



Effective Practices for Research Mentors

LUROP, the Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, aims to facilitate quality undergraduate research between students and mentors and to bring students into a community of scholars within their field. Here are some effective practices LUROP promotes for research mentors.

- Set clear expectations for the student's role (work habits, time commitment, etc.), and your goals for them as a researcher.
- Provide regular, constructive feedback, and expect regular communication from your researcher. Consider weekly meetings and monthly reports.
- Make yourself available to your researcher for questions and advice, and spend an adequate amount of time with them to cultivate their academic communication skills.
- Even if students are working as part of a collaborative team or assisting you with your project, work with your researcher to carve out a niche over which they have responsibility and take intellectual ownership.
- Train your researcher in research ethics and responsible conduct.
- Let your student researcher know about opportunities to present their research at conferences and help equip them to deliver effective research presentations.
- Discuss graduate school and career options with your researcher where appropriate, offer useful advice about their professional career.
- Involve your researcher in—or inform them about—the procedures that support their research, including IRB and other compliance requirements and financial paperwork.