

eureka

The University of Alberta Science Undergraduate Research Journal

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1. About Eureka

Eureka is a student-founded and student-run initiative whose mission is to promote the world class undergraduate research done in the faculty of science. This journal offers undergraduate scientists the unique opportunity to share their discoveries with the scientific world, while learning the peer review process. Most undergraduate students do not get to experience the publication process as part of their scientific education. Eureka is an educational institution, with a diverse team of reviewers from many scientific backgrounds. Through clear, effective scientific writing students will be able to work together with faculty members to promote University of Alberta science.

Eureka serves to recognize, encourage, and reward intellectual activity in science. Each year hundreds of undergraduate students complete honours projects and write thesis of their work. Eureka will take this one step further by allowing students to learn clear scientific writing, in addition to an educational taste of the peer review process. In addition to primary research, Eureka will also be publishing interviews and biographies with various members of the faculty to help bridge the gap between faculty and the undergraduate students.

Eureka is beneficial to the faculty as it is beneficial to the student population. In addition to an invaluable educational tool, this journal brings a sense of community to the faculty of science through the exchange and dissemination of research and ideas. Eureka's breadth covers all disciplines of science, increasing faculty awareness of the research being done at the University of Alberta. While this is an educational tool aimed at undergraduates in their higher years, this journal serves to promote scientific research to the entire faculty. An awareness of quality research only serves to promote science further by attracting better students.

2. Information for authors

We seek submissions of research articles, research letters, review articles and anything in between. Submissions are welcomed from any student, collaborative team, independent study, honours project thesis, research assistantships, volunteer lab-work, summer research and currently on-going projects.

Author Instructions

- **Inform co-authors** of your intentions to submit an article. See the Publication Rights Agreement
- **Contact us** with your intention to submit an article
- **Prepare** a manuscript - Eureka is willing to work with any student in preparing a manuscript
- **Submit** your manuscript to teitge@ualberta.ca, cmadan@ualberta.ca,
- **Celebrate** your achievements when publication is announced

Eligibility

1. The research reported in the article must have been carried out during a student's undergraduate career.
2. All authors must have read the Publication Rights Agreement and signed their consent.

Authorship and rights at Eureka

Eureka is an open-access and non-proprietary journal. Authors retain all copyrights to their research and original data. Eureka recognizes that intellectual property is completely owned by the author(s); as such, reproduction of any material appearing within Eureka is not permitted without the express written consent of the signing author(s) appearing in the work in question. This journal is intended for undergraduate publications, with reviews from the University of Alberta faculty members; **articles may be submitted to other journals subsequent to publication in Eureka**. Eureka reserves all distribution rights to the works appearing in this journal, both hard copy and electronic access. Eureka reserves the right to refuse any submission.

Nature journals had this to say about publication in Eureka:

"As far as the Nature journals are concerned, publication in your journal would not compromise the decision to publish or not as this would be regarded as communication between scientists."

Jen Middleton, PhD
Press Officer, Nature

3. Editorial Process

Editorial board

The Eureka editorial board conducts a formal editorial evaluation in collaboration with the student author, his or her supervisor and a selected peer reviewer. Editors gain valuable experience in the peer review process, and in the development of scientific research articles. Editors are encouraged to promote scientific development at the University of Alberta through writing review articles, biographies and short editorials.

Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to apply as editors. We seek to build a diverse board of editors representing students from a variety of backgrounds in the faculty of science. The positions at Eureka are as follows:

Editors-in-Chief (2). Two year term. Responsible for day-to-day running of the journal and promotion of the journal within the University of Alberta. Serves to recruit the best and brightest minds.

Managing Editor (1). One year term. Responsible for managing submissions and organizing the peer reviewers.

Copy Editor (1). One year term. Responsible for formatting and structuring submitted articles; putting the journal together.

Faculty Advisor (1). Permanent position. An employee of the faculty of science who serves to promote the journal within the faculty, secure funding for the journal and recruit the best and brightest minds.

Board of Editors (5). One year term. Responsible for providing a critical review of submitted articles. Working with the faculty and undergraduates students to promote the journal.

Editorial policies

Criteria for acceptance

Eureka seeks to publish well-written scientific articles that offer insight and knowledge into the field of study. We encourage students to write engaging, non-technical manuscripts, that will be accepted based on the following criteria:

- Clarity, organization and style
- Presentation and interpretation of results
- Contribution to the advancement of the field

Peer Review

Peer reviewers are chosen within the faculty based on the need for a wide breadth of expertise. Peer reviewers are often members of the faculty, but may also be masters or doctorate students. Each scientific article gets one peer reviewer, and if deemed necessary by the editorial board, may be submitted to a different reviewer.

4. Eureka Publication Rights Agreement

This form was created by the editorial board of Eureka, the University of Alberta Science Undergraduate Research Journal, hereinafter referred to as Eureka.

An article has been submitted to Eureka entitled:

by (submitting author) _____.

Introduction to Eureka, the UA-SURJ

Eureka was created in September 2009 as a student-run journal to promote the world-class research done at the University of Alberta. Our mission is to encourage undergraduate student research, creating a sense of pride in the faculty of science. While our board is student run, we aim to unite not only student researchers, but faculty supervisors, graduate students and the generous members of the faculty who are on the peer review board. We aim to provide undergraduates with experience in the process of writing academic articles and getting a peer review from experienced members of the faculty.

The Review Process at Eureka

Submitted articles are subjected to a review by an editor in the relevant field of research. Eureka will then submit your article to a faculty reviewer. Upon review, the editorial board will take into account the comments provided by the reviewer and submit the work back to the author(s) for revision. A final submission to Eureka will go to the same editor who will decide publication.

Authorship and rights at Eureka

Eureka is an open-access and non-proprietary journal. Authors retain all copyrights to their research and original data. Eureka recognizes that intellectual property is completely owned by the author(s); as such, reproduction of any material appearing within Eureka is not permitted without the express written consent of the signing author(s) appearing in the work in question. This journal is intended for undergraduate publications, with reviews from the University of Alberta faculty members. **While articles may be submitted to other journals subsequent to publication in Eureka, please check with other journal as well.** Eureka reserves all distribution rights to the works appearing in this journal, both hard copy and electronic access. All editorials, images and intellectual property used in Eureka have permission from all relevant parties.

Permission from all relevant parties

Research carried out in collaboration with professors or other students necessitates that all authors approve the submission of the article. We require that all co-authors, primary investigators and other relevant parties submit their consent for the article named above to be published in Eureka.

I, the submitting author, declare that *all* co-authors and investigators with claims to this intellectual property have read this agreement and have signed this document.

_____, _____, _____
Name of submitting author, Signature Date

_____, _____, _____
Name of co-author, Signature Date

_____, _____, _____
Name of co-author, Signature Date

Please attach more co-author signatures as needed.

5. Support for Eureka

Eureka is only possible because of the support from numerous people across the University of Alberta campus. The University of Alberta libraries in particular have been invaluable in setting up the online journal.

University of Alberta Libraries:

Pam Ryan. Head, Science & Technology Library. pam.ryan@ualberta.ca

Leah Vanderjagt. Digital Repository Services Librarian. leahv@ualberta.ca

University of Alberta Students Union:

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The Molecular Biology Students Union (President Ana-maria Bosonea) mbsa@ualberta.ca

The Undergraduate Psychology Students Association (President Melissa Daniels) upa@ualberta.ca