MURC | MULTIDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Position Description: Adjudicators and Presentations Co-Directors (Two Positions)

2027 MURC Planning Committee

Deadline for Applications: Sunday, July 26 at 11:59 PM (PDT)

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

The Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference (MURC) is a conference for UBC undergraduate students to showcase their research in front of their fellow UBC students, family, and friends. Since its inception in 2003, the conference has been entirely undergraduate student-led and undergraduate student-centered, providing the UBC community with a unique platform to showcase and celebrate undergraduate research through presentations, workshops, and keynote speakers.

Student researchers can participate in one of two ways - in-person presentation or in-person poster, with exemplary presentations given recognition at the end of the conference. Other students, including graduate students, can support the conference as volunteers or adjudicators.

This year, MURC will take place in person on March 20, 2027. Presenter registration for MURC 2027 will begin in November 2026.

ADJUDICATORS AND PRESENTATIONS CO-DIRECTORS POSITION SUMMARY

The Adjudicators and Presentations Co-Directors will work closely with the MURC Co-Chairs and UBC staff to plan workshops and events to prepare presenters for the conference as well as provide training and support to adjudicators. Duties within this portfolio are subject to change.

TIME COMMITMENT

- This position is a 8-month long commitment, commencing September 2026 and ending in April 2027
- Approx. 8-10 hours per week from September 2026 to January 2027
- Approx. 15-20 hours per week from February to March 2027 (leading up to the conference)
- Note: Peak periods will depend on portfolio-specific timelines
- Bi-weekly and Weekly collaboration sessions for the MURC Planning Committee will take place on Thursdays from 3pm-5pm. Attendance is mandatory for all sessions.

GENERAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Collaborate with staff advisors and Co-Directors throughout the planning and visionary stage of the conference
- Attend and participate in all MURC Planning Committee training, retreats and meetings
- Perform portfolio-specific tasks and support other portfolios as needed

- Create and develop a portfolio-specific timeline leading to the conference, in consultation with staff advisors
- Foster a strong team relationship which emphasizes teamwork and communication
- Oversee and implement events on the day(s) of MURC
- Work to increase student and faculty awareness of MURC as both a venue to showcase research and as a way to learn more about undergraduate research happening in the UBC community
- Support with setting up, developing, and managing the Canvas online learning platform

PORTFOLIO-SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with the MURC Co-Chairs and other portfolios to develop creative ways to recruit adjudicators
- Develop and implement workshops leading to the conference with a focus on presenter preparation and professional development
- Managing Canvas online learning platform sections such as presenter workshops and adjudicator training
- Develop digital resources to support presenters in preparing for their poster and oral presentations, in consultation with the Co-Chairs and staff advisors
- Recruiting facilitators for oral, poster presentation workshops and adjudicator training
- Manage adjudicator database and keep information up to date
- Oversee and coordinate adjudicator training and scheduling (with support from the Logistics and Programming Portfolio)
- Maintain adjudicator communication leading up to and during the conference; respond to inquiries as needed
- Work closely with the Logistics and Programming Portfolio and support the planning, preparation, and implementation leading up to the conference
- Work closely with Volunteer Engagement Co-Directors to determine adjudicator staffing needs
- Oversee the flow of presentations and events during the conference
- Additional tasks and responsibilities as required

QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong strategic and critical thinking skills
- Exposure to research and scholarly pursuits an asset
- Previous experience with conference, workshop planning and/or events organization an asset
- Strong public relations, interpersonal, and communication skills (written and verbal)
- Strong organizational, teamwork, and project management skills
- Ability to conduct dynamic, interactive workshops and training sessions and confidence engaging with diverse audiences
- Ability to reliably meet deadlines and work well under pressure
- Must proactively initiate cross-portfolio communication
- Demonstrated initiative; ability to recognize problems quickly and apply sound solutions
- Demonstrated willingness to learn
- Previous experience with Microsoft Office applications

- Demonstrates a professional attitude and openness to new ideas and feedback
- Proactive, self-motivated approach with a willingness to take initiative

SUPPORT AND SUPERVISION RECEIVED

The Workshops and Presentations Co-Directors will be supported and supervised by the MURC Co-Chairs and UBC staff with the Centre for Community Engaged Learning.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Group Interviews (Virtual): August 11 to August 18, 2026
  - Afternoon, August 11, 2026
  - Morning, August 18, 2026
- Position offers: Week of August 25, 2026
- MURC Planning Committee Fall Retreat: September 26, 2026
- Term 1 bi-weekly MURC Planning Committee Collaboration Sessions: Starting October 1, 2026
- Term 2 weekly MURC Planning Committee Collaboration Sessions: Starting January 7, 2027
- All Planning Committee members are asked to not schedule substantial extra-curricular activities in the period leading up to MURC: March 7 - March 20, 2027

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit a cover letter and resume to the Qualtrics form. The application for this position closes on **Sunday, July 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM (PDT)**. If you have any questions or concerns about the application process, please email undergraduate.research@ubc.ca. Please note that only candidates invited for an interview will be contacted.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Students that are part of the MURC 2027 Planning Committee will not be eligible to participate as a presenter or adjudicator at the 2027 Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference.
- Committee Members will be recognized for their contributions to MURC. Those in good standing will receive a certificate of recognition, and reference letters will be provided upon request.

WHY JOIN THE MURC PLANNING COMMITTEE?

Being a part of the MURC Planning Committee is an opportunity for professional growth and the development of a strong network among UBC students and faculty. Participating in this committee provides students with an opportunity to enhance their project management, event planning, public outreach, leadership, communication, and team collaboration skills. Past committee members have indicated the positive team environment as their most memorable experience, and project management, event planning, leadership, and communication as key areas of professional development during their time on the committee. Through committee team building, students will develop a leadership skill set based on co-creation, partnership, and intentional communication. The planning committee members are central figures in the planning and implementation of the conference, providing the student with the opportunity to identify areas of professional interest.