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June 24, 2010

Dear Dr. Basu:

On behalf of CUR's Biology Councilors, I would like to congratulate you on winning our first Biology Mentor Award. This award recognizes your efforts as a great mentor to your students and excellent role model for other mentors of undergraduate research students nationally.

We received very competitive applications that made our decision very challenging. However, it was quite rewarding at the same time to read about all of our various colleagues' mentoring activities. We plan to share some of the highlights from these applications with all of our division members in our next Biology Newsletter.

Since this was the first year this award was offered, we tried to be very inclusive when we wrote the guidelines for the application process. As a result, we received applications from faculty of all ranks and with extremely varied accomplishments. To compensate for this variability and to insure a fair and equitable process, we decided to make 3 awards, one at each faculty rank (Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor). We will use this experience to inform the guidelines we will use for future mentor awards.

Congratulations again and please keep up your phenomenal record of undergraduate mentoring. Thank you again for participating in this process. We appreciate your efforts in preparing your application.

Sincerely,

Amelia J. Ahern-Rindell
Chair, CUR Biology Division

cc: Diane Husic, CUR President
Nancy Hensel, CUR Executive Officer
Beth Paul, CUR President-Elect