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● 2013

# Undergraduate Research and Creative Works



To engage undergraduates in student-faculty collaborations that reflect individual and unique scholarly and imaginative experiences which promote the development of new

competences, foster critical and creative thinking, and provide students with privileged opportunities to add to the sum of human knowledge.



## BigSURS 2013: The Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium

High Point University hosted the Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium (BigSURS) on April 5-6<sup>th</sup>, and had a fantastic showing of students' oral and poster presentations, as well as juried art exhibition pieces. Thirty-six High Point University students won awards for

oral and poster presentations, out of 74 total awards.

"BigSURS went very well," Dr. Joanne Altman, Director of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW), reflects. "We upheld the rigorous status of the conference and we showed that High Point University can compete well among regional institutions. HPU students have demonstrated stellar academic accomplishments."

Next year, High Point University will host the High Point University Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (High-PURCS), the campus showcase of HPU students' research presentations. In place of BigSURS next year, HPU students will attend the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) held at the University of Kentucky. BigSURS will next be held at Campbell University in 2015.

## Undergraduate Research

Undergraduate research is a student-faculty collaboration to examine, create, and share new knowledge or work commensurate with practices in the discipline.



# Students Succeed: The Pride and Glory of Research and Scholarly Works



## BigSURS Spotlight: Luke Setliff

**Luke Setliff**, a senior business administration major and accounting and human relations double minor here at High Point University got involved in his undergraduate research while taking Dr. Paul Ringel's class entitled "Creating the American Consumer". It was a part of Setliff's assignment to pick an item of consumer culture that was created before World War II, and to relate the product to the consumer culture of the time. Setliff was intrigued by how the Superman comic book rapidly exploded in the late 1930's

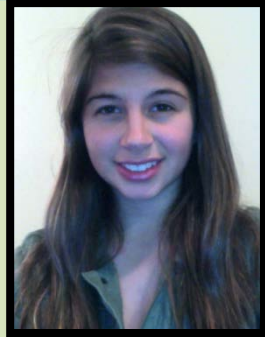
and 1940's, and understanding why it was so popular, which is what his research dealt with. Setliff researched his topic, wrote a paper on his research, and sent off his abstract to BigSURS. Setliff was accepted, and presented an oral presentation, entitled: "The Emergence of Superman: A New Deal Hero."

Setliff reflect on working with Dr. Ringel, saying that he was a very helpful mentor, constantly providing constructive feedback, and providing materials and insight for the direction of Setliff's research. He had a great

experience with Dr. Ringel, and the guidance given throughout the entire project was invaluable. Setliff's research, paper, and presentation, are all a combination of four years here at HPU. For Setliff, this project was a culmination of his undergraduate experience. It helped show how much he has developed his skills since he arrived here four years ago, and that the process of learning never ends. Setliff believes himself to have come a long way since freshman year, but states "there are always ways to improve."

After graduation, Setliff plans to pursue a career in the business field, finding himself interested in accounting/finance and business. He hopes to land a position in one of these areas, taking with him his experience presenting at a professional undergraduate conference.

## BigSURS Spotlight: Shannon Curley



**Shannon Curley**, a junior English literature major with a minor in women's and genders studies, got involved in her undergraduate research while taking a British literature course with her mentor, Dr. Laura Linker. Curley presented at BigSURS 2013 at High Point University, and says she had a different type of experience, because she had two separate presentations, and she had poster presentations, somewhat unusual for her discipline. "I appreciate being able to see what my peers are excelling at and seeing what others are passionate about," Curley says about her poster presentation experience. One of Curley's research papers, "Isolation, Idealism, and Gender Roles in Marie de France's "Lanval" will be published in HPU's *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Works*.



## Senior Spotlight: Nikki Sanford

**Nikki Sanford**, a senior double majoring in math and physics with a minor in chemistry, first got involved with undergraduate research in Dr. Aaron Titus' physics course two years ago. She had to conduct a research project for the course, and ended up researching and analyzing the motion of a hula hoop. As she worked on this project throughout the following year, she presented on her research at BigSURS 2011 and 2012, as well as the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) conference in 2012. Her paper, "Video Analysis of a Hula Hoop" was published in the BigSURS conference proceedings in August 2012. Sanford's research experience not only improved her

presentation/communication skills, but got her accepted to a National Science Foundation funded REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) program in nuclear physics at Duke University last summer. Additionally, she was able to present at The American Physics Society-Division on Nuclear Physics in 2012 and the AAPT Meeting in 2013. Most recently, Sanford presented at BigSURS 2013 in April.

Throughout her research experiences, Sanford was able to network and learn about a variety of academic and career opportunities related to the physical sciences. Sanford obtained a position with the American Institute of Physics (AIP) funded SPS Congressional Internship program in science policy and will be working on Capitol Hill in the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, with a stipend, plus living and travel expenses. She plans to attend William and Mary Law School this fall, and has an interest in intellectual property/patent law.



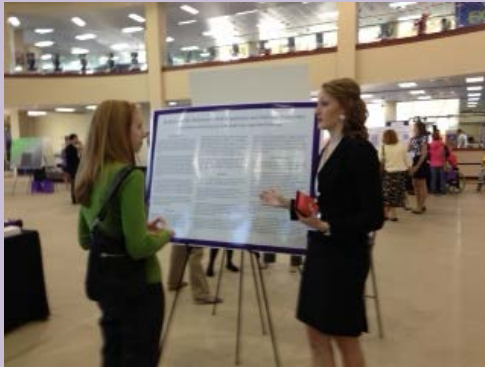
## BigSURS Spotlight: Kayla Guthrie

Kayla Guthrie, a junior nonprofit leadership and management major and communications minor, began her research in a class called "Appalachian Society and Nonprofits." Her BigSURS 2013 presentation, "The Appalachian Trail: Harnessing the Fanatic", has allowed Guthrie to explore her major. Nonprofit work is a vast field and the specific nature of her research topic helped Guthrie to focus on a topic she finds very appealing. "Research gives me the freedom to hone my passions which my undergraduate classes help ignite," Guthrie says. "My mentor, Dr. Hayes, was fantastic. He let me be as independent as I deemed necessary. Dr. Hayes has been a huge driving force in the process of trying to perfect my paper and get it published." Guthrie plans on submitting her paper for publication, and after graduation she wants to find a nonprofit cause to contribute to with her knowledge and experience.

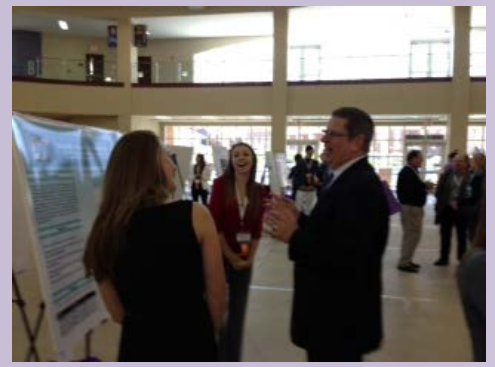
# BigSURS 2013: A Photo Compilation



Dr. Anna Piperato and another viewer listen to Olivia Bruner's poster presentation, ". Take Note: Why the Pen Is Mightier than the Keyboard."



Ashlee Branch presenting her poster, "Trading Up: Risk Regulation and Partner Selection."



Dr. Daniel Erb enjoying a presentation at the poster session.



Students and faculty listening to renowned keynote speaker, Dr. Mark Leary.



Presenters, students, and faculty enjoying the dinner reception on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.



Keynote speaker Dr. Mark Leary presenting, "Overreactions to Trivial Events: Why Do People 'Lose It' Over Minor Things?"



Presenters, other students, visitors, and faculty at the Juried Art Exhibition, Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.



Attendees viewing a student's art submission, which won best of show.



Presenters and faculty anxiously awaiting the award ceremony, Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.



# HPU Students Win Research Awards at BigSURS



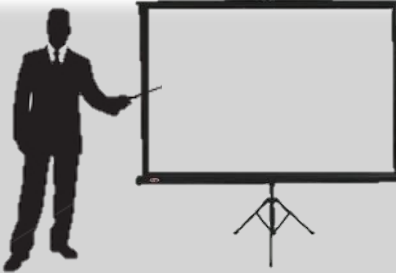
Here are the High Point University students who won awards at the Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Congratulations to our award winners!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Discipline</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Award</u>
<u>Oral Sessions</u>			
Andrea Baellow	Health sciences	"Comparison of Gluteus Medius Activation Between Weight Bearing and Non-Weight Bearing Limbs During a Functional Assessment of Hip Abduction Strength"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Grace Brinkley	History	"Building Backwards: Correlating Lincoln Logs To American Consumer Culture"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Meredith Greene and Drew Hackett	Education	"To Wii or Not To Wii: A Comparison of Teaching Methods"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Aimee Griffith	Education	"The Efficacy of Response to Intervention with Struggling Middle School Readers"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Kayla Guthrie	Anthropology/sociology	"The Appalachian Trail: Harnessing the Fanatic"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Kate Henseley	Communication	"The Girl Power Behind 1990s Music: The Spice Girls And The Riot Grrls"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Alexandra Hoey	History	"Media and Government Interaction in the 1973 Arab-Israeli War"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Thomas Langford	Computer science	"On Demand Adaptive Computing"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Thomas Langford, Kevin Sanders, and Christian Weigandt	Economics	"EconApps: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Experimental Economics"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Anna Mahethey	Anthropology/sociology	"Becoming More Religious: The Religious Experiences of First-Generation Hindu Indian Immigrant Women in the United States"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Cameron McGraw	Economics	"FIKA-Introducing Scandinavian Sweets and Swedish Eats"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
Brittany Melvin	Sociology	"Driving on the Right Side of the Road: An Approach to Developing an Effective Bi-Lingual Safe Driving Campaign for Spanish-Speaking, Hispanic Young People"	1 <sup>st</sup> place

<b>Monica Nissen</b>	English	"Ray Guns and Fancy Heaters: The Socio-Cultural Milieu's Influence on Comics"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Devan Plyer</b>	English	"Sam Spade: Revelations of the Wrench, the Beam, and the Man"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>John Purcell</b>	Psychology	"Beyond Listening: Musical and Semantic Effects of Favorite Songs"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Luke Setliff</b>	History	"The Emergence of Superman"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place

**Poster Sessions**

<b>Emily Agee and Kyle Shaw</b>	Biology	"Cleaning Agents for Prevention of MRSA Transmission"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Ashlee Branch</b>	Social studies	"Trading Up: Risk Regulation and Partner Selection"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Jacob Brooks</b>	Physics	"The Effects of Initial Conditions on the Motion of the Boleadora Weapon"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Olivia Bruner</b>	Education	"Take Note: Why the Pen Is Mightier than the Keyboard"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Nikki Frascione</b>	Art and design	"Back To Egypt: An Interactive Map"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>William S. Fravel</b>	Biology	"Anthocyanins And Leaf Temperature: A Biophysical Model"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Mary Funke</b>	Biology	"GPR109A as a Potential Anti-inflammatory Receptor in Human Retinal Endothelial Cells"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Rebecca Giese</b>	Biochemistry	"GFAP and CD68 in the Brains of Knockout Mice after a Model Brain Injury"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Aimee Griffith</b>	Social sciences	"The Effect of Self-Esteem on Metacognitive Factors that Affect School Performance"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Chelsea Heim</b>	Social studies	"Psychopathy and Its Relationship to Narcissism, Self-Esteem, and Sociosexuality"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Michael Higginbotham</b>	Biology	"Cave Annelids from Alabama and Georgia and Their Association with Soil Characteristics"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Jennifer Johnson</b>	Health sciences	"Reported MCID Estimates of Hip Related Patient Reported Outcomes: A Systematic Review"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Lizzie Leighton</b>	Humanities	"Music and Mood Affecting Memory"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Megan May and Jessica Chavez</b>	Biology	"Antimicrobial Properties of the Medicinal Plant Verbascum Thapsus Linnaeus, 1753"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Beth Meloro</b>	Biology	"Effectiveness of Fruit-Derived Compounds in Eliminating MRSA"	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
<b>Alison Parker</b>	Chemistry	"Modification of Polysaccharides with Attachment of Iron Chelating Ligands"	1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>Nikki Sanford</b>	Physics	"Simulation Studies of the Helium and Lead Observatory (HALO)"	1 <sup>st</sup> place



# Grants



The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) awards grants to students to attend competitions and give conference talks. Here are the High Point University students who received grants for the month of April.

## Association of Southeastern Biologists 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, April 10-13

Mentored by Dr. Dinene Crater

- **Ashley Bondurant**, “Effects of Ultraviolet Light on the Presence of Staphylococcus Aureus in a College Community”
- **Beth Meloro**, “Effectiveness of Fruit Derived Compounds in Eliminating MRSA”

Mentored by Dr. Sandra Cooke

- **Dylan Malpass**, “Environmental Surveillance of Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis in Streams of Central North Carolina”

Mentored by Dr. Joshua Campbell

- **Anthony Abbate**, “Parasitic beechdrops (*Epifagus virginiana*): A possible ant pollinated plant”
- **Ashley Galway**, “Pollinating insect communities in semi-natural grasslands managed for conservation benefits and biomass production”

## Midatlantic Athletic Trainers Association Symposium

Mentored by Dr. Anh-Dung Nguyen

- **Andrea Baellow**, “Comparison of Gluteus Medius Activation between Weight Bearing and Non-Weight Bearing Limbs During a Functional Assessment of Hip Abduction Strength”

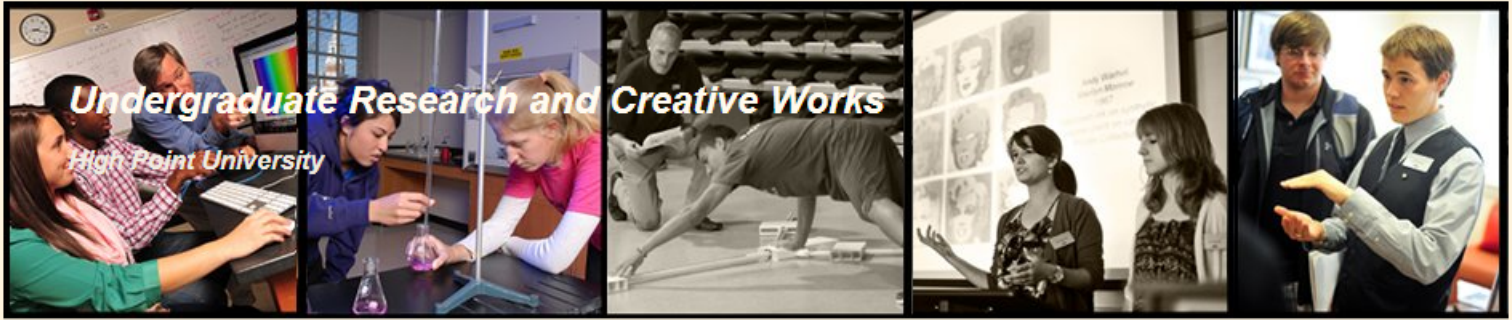
## Southeastern Naturalist

Volume 11 2012 Number 4



## High Point University Student and Alumna to be Published

Both High Point University alumna Valentina Garbarino and senior Anthony Abbate will soon be published upcoming issues of *Southeastern Naturalist*, a prestigious scholarly journal publishing on regional natural history for the southeastern United States. Both Garbarino and Abbate’s respective research was conducted under the mentorship of Dr. Joshua Campbell. Abbate presented his soon-to-be published research, “Parasitic beechdrops (*Epifagus virginiana*): A possible ant pollinated plant, at the Association of Southeastern Biologists 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference earlier this April. Garbarino was recently accepted to a graduate program at the University of Texas at San Antonio, receiving a \$26,000 stipend per year plus full tuition. Garbarino’s graduate program cited her research experience, “*Phthiraptera* (lice) and *Acari* (mites) collected from 13 species of waterfowl from Alabama and Georgia,” as one of the reasons for her acceptance.



## Undergraduate Research and Creative Works

High Point University

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### URCW Program

The Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) program encourages and supports the establishment of collaborative partnerships between nurturing faculty mentors and enterprising students. Within these partnerships, critical inquiry, brainstorming, debate, and mutual discovery intertwine, leading over time to the production of finished works suitable for publication, exhibition, or presentation in either professional or public forums. In this way, the overarching goal of the URCW program is to provide students with inquiry based or creative opportunities for experiences that many students would receive only in graduate school or the professional world.



May 2013

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27	28	29	30	31		

### Upcoming Conferences for 2013-14

#### State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (SNCURCS)

- o November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- o Hosted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in Charlotte, North Carolina

#### National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)

- o April 3-5, 2014
- o Hosted by the University of Kentucky

### Don't Forget!

Check out our website for research opportunities coming this fall. Learn about open positions as a research assistant and in the survey research center. To get involved in undergraduate research and creative works here at High Point University, start by looking for the student run organization, Students for Undergraduate Research (SURE), at the campus activities fair in August. For more information about the student run group, contact the acting president, Greyson Whitaker, at [whitag12@highpoint.edu](mailto:whitag12@highpoint.edu).

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