

## FURI SYMPOSIUM SHOWCASES UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

Posted by Erik Wirtanen | Apr 18, 2017 | Features, Fulton Schools



Above: Sharing research and ideas at the FURI Symposium are part of the experience for undergraduate researchers like Emily Ford (right). Photographer: Jessica Hochreiter/ASU.

One thing that people think of when they think about a university is research. Research is integral to the campus community at colleges, but is often thought of as being done by faculty members and their graduate students. The Fulton Undergraduate Research Initiative, better known as FURI, is helping to add undergraduate students to that mental picture.

FURI provides undergraduate students in the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering at Arizona State University the unique opportunity to get hands-on experience with a research project under the mentorship under a faculty mentor for one to two semesters.

"In the semesters that students are a part of FURI they grow and flourish beyond their research," says Cortney Loui, coordinator of student engagement for the Fulton Schools. "Students develop their verbal and written communication skills by writing short summaries of their research, designing a research poster and presenting their research to faculty, staff, industry, family and friends."

"Many alumni have reported that FURI helped them better shape their career path, pursue graduate school, obtain internships and jobs, build technical and soft skills, and helped them foster meaningful relationships with faculty," Loui says. "It's a great opportunity for go-getters to learn more about themselves all while trying to make the world a better place."

### CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF RESEARCH

The prospect of becoming a researcher doesn't always occur to undergraduate students, making programs like FURI all the more important in cultivating a new generation of researchers.

"I didn't know that research was something I wanted to pursue, and I don't think many researchers knew that before they started," says Adam Pak, a chemical engineering student participating in FURI this semester. "What I did know is that I wanted to make a positive impact on this world by discovering something that nobody knew before."

"Students who receive FURI grants conduct some amazing research," says Pak. "If employers are looking for the best of the best then they should visit our symposium."

### CELEBRATE FURIOUS RESEARCH AT THE SYMPOSIUM

FURI's benefits extend beyond just the students that participate; the semi-annual FURI Symposium is a great way to get a taste for research. Attendees are able to interact with the students and learn about their research experiences. They can also meet faculty members who mentored the students and learn about current ongoing research in the Fulton Schools. The Spring 2017 FURI Symposium will take place from 1-3 p.m. on Friday, April 21 at the Sun Devil Fitness Center on ASU's Tempe campus.

"By attending the FURI Symposium, you can learn about the vast array of research going on within the Fulton Schools," says Loui.

If you attend the FURI Symposium, Loui has a few tips for you.

"Introduce yourself to others and talk with the student researchers," says Loui. "Ask the student researchers for an introduction to their faculty mentors and take a FURI abstract book home with you so you can look over the research highlights on your own afterward."

Conducting research as an undergraduate is a great way for students to get hands on experience in their fields and the FURI Symposium provides an excellent opportunity for students, faculty, staff, parents and members of the community to meet and actively engage with those students while learning about their research.

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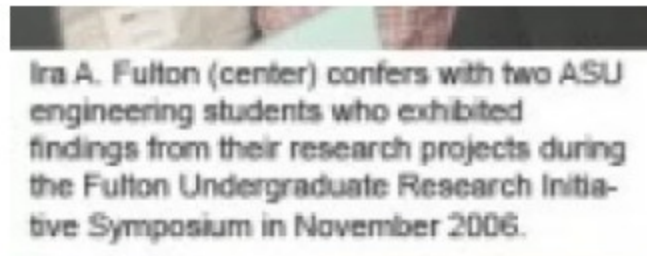
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#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



#### Erik Wirtanen

Erik Wirtanen graduated from Arizona State in 2001 with a B.S. in Recreation Management and Tourism. He got his start in the communications field as an undergrad with the ASU Athletics Media Relations office. He worked at UC Irvine from 2002 until 2014 in the Department of Athletics and then The Henry Samueli School of Engineering. In August of 2014, Wirtanen joined the communications office at the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering. Media Contact: erik.wirtanen@asu.edu | 480-727-1957 | Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering Communications

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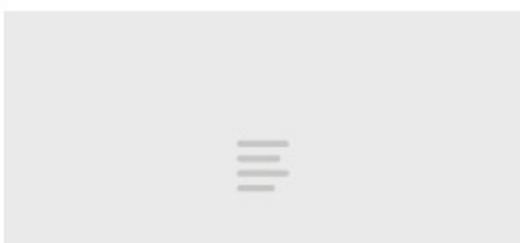
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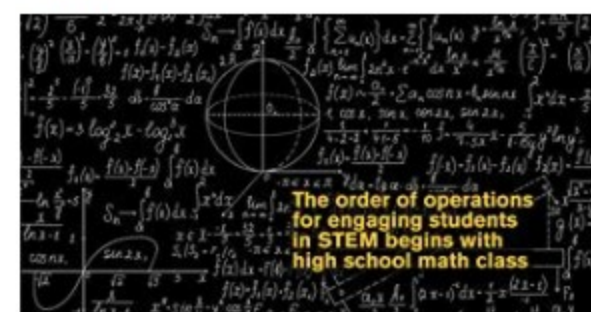


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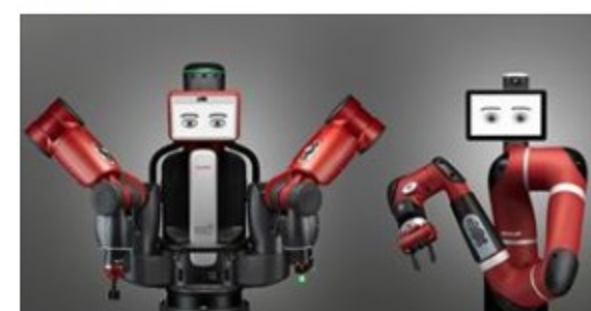


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Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering  
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After earning the most prestigious award given to a young researcher by the United States — a CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation — in 2016, Sefaattin Tongay has earned another acclaimed award from a Turkish science organization.



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"The hard part in neuroprosthetic science is the interface, getting the prosthetics to talk to the nerves," says Bradley Greger. "It's not just telling the fingers to move, the brain has to know the fingers have moved as directed." The post Materializing the ghost in the machine appeared first on Full Circle.

Expect the unexpected: Autonomous car project prepares engineers for industry challenges

In the robotics industry, engineering isn't easy, so a professor is teaching his computer systems engineering students to work with difficult and unpredictable sensors and situations. The post Expect the unexpected: Autonomous car project prepares engineers for industry challenges appeared first on Full Circle.

Adaptive ice climbing excursion heats up capstone thinking

Interactions with ice climbers who possess disabilities ranging from amputations to traumatic brain injuries have inspired three biomedical engineering students' upcoming senior capstone project. The post Adaptive ice climbing excursion heats up capstone thinking appeared first on Full Circle.

Intel, ASU partner with Vietnamese engineers to develop 'smart' objects, infrastructure

Intel and Arizona State University are partnering with Vietnamese universities to educate engineers about the transformative concept of the Internet of Things, in which everyday objects can send and receive data. The post Intel, ASU partner with Vietnamese engineers to develop 'smart' objects, infrastructure appeared first on Full Circle.

Exploring new frontiers in human-robot collaborations

Heni Ben Amor, an assistant professor-computer science and engineering, is working to make advances in human-robot collaboration and on identifying the importance of such collaborations. The post Exploring new frontiers in human-robot collaborations appeared first on Full Circle.

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Thanks to the generous support of our donors, 325 scholarships and fellowships totaling more than \$917,000 were awarded to Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering undergraduate and graduate students for FY 2015-2016. \$518,000 was raised for philanthropic support of research.

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