

## **CAS Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award**

Mentoring is an essential element in the development of undergraduate researchers. All undergraduate research mentors serve as guides, resources, and role models for methods of inquiry in a chosen field of study and for the responsible conduct of research; they support and encourage the dissemination of the student's work through conference participation, publication, etc. Thus mentors often provide students with their first entry into professional circles.

An outstanding undergraduate research mentor engages in faculty-student mentoring relationships that are both productive and transformative. Such a mentor will motivate students as they transition from "consumers" of knowledge into "producers" of original, intellectual, or creative contributions to their disciplines. Part of this process is often getting the students to believe that they can become scholars and instilling students with a sense of ownership of their work along with a passion for developing new knowledge. Typically, such transformative relationships have a tremendous impact on a students' academic, professional, and personal development.

### **Nomination Process**

- Nominations will be made by students, via an online form
- Nominations are due by the end of March each year
- Nominations must include the nominator's name, email, and year; a list or description of the scholarly products that have resulted from the nominator's work with the nominated faculty mentor; and a brief description of how the nominated faculty mentor has helped the nominating student (academically, professionally, or personally).

### **Selection Process**

The CAS Undergraduate Research Committee will review nominations and make a decision in April. The award will be formally presented at the SOURCE event each year by a representative from the CAS Dean's Office.