

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### “Learning by Doing”

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Augustana Conference on Undergraduate Research and Innovative Teaching (ACURIT)  
Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta in Camrose, AB  
May 5 & 6, 2020

**UPDATED DEADLINE - Abstracts due Friday January 3, 2020**

**Submit via the link at: <https://www.ualberta.ca/augustana/research/acurit>**

How can we engage our students and get them invested in their learning? How can we ensure that the learning that occurs in and out of our classrooms achieves our learning objectives and is transferable to other classes and the workplace? How do students experience and understand our different pedagogical practices that aim to achieve learning through doing?

This year’s conference will focus on strategies used to get students “doing learning” in undergraduate classrooms, as well as research and reflection on these practices and their impact on student learning. Topics may include, but are not limited to: classroom activities and assignments aimed at practical demonstrations of knowledge, reflective practices for students and teachers, the challenges of active learning in large classes, experiential learning, project-based learning, and community-based learning.

ACURIT is a small, collegial international conference in Camrose, AB (one hour southeast of Edmonton). The conference provides a place for people engaged in undergraduate education to meet, learn, and discuss ways to improve teaching and the student experience. There are no concurrent sessions and registrations are limited in order to preserve the quality of the experience. This year the first day of the conference will be largely devoted to workshops. We also want to learn by doing and hope that everyone will leave with new ideas. The second day will focus on more traditional presentations of research, including a lunch-time session for student presentations.

**University Instructors are invited to submit an abstract for one of the following formats of presentations:**

- **Traditional paper** presentations of 20 minutes.
- **Workshops** where the presenters engage participants in a more in-depth and active exploration of their topic or practice.
- **Cracker Barrel sessions:** Presenters will lead short, intense conversations on a particular topic or technique for 20 minutes to a small group. When the bell rings, attendees move to a new presentation in the room and it starts again. These sessions aim to provide opportunities for intense conversation within a small group and allow participants the opportunity to choose the topics that are most relevant.
- **Teaching Tricks in 300 Seconds:** A maximum 5 slide, 5 minute presentation to all attendees followed by 10 minutes for questions.

**Undergraduate students and their supervisor/mentor are invited to submit an abstract for one of the following formats of presentations:**

- A poster that displays undergraduate research *and* reflects on the experience of doing the research
- An exhibit or display, for example of student work or a performance
- A paper or presentation with a faculty member that presents undergraduate research *and* reflects on the experience of doing the research

*Note:* In order for the conference to be as engaging as possible and facilitate dialogue between presenters and participations, all presentations must be made in person.

**To be submitted via the online google form at <https://www.ualberta.ca/augustana/research/acurit>:**

- Authors and their affiliations
- Title of proposed session
- Format of presentation
- Abstract of maximum 300 words outlining the content and its contribution to the conference and the theme
- Description of how the presentation will engage the audience
- Short biography of main presenter (maximum 100 words)

**Abstracts are subject to a peer-review process. Applicants will be notified of decision in late January 2020.**

**If you have any questions about the conference, please contact the organizers at [acurit@ualberta.ca](mailto:acurit@ualberta.ca)**