

Twenty Years of Exceptional Success: The Molecular Education and Research Consortium in Undergraduate computational chemistRY (MERCURY)

George Shields¹

¹Furman University

April 28, 2020

Abstract

The MERCURY consortium, established in 2000, has contributed greatly to the scientific development of faculty and undergraduates. The MERCURY faculty peer review publication rate from 2001-2019 of 1.7 papers/faculty/year is 3.4 times the rate of physical science faculty at primarily undergraduate institutions. We have worked with over 1000 students on research projects since 2001, and 75% of our undergraduate research students have been underrepresented in chemistry, either female or students of color. Approximately half of our alumni attend graduate school for the purpose of obtaining advanced degrees in STEM fields and 2/3 are female and/or students of color. We have had more than 1600 attendees at the 18 MERCURY conferences, including 111 invited speakers, 61 of whom have been female and/or faculty of color. In this paper the research accomplishments, transformational outcomes, and scientific productivity of the MERCURY faculty are highlighted.

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MERCURY Overview Paper.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/307606/articles/438793-twenty-years-of-exceptional-success-the-molecular-education-and-research-consortium-in-undergraduate-computational-chemistry-mercury>