



*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA®*  
*Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost*

August 25, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Christina Bourne as the Director for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (URCA). In this role, Dr. Bourne will develop a collaborative unit that directly impacts students' success and expands opportunities for both students and faculty. Her primary responsibilities will include administering the Provost's Summer and First-Generation URCA fellowships, co-directing the First-Year Research Experience with the Honors College, and organizing the URCA Showcase, Undergraduate Research Day, and the nominations for Research Day at the Capitol.

Dr. Bourne joined the University of Oklahoma Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2014, where she will continue to hold the title of Associate Professor. She has cultivated a vibrant research program centered on understanding the structures of biochemical molecules to better understand their functions. Her lab regularly hosts graduate and undergraduate biochemical researchers, and she is the 2020 awardee of the Nancy L. Mergler Faculty Mentor Award for Undergraduate Research. She is committed to enabling research opportunities and developing mentorship skills and tools, and she recently completed a Faculty Fellow position focused on these topics with the OU Graduate College.

She holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, both from OU.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Bourne on her selection for this key role within the Provost's Office.

Sincerely,

André-Denis G. Wright  
Senior Vice President and Provost, Norman Campus