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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.



HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

## Exciting New Home for Undergraduate Research and Creative Works

High Point University is planning on constructing a brand new building on campus beginning this fall, which will become the new Center for Student Excellence. Housed inside this building will be offices such as the Office of Study Abroad, the Office of

Internship Services, as well as our very own Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW).

“Programming for inside the building is still being considered and continues to evolve. The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works is a great opportunity on campus for students, and it deserves a proper home...in the Center for Student Excellence!” Roger Clodfelter, Assistant Vice President for Communication and Culture, says about the new Center for Student Excellence.

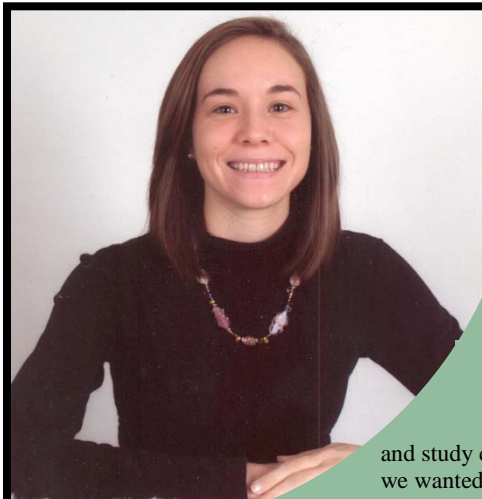
Dr. Joanne Altman, Director of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works, as well as her student workers, anxiously anticipate the opening of the Center for Student Excellence. “We are certainly looking forward to the larger open space,” Dr. Altman comments. “It will be a great home for the Office of URCW, and a great way to expand research opportunities for students.”

## 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



## Senior Spotlight: Aimee Griffith

**Aimee Griffith**, a senior here at High Point University, reflects upon her research thus far as an undergraduate. With a major in psychology and a minor in special education, Griffith has combined her academic strengths and is currently working on three research projects. One of these projects is a continuation from last year's work, when Griffith acted as research assistant to her mentor, Dr. Stacy Lipowski. "We performed a study with preschoolers from surrounding daycares to see if they could make accurate judgments of learning

and study choices. Basically, we wanted to see if preschoolers could determine information they do not know," Griffith explains. "The second project I am working on with Dr. Lipowski focuses on the spacing effect in elementary-aged students... Specifically, we are trying to replicate the results of a study that found evidence for the spacing effect in the real-world classroom while adding in a new component."

Griffith's third project is researching the response to intervention in public middle-

school students with the help of her mentor, Dr. Sarah Vess of the Education department. Griffith enjoys this project because it is working within the discipline of school psychology, the field Griffith hopes to work within after she graduates this May.

"Working with my mentors has impacted me greatly. They have consistently pushed me to be better and do more with my research than I had first imagined. I have gained many skills from working with them," Griffith reflects. "Conducting research has already helped me beyond the realm of HPU."

Griffith will be presenting at the Big South Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (BigSURS) this April as well as be published in HPU's *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Works*.

## SOPHOMORE DIVES HEADFIRST INTO RESEARCH



**Ashlee Branch**, a sophomore double-major in women's and genders studies and religion, says she has a past class to thank for her involvement in research. During her freshman year, Branch took a course with Dr. Judy Isaksen and wrote a research paper on the evolution and consequences of the glamorization of casual sex in the media. Branch presented this paper at the 2012 BigSURS conference, with URCW grant assistance. Branch also worked as a research assistant for Dr. Sadie Leder, and plans to publish an article in the future. "Conducting research has helped me so far because it has given me hands-on experience with the work I want to pursue in my career," Branch says. "It has also given me professional skills, such as public speaking and how to build an effective presentation."

Research has been "immeasurably rewarding" for Branch, and she thanks both of her fantastic mentors for their dedication and guidance.



## Senior Spotlight: John Purcell

**John Purcell**, a senior at High Point University, has taken full advantage of the research opportunities at HPU during his undergraduate career. Earlier this year with the help from a URCW grant, Purcell was able to travel to New Orleans for the Society of Personality and Social Psychology to present his research on the stigmatization of schizophrenia, titled "Is it a Matter of Fact? The Impact of Presentation Style on Schizophrenia Knowledge and Stigmatization." Purcell conducted this experiment as part of a research course at HPU under mentorship from Dr. Jana Spain. "Dr. Spain really encouraged the entire class to conduct personally compelling research," Purcell reflects. Working on a project I cared about made the data collection process exciting."

Purcell says that one of the reasons he came to HPU is because it is one of the only schools that would allow him to graduate with a B.S. in psychology & a B.A. in music, and in only four years. His double major allowed him to take a more interdisciplinary approach to his research. Purcell and his mentor, Dr. Sadie Leder, researched and presented a poster titled, "What Makes a Siren Sultry: Examining Partner Selection and Vocal Performance from a Risk Regulation Perspective" also with the financial help from a URCW grant.

Purcell also studied abroad last semester at Oxford Brookes University in England, and conducted research there as well, and is currently conducting research that investigates the impact of long-term musical experience on auditory processing in musicians. He will be presenting this research at the BigSURS conference in April. Purcell plans to obtain a position as a laboratory assistant before applying to graduate school and pursuing a PhD in Clinical Psychology.



## HPU Student's Research Continues and Progresses

**Haley Hegedus**, a sophomore pre-veterinary major, feels she is on a great academic path. "It's definitely a good idea to get involved with a good mentor who can guide you through the process." Hegedus says of her research. "There are a lot of intricate details to the research process that might not be common sense, and it's good to have someone who can guide you through the more confusing or roundabout aspects of research." Hegedus encourages other sophomores to get involved early in their undergraduate career.



# 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 students presenting at the Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium April 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.

## Oral and Poster Presenters:

Mikhaela Ackerman  
Emily Agee  
Samantha Arzon  
Andrea Baellow  
William Bloxom  
Ashley Bondurant  
Ashlee Branch  
Grace Brinkley  
Alicia Brooks  
Jacob Brooks  
Olivia Bruner  
Kathryn Bruzios  
William Burke  
Michael Cantor  
Matthew Carnaghi  
Kaylyn Carpenter  
Christina Carrozza  
Anne Caverly  
Jessica Chavez  
Jordan Cohen  
Shannon Curley  
Katie DeAngelo  
Kayla Dolan  
Elizabeth Ellis  
Lucy Findley  
Tiffany Francois  
Mason Frank  
Nikki Frascione  
Scotty Fravel  
Laura Fritts  
Mary Funke  
Thomas Garbarino  
Rebecca Giese  
Shannon Goldstein  
Meredith Greene

Aimee Griffith  
Kayla Guthrie  
Drew Hackett  
Chelsea Heim  
Kate Hensley  
Michael Higgenbotham  
Alexandra Hoey  
Jennifer Johnson  
Timothy Keidel  
Brianna Kenison  
Emily Krewson  
Thomas Langford  
Lizzie Leighton  
Stephen Lillie  
Alexandra MacDonald  
Anna Mahathey  
Dylan Malpass  
Megan May  
Jamie McDonald  
Cameron McGraw  
Beth Meloro  
Brittany Melvin  
Charlene Miller  
Junior Neal  
Samantha Nelson  
Monica Nissen  
Ryan Nolan  
Alex Palmer  
Alison Parker  
Ameer Patel  
Danielle Paul  
Dakota Peachee  
Devan Plyler  
Linda Poplawski  
Melinda Poteet  
John Purcell

Alison Quigley  
Rachael Redmond  
Kevin Sanders  
Nikki Sanford  
Madison Sapp  
Morgan Sapp  
Luke Setliff  
Jessica Setzer  
Kyle Shaw  
Travis Short  
Justin Singh  
Margaret Sullivan  
Kristin Turner  
Laura Twomey  
Kelly Vaughn  
Sarah Voigt  
Tim Walker  
Christian Weigandt  
Miranda Zupp

## Art Exhibit Students:

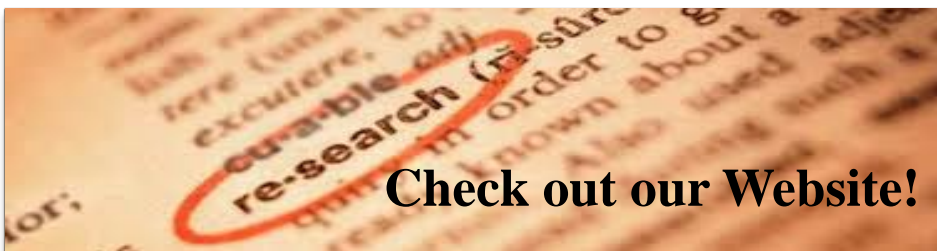
Chloe Betts  
Catherine Jannuzzi  
Mary Beth Jones  
Laura Schramm  
John Wannamaker



# BigSURS 2013



High Point University - April 5th and 6th, 2013  
 Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium



## Check out our Website!

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) website has great resources for students, including research opportunities on campus, as well as summer research opportunities for HPU at various other universities. Students can also check out research journals that are open for student publication, as well as access travel grants for conferences they have been accepted to. Beginning this spring, students and faculty can access the very first edition of *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Work* on the URCW website, featuring published papers from High Point University students and recent alumni.

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