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Elizabeth T Brown* (brownet@jmu.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, MSC 1911, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807. *Closing the Circle: the Use of Meetings to Complete and Promote Undergraduate Research.*

This talk will discuss the role conferences can play in promoting and supporting undergraduate research. Conferences complete the cycle of scholarship, from question to conclusion to dissemination, with new questions arising from old. Conferences thus serve students who have conducted research whilst helping to recruit new students for the future.

We will outline the motivation, successes, and challenges of the Shenandoah Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (SUMS) conference. Now in its tenth year, SUMS at James Madison University is an annual event featuring undergraduate research in mathematics, statistics, and their applications. SUMS is funded by the MAA Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conferences Program and local sources at the university, with an annual attendance of around 300.

A primary focus of discussion will be how faculty and institutions can create, sustain, and maximize conferences that disseminate undergraduate research. The key limiters of funding and human capital will be center stage. There is not one template for what a successful event looks like, but we hope that sharing our triumphs and mistakes can be useful. We conclude with a discussion of needed next steps in the mathematical community's push toward increasing undergraduate research. (Received January 26, 2014)