU. It was a summer research exploration. We couldn't do the field work.

12:50:27 From Sue Carson - she/her : Wow. That is great.

12:52:22 From Rita T : how do they gain lab skills from virtual? I know many of summer projects were bioinformatics based which are great but different skills

12:52:48 From Audrey BP (she/her) : We didn't run a program in 2020, but in planning for our virtual 2021 program, we found that 1-2 of our regular mentors decided not to mentor this summer because they are so exhausted from online teaching during the academic year. But mostly our mentor group is ready and willing to go virtual, and it offered the chance to bring in a couple of new mentors who are doing collaborative work at our site but aren't able to come to the field site very often.

12:53:17 From Diana M Dalbotten Geoscience Alliance, UMN : agreed...everyone is so burned out

12:55:15 From Ian Billick : We will post the recorded talk at bioreu.org. As we can we will post other materials there too.

12:55:27 From Alison Cawood : We had that too. About half of our REUs continued their work into the fall

12:55:57 From Ayoob, Joseph C : One of our students had two mentors - one was experimental-based and the other was computational. Both separately wouldn't take an individual student, but the collaboration helped get both on board.

12:59:37 From Audrey BP (she/her) : Yes! Our program identifies grad students/post-docs who will be co-mentoring in advance and include them in planning - which feels much more fair than grad students/postdocs getting roped-in on the fly.

12:59:54 From Erin Dolan : Undergraduate Field Experiences Network

12:59:58 From Erin Dolan : UFERN

12:59:58 From Alison Cawood : That was also something we found for our mentors. They enjoyed teaching more of the coding and data analysis pieces that we haven't historically focused as much on during the in-person programs

13:00:10 From Ana-Rita Mayol : And also the expectation of the skills level in the lab when they had a virtual experience.

13:00:22 From Jennifer Reithel : Thanks, Erin!

13:00:26 From Kelly Liu : thank you!

13:00:26 From Katie Gavenus, she/her : Thank you!

13:00:27 From Miriam O Krause : thank you!

13:00:32 From Barry Hibbs : Thanks again!

13:00:33 From Timothy Allen, Univ. of Virginia : Thank you!!

13:00:35 From Sue Carson - she/her : Thank you!!

13:00:36 From Anna Gudmundsdottir Cincinnati : Thank you

13:00:39 From Rita T : thanks!

13:00:40 From TAMUK-Hua Li : Thank you!

13:00:40 From Tiziana Giorgi : Thank you

13:00:41 From tromano : Thank you!

13:00:41 From Marc Seigar : Thank you

13:00:42 From Ana-Rita Mayol : Thank you

13:00:43 From Cynthia Nelly Carrión : Thank you!

13:00:44 From Hisham Jashami : Thanks!

13:00:58 From Camellia Okpodu : Thanks

13:01:17 From Juan Ramirez-Lugo : Thank you Erin for sharing and Ian for organizing. Gotta run off to a meeting

13:01:18 From Gunjan Agarwal : Are you planning remote again this summer?

13:01:25 From Erin Dolan : Thanks all!

13:01:38 From Carlos Goller : Thank you!

13:01:53 From Gillian H Roehrig (she/her/hers) : Ian, how can those of us not formally in the REU program be part of this community. We are an ERC running an REU through the ERC

13:02:15 From Ian Billick : Gillian, email me at ibillick@rmbf.org and we will get you on the slack channel.

13:02:21 From Caroline Freitag : I'd be interested in that as well, Ian

13:02:32 From Ian Billick : You are all welcome!!

13:02:41 From Caroline Freitag : Thanks! =)

13:02:48 From Gillian H Roehrig (she/her/hers) : Also curious if we can list our ERC REU through the NSF REU common website?

13:02:53 From Ian Billick : Welcome to join us I mean! We are primarily communicating through the Slack channel. We can get you added.

13:03:02 From Ian Billick : The REU common website is a Sally question.