

**Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Teams (SURF IT)
Hamel Center for Undergraduate Research**

UNH FACULTY MENTORS JOINT LETTER OF SUPPORT

Student Team: Designate one representative team member to complete and sign the top of this form before giving it to your UNH faculty mentors. This should be the same team member who will submit your team application online, as the UNH ID# for that team representative will connect this letter to your application.

Title of Project:

NAME, MAJOR, COLLEGE of each student team member:

NAME, DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE of each faculty mentor:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and its amendments guarantee students access to educational records concerning them. Students are also permitted to waive their right of access to recommendations. Discuss as a team whether or not you wish to waive your right to access this letter. *By signing below, your representative team member is confirming that your team has made a collective decision.*

Student Team: “As a team, we waive our right to read this letter.” Yes No

Team Representative Name: **UNH ID#**

Team Representative Signature: **Date:**

This form, along with a Joint Letter of Support, must be uploaded to the online portal on the SURF IT webpage: <https://www.unh.edu/undergrad-research/programs/surf-interdisciplinary-teams-surf-it> Forms and letters must be uploaded by one UNH mentor no later than the application deadline. Use the UNH ID# of the Team Representative above when submitting.

To the UNH Faculty Mentors:

- I. In advising your student team, please review the SURF IT Faculty Mentor Memo available on the Hamel Center website at <https://www.unh.edu/undergrad-research/surf-interdisciplinary-teams-surf-it>
- II. In a joint Letter of Support (two pages maximum, single spaced; signed and on letterhead from at least one mentor’s department), please respond to the following:
 - 1. Please comment on your consultations with the student team as they prepared the application. Do you believe these meetings form a basis for a functional and constructive collaboration as the project unfolds?
 - 2. Please comment on the students as a team: What is your assessment of the team dynamic? In your estimation, do you believe this student team will work well together? Do you believe their respective disciplinary backgrounds/experience/skill sets will complement each other when working toward shared research goals? What plans are in place (if any) to enhance team success over the summer research period?
 - 3. Please comment on the students individually: Does each student have sufficient preparation to undertake the proposed project? Does each student demonstrate a strong commitment to fully engage in team-based research? If you have supervised one or more of the students in coursework or research (past or present), please evaluate that experience.
 - 4. What is the significance of the project and its potential value for the students?
 - 5. What is the relationship between the students’ proposed interdisciplinary project and your own respective areas of research or expertise?
 - 6. Please describe your relationship with each other: e.g., Have you worked together previously as colleagues? Are you current/previous research partners?
 - 7. How do you anticipate working with the student team and with each other during the summer research period? e.g., How and how often will you interact with the team and with each other?

When signing your Letter of Support, you will be agreeing to the following statement:

“We have reviewed the student team’s application and the SURF IT Faculty Mentor Memo, and we agree to co-mentor this team-based, interdisciplinary project, if funded.”

Before uploading to the online portal:

Please use this naming format when saving the FORM: TeamRepLastname_TeamRepFirstname_FacultyLastname_Form

Please use this naming format when saving your LETTER: TeamRepLastname_TeamRepFirstname_FacultyLastname_Letter