

# SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter for Undergraduate Research & Creative Works

THE  
*February*  
ISSUE



Happy February! We're pleased to share our latest issue of the Spotlight newsletter as we approach mid-term exams and spring break. This month, we'll cover the most recent URCW news to keep you up-to-date with student achievements within the realm of collaborative, creative, and scholarly works. By sharing their stories, we hope to encourage your participation in our wonderful research community!

## What's Inside?

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In URCW, our mission is to bring together undergraduate students and faculty members for the purpose of creating unique and collaborative projects. By fostering an imaginative research experience, we hope to promote the development of new competencies, encourage critical thinking skills, and inspire students to add to the global sum of human knowledge. We'd love to connect with you through one of our numerous media outlets:

## Connect With Us



@hpu\_urcw



highpoint.edu/urcw



@hpu.urcw



urcw@highpoint.edu

# Summer Research Is On!

URCW is excited to share that there will be summer research this year! Check out the three programs that will be offered and don't forget— Applications are due **March 3rd\***!

\*Students will be notified of acceptance into *any* program after April 6th.



## **SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SuRI) - Since 2013:**

SuRI is open to undergraduate students in all disciplines. Students collaborate on a research project with faculty mentors to develop a project goal, method, and timeline. SuRI runs June and July.

- Free campus housing is provided
- Small stipends may be available
- One mandatory weekly meeting and Tuesday movie nights



## **SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM IN THE SCIENCES (SuRPS) - since 2015:**

SuRPS is a competitive program for 24 research assistant positions with faculty in biology, chemistry, and physics.

- Free campus housing, meals, and a summer stipend is provided
- Students expected to work 40 hrs/week (students should not have additional employment)
- View faculty projects online and rank top 3 choices in application



## **THE CONGDON SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES - SUMMER**

### **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (CSHS-SuRF) - since 2016:**

CSHS-SuRF is a competitive program for research assistant positions with faculty in the Health Sciences.

- Free campus housing and a summer stipend is provided
- Interested students should review student eligibility criteria, preview faculty projects, identify top 3 choices, and email faculty mentors

*Submit an application today!*

Visit [www.highpoint.edu/urcw/summer-research-opportunities-at-hpu/](http://www.highpoint.edu/urcw/summer-research-opportunities-at-hpu/) to apply.



CHRISTINA CARILLI



*I am honored to be a published author and research presenter as an undergraduate student. My advice is for all students to get involved with undergraduate research regardless of their major or minor. Being involved in multidisciplinary projects is one of the most rewarding experiences that all students should take part in.*

# Student Achievement Profile

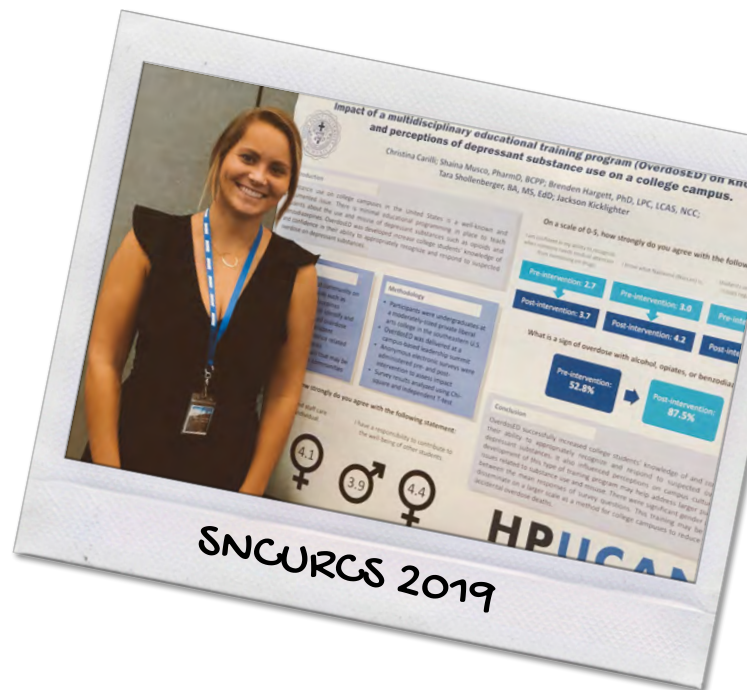
From Class Project to Published Author: How one student found her place in the undergraduate research community

Christina Carilli, a junior psychology major and special education minor, didn't necessarily have research on her mind when she first entered HPU. It wasn't until she took one of Professor Brian Heagney's classes that the idea of conducting research as an undergraduate student became a real possibility. Together, Christina and Professor Heagney researched the skills that employers look for in recent graduate students that apply to video gaming jobs.

With the spark for research ignited, Christina continued her URCW involvement by becoming a Research Rookie and, alongside Dr. Shaina Musco, Assistant Professor of clinical studies, published a paper titled, "Impact of a multidisciplinary educational training program (OverdosED) on knowledge and perceptions of depressant substance use on a college campus." She presented her findings at both High-PURCS and SNCURCS.

Currently, Christina is working with Dr. Musco to publish "Attitudes and Perceptions About the Use of Long-Acting Injectable Antipsychotics Among Behavior Health Providers" and will be staying at HPU this summer to complete her second research project. This spring, she will be presenting her work at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Although Christina didn't have research in mind before coming to HPU, she has found it to be an incredibly rewarding experience and appreciates all of the help Dr. Musco and Dr. Altman have provided over the years. URCW wishes Christina the best of luck in her future pursuits and encourages other students to follow in her stead and get involved in a research project today!

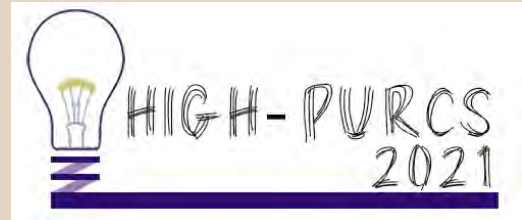


# High-PURCS 2021

Everyone from every major is invited to participate in our 9th annual High Point University Research and Creativity Symposium (High-PURCS).

Choose from various presentation styles (poster, oral, performance, exhibit) to showcase your original works. This is the perfect time to revisit any existing projects and consider submitting an abstract for High-PURCS this spring.

You might be thinking that a "research symposium" is only geared towards majors like the natural sciences, but that's not the case here! We welcome research projects, presentations, and performances from ALL majors and we'd love to see your discipline represented.



## Virtual Event Date

April 19 - April 21, 2021\*  
with live Q&A's April 20, 2021  
\*The site will remain open through the end of April

## Abstract Submission Deadline

March 22, 2021  
Register Online at  
[www.highpoint.edu/highpurcs/](http://www.highpoint.edu/highpurcs/)  
The portal is now open!



ForagerOne is an online platform for students to connect with faculty for collaborative research.

Communicate with faculty through messaging



43%  
Freshman



The perfect opportunity to get involved from the start!

35%  
Sophomores

Find faculty using the search engine database



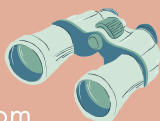
3,000+  
Virtual Visits

23  
Majors  
Represented

## Most Visited Departments

1. Pharmacy
2. Physical Therapy
3. Psychology
4. URCW
5. Biology

Simply visit [www.foragerone.com](http://www.foragerone.com) to create an account with your HPU email and start exploring!



Bookmark faculty of interest



Submit applications to collaborate

# Student Researcher Highlight

After conducting research as a high schooler in North Dakota, Rachel Day didn't waste any time in finding research opportunities at HPU. Before her freshman year began this past fall, Rachel took part in the summer research program, working in Dr. Meghan Blackledge's chemistry lab. She studied antibiotic resistance in loratadine—the leading ingredient in the allergy medication, Claritin—and will continue her research this upcoming summer. By participating in URCW so early in her undergraduate career as a Research Rookie, Rachel got a head start in achieving her future goals of attending graduate school, getting her PhD in chemistry, and working in industry research.



## Grant Recipients

URCW has the pleasure of awarding grants to students and faculty mentors to present their work at disciplinary conferences. Consider applying for a grant for your virtual conference registration or for a small project stipend today! Congrats to the following grant recipients:



**Brooke Allen** received a grant to support her biochemistry research project "Potentiation of Aminoglycosides Against Drug-Resistant Bacteria Strains," under the mentorship of Dr. Meghan Blackledge.



**Emily Gonzalez, Trinity Erjo, and Liza Ragan** will present their research in biology at the virtual Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists, under the mentorship of **Dr. Nicole Hughes**. **Hannah Smith** will attend the conference as well.



Interested in interdisciplinary projects? Apply for the **SIRG Grant** today!

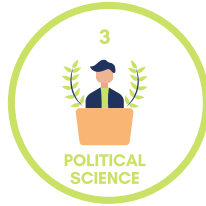
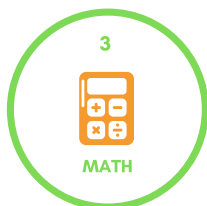
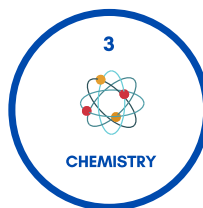
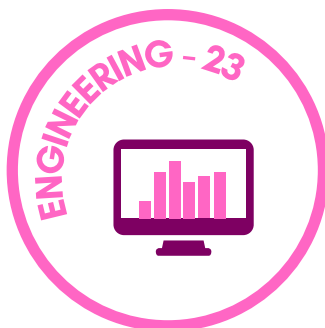
If you need funding for your interdisciplinary project (research involving 2 or more separate fields), look no further! Apply for the SIRG grant! Students awarded with the SIRG grant will receive up to \$1,000 in funding for their scholarly work. **The online application is now open!**

# Register your Research

Are you pursuing your own independent projects, mentored by a faculty member?  
Are you collaborating or assisting with faculty projects?  
Have you published or presented your project? Be counted!

We track student research to share with the campus. Make sure you register your project on our website by clicking the “**Register URCW Activity**” link on the left-hand side of the page. In just a few minutes, you and your faculty mentor can be recognized for your incredible work and join the URCW family at HPU!

Registered students by major:



✨ Don't see your major listed? Register today to be counted!