2nd World Congress on Undergraduate Research

23 – 25 May, 2019

Looking Back
Congress Impressions and Facts
Congress for Students

In May 2019, students from diverse academic backgrounds and various countries attended the 2nd World Congress on Undergraduate Research at the University of Oldenburg to present their research, discuss global issues, foster the dialog between academic disciplines, and create future partnerships around the globe.
Dialog Across Disciplines

The Call for Participation invited undergraduate students to submit scientific papers, creative art pieces, and scholarship in science, humanities, and social sciences.

International Selection

400 submissions from 36 countries were evaluated by international reviewers – experienced professors and lecturers from across scientific fields. The result is displayed on the next page →
North America (85)
Canada, United States

Europe (40)
Austria, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Netherlands, Russia, Romania, United Kingdom

Asia (45)
Cambodia, Iraq, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan

Africa (29)
Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia

Australia & Oceania (6)
Australia, New Zealand

39% 22% 18% 13% 5%

* The total number of congress attendees was 467 including accompanying faculty members, program coordinators and visitors.
Research Themes

Submitted research was arranged in six interdisciplinary categories. These Research Themes allowed participants to easily engage in interdisciplinary debates and were accompanied by Thematic Sessions: professional workshops aiming on scientific network and project development.

**Submissions per Research Theme**

- Environment: 18%
- Health: 34%
- Economy: 9%
- Communication: 13%
- Politics: 12%
- Create: 15%
Keynotes

The planetary scientist Dr. Lujendra Ojha (Johns Hopkins University, USA) talked about “Grand Challenges Related to Resources Scarcity in the Future: Synopsis, Solutions, and Undergraduate Involvement” while Dr. Sonia Fizek (Abertay University, UK) and Dr. Anne Dippel (University of Jena, Germany) discussed the challenges of interdisciplinarity and the chances that come with it: “Playful Research by Design: Why the world needs thinkers, tinkerers, and team players“.

Moderation

All ceremonial highlights were moderated by award-winning journalist Dr. Jan-Martin Wiarda – an expert on science and education policies.
Accompanying Programs

**Travel Support Program:** The University of Oldenburg and the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony (Germany) supported 60 students with excellent reviews from low- and middle-income countries to attend the World CUR 2019.

**“Beds for Brains”:** Many students and faculty members of the University of Oldenburg offered free accommodation to guests during the congress. The program was highly appreciated by both parties and enhanced intercultural exchange.

Research Awards

An award for each of the six Research Themes honored outstanding presentations by student teams from Argentina, Germany, Uganda, Qatar, and the USA.
Documentation: Video Interviews and Graphic Recordings

Almost 20 interviews with congress attendees were recorded during the World CUR 2019 as well as graphic recordings for each of the six Research Themes. Available online at https://uol.de/en/worldcur2019/congress-impressions

Social Program

An accompanying social program gave attendees the chance to start networking while discovering the culture and history of Northwest Germany and the Netherlands.
Organizing Team at the University of Oldenburg