Michael A. Jones* (jonesm@mail.montclair.edu), Montclair State University, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Montclair, NJ 07013. Successful Mentoring of Undergraduate Students on Research Projects.

The demand for faculty to mentor undergraduate students in research and the expectations of outcomes for undergraduate research projects have increased in recent years. As such, all aspects of undergraduate research have taken on additional significance. In this talk, I will focus on the selection of students and the selection of problems for undergraduate research, the relationship between mentoring undergraduate research, teaching, and pursuing one’s own research, and the definition of success in undergraduate research.

I will reflect on the amount of independence, responsibility, ownership, and freedom that an undergraduate student should possess on a research project. I will provide examples and anecdotes from my own mentoring experiences from the last 10 years and from my role as co-director of the Research Opportunities for Commuter Students program, an in-house, year-long REU program at Montclair State University. (Received September 16, 2007)