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# 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.



## URCW: A New Semester, a New Website

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) has undergone a few recent changes- a brand new website! The improved site provides for easier access and availability to information, and demonstrates the vast opportunities for research on High Point University's campus. Information previously on the site has been kept, and new information has been highlighted, such as the brand new High Point University journal, *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Works*. Visitors to the site can get a sneak peek at the journal's cover, as well as a new graphic to represent the URCW office, both of which were created by HPU students. Students have access to travel grant forms, lists of upcoming conferences as well as research assistant opportunities, and summer research opportunities. Detailed information about all aspects of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works is listed on the new website. For recent information about URCW, just check out the "Newsletters" link on the website!

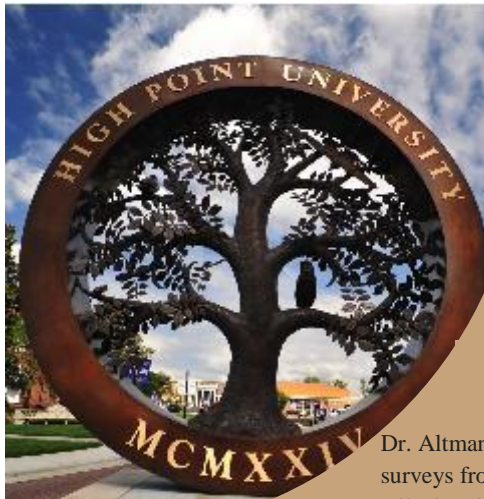


## Undergraduate Research

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



**Dr. Joanne Altman**, director of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) at High Point University, has been busy spreading the word about research opportunities on campus. Whenever the opportunity arises, Dr. Altman speaks in classes about the benefits of conducting research as an undergraduate. Many students had little to no knowledge of URCW previous to hearing Dr. Altman speak.

## How Many HPU Students *Really* Know About Undergraduate Research On Campus?

Dr. Altman began conducting surveys from the classes she talked to, hoping to get feedback from students about their familiarity with URCW.

Out of the 228 students surveyed, 69% had no previous awareness of URCW. Among the students surveyed, 91 were freshmen, and a shocking 80% were completely unaware that research opportunities existed for them. Many of the freshmen who previously had no knowledge of URCW made

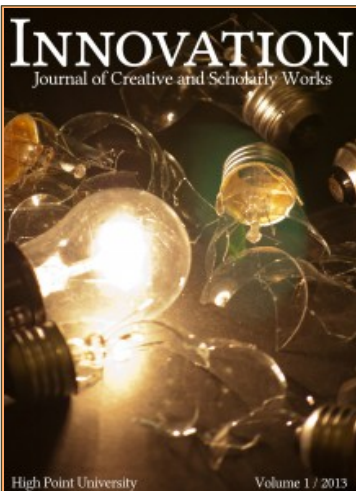
comments like, "I had no idea research existed for my major".

Dr. Altman plans to use these data to branch out and discover new ways of informing HPU students, especially underclassmen. "Undergraduate research is an opportunity for every student in every major". Students are encouraged as sophomores to become research assistants, engage in their own research as juniors, and work on publishing and presenting in their senior year.

## NEW FACE OF URCW



**Meghan Callahan**, senior at High Point University, is proud to be the artistic creator of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works' new graphic design. Originally competing against her graphic design classmates for what would ultimately be the URCW journal cover, her design was chosen to represent the office rather than the journal. "It reflected the struggle that learning something new usually involves, and represents a wide range of disciplines," Dr. Altman remarks. Callahan's design can be seen on the home page of the new URCW website. The Office of URCW has already begun ordering a large poster of Callahan's design, and will begin to implement her graphic frequently in the future.



## *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Works*

For the past year, the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works has been supporting the academic pursuits of High Point University students; providing funding for presentations at prestigious research conferences, spreading the word about research opportunities on campus, and supporting creative events across campus. Now, the Office of URCW is taking its endeavors one step further, and is proud to announce the publication of High Point University's very own undergraduate research journal.

The journal's title, *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Works*, took some time to decide upon. "Something that is innovative means something that is brand-new and different," The journal's student editor, **Lindsay Sugarman**, comments. "Innovation is exactly what the Office of URCW wanted to bring to HPU's campus- something new and exciting!"

The journal is set to be published on the URCW website this spring. Submissions for the journal are currently under review. The Office of URCW is excited to give HPU students another academic avenue to pursue. "This journal is a fantastic way to showcase HPU students' creative and scholarly works," Sugarman states. "I hope *Innovation* will accumulate prestige over the years."



## HPU Student's Research Continues and Progresses

High Point University sophomore, **Haley Hegedus**, has continued her research into the new semester. "We submitted information for IRB approval," Hegedus says, referring to her undergraduate research involving animal disposition and temperament. "The veterinarians I will be working with are excited to get started on the study!" Hegedus has also submitted an abstract to the upcoming Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium, held on HPU's campus this April. Hegedus will conduct research throughout the semester and compile her findings with the help of her mentor, Dr. Joanne Altman.



# Grants and Conferences

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) awards grants to students to attend competitions and give conference talks. Here are the recent awards for the month of January.

## American Association of Physics Teachers, January 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

Mentored by: Dr. Aaron Titus

- Nikki Sanford: "Simulation Studies of the Helium and Lead Observatory (HALO)"
- Linda Poplawski: "Determining DNA Breaks Due to Neutron Radiation"
- Kevin Sanders: "Computational Modeling and Video Analysis of a Kicked Football"

## Popular culture/ American culture Association Annual National Conference, March 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

Mentored by: Dr. Jenn Brandt

- Fiona White: "Who Wears the Crown: How Feminism Is Proven Through Pageantry"
- Sam Kizer: "Multimodal fiction and Mediated Boyhood: The Changing Construction of Contemporary Teenaged Masculinity as a Result of Convergent Storytelling"
- Kathryn Bruzios: "Secrets of the Wife of Bath: Love, Sex, and Marriage"
- Elizabeth Ellis: "The Civil War over Civil Rights: Public Memory of the Civil War in 1960s Randolph County, North Carolina"

## Southeast American College of Sports Medicine, February 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>

Mentored by: Dr. Kimberly Reich

Southeast American college of sports medicine

- Brandon Yannotti, Christiana Brock, Jennifer Schoulda will be competing in the annual Southeast ACSM college bowl, a quiz bowl competition.

## Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, February. 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

Mentored by: Mr. Jay Putnam

### Presenting scenes in Irene Ryan Competition

Jared Goldenberg  
Stephen Sergeant  
Turner Morehead  
Brandon Browning

### Irene Ryan Competition Partner

Macauley Quirk  
Ashton Hunt  
Josh Stein  
Bryelle Dafeldecker

### Presenting in Devised Ensemble

Brandon Browning  
Jamison Meyer  
Macauley Quirk  
Ashton Hunt  
Josh Stein  
Bryelle Dafeldecker  
Nina Yasick  
Stephen Sergeant

**Faculty Nomination for SDC directing**  
Jamison Meyer

## North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children State Conference, January 30-31<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Mentored by: Dr. Beth Holder:

- Jennifer Clark and Rebecca Irvine will be attending this conference to gain knowledge of presentation under this year's conference theme, "Parents as Partners".

## United States Institute for Theatre Technology, March 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

Mentored by: Ms. Ami Shupe

- Carl Rugato, Jared Goldenberg, David Mikulay, David McKone, Claire Denny, Bryelle Dafeldecker, Alexandra Mauch, and Chloe Kunar will be competing in the USITT tech Olympics

## North Carolina Political Science Association Annual Meeting, February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Mentored by: Dr. Alixandra Yanus

- Ashley Reaves: "Libertarians: Who are They and Why Should We Care?"
- Alexandra Hoe: "Tolerance Toward Muslims: An Analysis of Indonesia, Nigeria, Spain, and the United States"

## Southeastern Theatre Conference, March 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>

Mentored by: Mr. Jay Putnam

- Brandon Browning, participating in the SETC auditions



### Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium (BigSURS) : April 5-6, 2013

The colleges in the Big South Athletic Conference host a regional undergraduate research symposium in any year in which attending the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) would require extensive travel. Like the NCUR, the BigSURS provides undergraduate scholars in all fields a forum to share the results of their work through posters, presentations, performances, and works of art.

High Point University is hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The conference will start early Friday afternoon and end mid- Saturday afternoon.

In addition, High Point University will be hosting an **Intercollegiate Juried Art Exhibition**. The exhibition will run March 13 – April 5 and will culminate with a reception Friday evening at BigSURS. This exhibition will explore research and investigation as it relates to the visual arts. Students from a variety of disciplines will have an opportunity to display their work and achievements in the fields of art and design in an academic setting.

**DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL JANUARY 31!.**



With over 200 abstracts submitted, the Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium (Big SURS) is expected to attract hundreds of young academics and mentors to the High Point University campus this April. The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) has been preparing for months, and the weekend of the conference is nearing. “We’ve got nametags to make, signs to create, and receptions to plan.” URCW director Dr. Joanne Altman says. Most of all, the Office of URCW is looking for volunteers to help out on the day of the conference. Hard-working HPU students are needed to moderate presentations, assist in the set-up of posters, and direct the many visiting presenters to HPU locations. If interested, prospective volunteers should email Dr. Altman at [jaltman0@highpoint.edu](mailto:jaltman0@highpoint.edu)

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Undergraduate Research  
and Creative Works  
[urcw.highpoint.edu](http://urcw.highpoint.edu)

Dr. Joanne Altman  
Office in Phillips 115  
[urcw@highpoint.edu](mailto:urcw@highpoint.edu)



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