

From: **ACU Undergraduate Research** uresearch@groupmail.acu.edu
Subject: URF Thank You
Date: May 22, 2020 at 3:03 PM
To: Jim Drachenberg jld00a@acu.edu
Cc: Timothy Lawrence Head tlh07b@acu.edu, Undergraduate Research Acu uresearch@acu.edu

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Educating Students for Christian Service and Leadership Throughout the World
Office of Undergraduate Research
Abilene, Texas 79699
uresearch@acu.edu



May 22, 2020

Dear Jim,

Thank you so much for helping organize the 2020 ACU Undergraduate Research Festival. Without you and the other committee members, the Festival would not have happened, much less have been prepared for the transition to online delivery. I am very grateful for the role you played on Program Committee. I also appreciate your work mentoring students. Several students have already nominated you as Mentor of the Year this year!

I cannot thank you enough for your help. I hope that you will continue to be part of the Research Festival in the future whether serving on one (or more) of the committees or mentoring future researchers (or both).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Josh Brokaw'.

Joshua M. Brokaw, Ph.D.
Faculty Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research
Abilene Christian University
Abilene, Texas 79699

Cc: Tim Head

Mentor of the Year Nominations:

It would be a challenging feat to encompass why James is deemed worthy for this honor. He is an outstanding mentor academically, spiritually, and personally. He truly cares for my well being - and the well being of other students - in every aspect of life. Not only does he ameliorate my learning experiences but he also encourages me to pursue difficult problems and to tie my faith in what I am doing. He has helped me through my process in graduate school by even helping pay to send some of my GRE test scores. He has placed an enormous emphasis on my personal growth as a Christian and as a scientist that I would go as far to say that he has played a significant part in my undergraduate career.

He has edified my understanding of what it means to be a Christian and a scientist.

Dr. Drachenberg is always willing to invest his time and effort when assisting students in undergraduate research. He goes above and beyond what the basic role of a research facilitator can be. He exceeds in mentoring students in undergraduate research. He always tries to tie aspects of our research to topics we have covered in class (if applicable), this reinforces what we have learned and helps us better understand our own research. Participating in undergraduate research at ACU would not be as rewarding or educational if it wasn't for Dr. Drach. He deserves this honor because of his hard work and genuine care for research and students participating in undergraduate research.

I have learned so much from Dr. Drachenberg but I believe the most valuable piece of advice I have learned is that it is always okay to admit you are wrong. This might not be the most scientific thing I have learned, but it is the most applicable to life. Dr. Drachenberg exemplifies this humble trait everyday, he is always willing to admit where he has made a mistake. He sets a great example for all students.

ACU Office of Undergraduate Research (and Creative Studies)
Faculty Director of Undergraduate Research-Joshua Brokaw, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Research and Sponsored Programs-Megan Roth, Ph.D.
<https://blogs.acu.edu/undergradresearch/about-us/>

