Interview with Dr. Lisa Urry

Dr. Lisa Urry has been a Biology Professor at Mills College since 1994.

She is a second generation college graduate. She attended Tufts University as an undergraduate where she double majored in Biology and French. She then attended MIT for her PhD and UC Berkeley for her post-doc researching larval speculates in sea urchin development.

Dr. Urry's Parents
Her research at UC Berkeley is where she was informed about a position at Mills College where she taught Developmental Biology in 1994 and has been at this institution ever since. During her time at Mills she became one of the lead authors of a widely used biology textbook: Campbell’s Biology in Focus.
Dr. Urry is a professor for multiple courses in the Mills Biology department. However, a challenge she finds with working at a PUI is balancing the course work load with being a lead author on a widely used textbook which she says could be applied to other professors who actively conduct research. Her job entails discovering a way to effectively teach Biology to students. She enjoys reaching out to students and accommodating for and encouraging more women to pursue a career in STEM which is why she enjoys teaching at Mills, an all-women’s college. One of her least favorite aspects of her job is the extensive amount of paperwork and when meetings are not productive. Her advice for students, specifically women, who want to pursue a similar career path is to ”persist, do not think of everything that will prevent you from achieving your goal.”