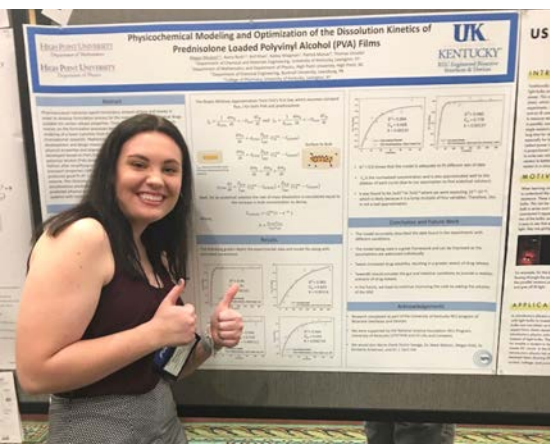


undergraduate research & creative works



From left: Megan Mouton presents her research in physics, students Daniel Smith-McGuinness and Allison King present their research in History.

It was a great February for everyone involved in research and creative works at High Point University! Our monthly newsletter will keep you up to date with our student's many accomplishments within the realm of collaborative, creative and scholarly works. By sharing their achievements, we hope to encourage your participation in our wonderful research community!

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Our Mission

Our mission is to engage undergraduate students in collaborative projects with faculty members. The unique projects created, both scholarly and imaginative, aim to promote the development of new competencies and foster critical thinking skills. We aspire to provide students the special opportunity to add to the global sum of human knowledge and experience through research.



Student Achievement Profile

Mikaela Seemann



Undergraduate research continues to inspire my passion for the sciences as well as my interest in a research career



As a junior, biochemistry student, Mikaela has dedicated much of her undergraduate career to various research pursuits. Ever since she declared her biochemistry major freshman year, Mikaela looked for ways to get more involved on campus. She participated in High Point's summer research programs, SURPS, in the summer of 2017. It was here that she joined Dr. Meghan Blackledge's lab and remained an active member since then, participating in SURPS again in 2018. Last year, Mikaela won best digital poster presentation for "*Identification of Small Molecules with Antibiotic Activity in M. Smegmatis*" at High-PURCS.

In Dr. Blackledge's lab, Mikaela has been creating a structure activity relationship for phenanthrolines antibiotic activity in *M. smegmatis* and other mycobacterial species. In order to search for novel antimycobacterials, she screens commercially available compounds in *M. smegmatis* to determine their ability to prevent growth. *M. smegmatis* is a rapidly growing, non-pathogenic mycobacterial species that shares 97% sequence homology with Mtb and is a commonly used mycobacterial model organism. In her currently studies, Mikaela is trying to generate *M. smegmatis* mutants resistant to the lead compounds with the best antibiotic activity.

URCW wishes Mikaela the best of luck as she heads into her senior year next semester and encourages everyone to join Mikaela as a member of the research community here at HPU!

Grant Recipients

URCW has the pleasure of awarding grants to students and faculty mentors to present their work at disciplinary conferences. Congratulations to the following URCW grant recipients:



UPCOMING PROJECTS:

- 01.** **Rachel Berndsen, Katie Connor, Taylor Cunningham, Franzi Jakobs, Lauren Kaelin, Juliana O'Brien, Isabella Postle, Mikaela Seemann, Kate Storo, Julia Trautman, Dexter Boldog, Nathan Grinalds, Will Lefever, and Nicholas Kirby** will present their research at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Philadelphia, PA. These projects have been conducted under the mentorship of **Dr. Meghan Blackledge, Dr. Keir Fogarty, Dr. Pamela Lundin, Dr. Heather Miller, and/or Dr. Andrew Wommack.**
- 02.** **Reagan Thomas, Celia Adams, & Meagan Pusser** will present their English papers, written under the mentorship of **Dr. Matthew Carlson**, at the Sigma Tau Delta English honor society conference in Las Vegas, NV.
- 03.** **Mikey Kennedy** will travel to San Antonio, TX to present his research at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conference, under the mentorship of **Dr. Margaret Chrusciel.**
- 04.** **Kacey Ruben** received a grant to support her senior production capstone project in communication. Kacey will produce a narrative film on the topic of harassment in the workplace under the mentorship of **Professor Joe Michaels.**
- 05.** **Emily Shipley** will present her research in exercise science at the American Association of Physical Anthropology Meetings in Los Angeles, CA, under the mentorship of **Dr. James Pampush.**
- 06.** The **Petal Points** a cappella group (**Emily Poindexter, Morgan Drobny, Gabriela Meteras, Carolyn Sveden, Hannah Malugen, Ashley Adler, Natalee Huber, Brooke Allen, Reyna Alston, Michaela Cummings, Xzavea Wommack-Johnson, Alexa Ondrush, Macy McFerren, and Amelia Fox**) will perform at Disney Performing Arts at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL, under the mentorship of **Dr. Candice Burrows.**

07. Taylor Parks, Isabelle Petts, Jack Larini, Ashley Britton, and Matthew Gushee will present their research at the James C. McCroskey and Virginia P. Richmond Undergraduate Scholars Conference (USC), Eastern Communication Association (ECA), under the mentorship of **Dr. Elizabeth Jeter.**

08. Kyle Wiseman received a grant to support his research in computer science under the mentorship of **Dr. Jason Pittman.**

09. Timothy Diaz received a grant to support his research in computer science under the mentorship of **Dr. Roger Shore.**

10. Vivian McAllister, Sophia Kestner, Jacqueline Hallerman, Mackenzie Crow, Courtney Taylor, Brianna Hernandez, Samantha Harstad, Jaxtyn Osborn, and Sara Seaford will present their research in psychology at the Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA, under the mentorship of **Dr. Elizabeth Bennett** and **Dr. Laura Nagy.**

11. Emily Yacuzzo and Sara Huguenin will present their research in history at the North Carolina Association of Historians. Their research was conducted under the mentorship of **Dr. Michael Kennedy.**

COMPLETED PROJECTS:



N.C. A&T
HEMP CONFERENCE

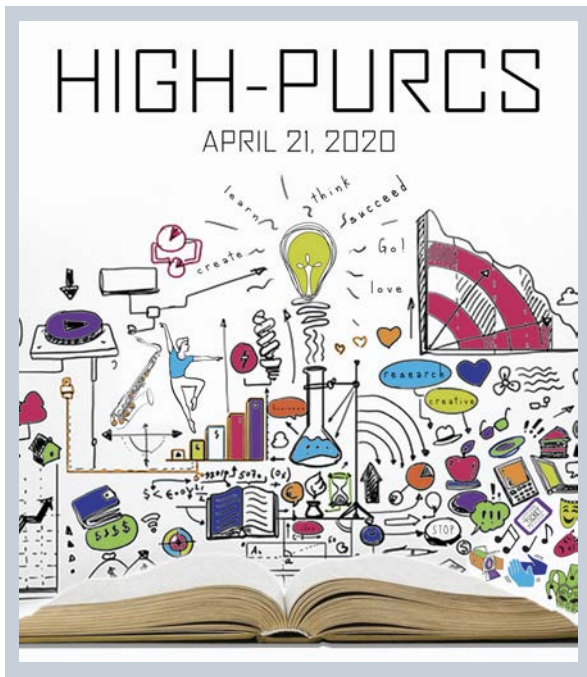
Kali Davis travelled to the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Hemp Conference to gain insight into her senior biology project.

Interested in conducting research that crosses disciplines?



APPLY FOR A **SIRG** NOW - APRIL 1ST

Applications are now being accepted for a competitive URCW Scholarly Interdisciplinary Research Grant (SIRG). The award is up to \$1000 and can be used for research or creative works supplies and/or travel for fieldwork.



Would you like to gain experience presenting research in a professional environment? Submit to present your work at **High-PURCS**, High Point's Research and Creativity Symposium!

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS OPEN NOW - MARCH 27TH

Students from any major are invited to participate in our 8th annual High-PURCS! This event showcases student works and provides a supportive, professional learning environment. Students may present their original and creative work as a poster, oral presentation, brief performance, or exhibit. Last year, 199 students presented, representing every school on campus!

ForagerOne

Have you ever had trouble connecting with faculty to find research opportunities?

FORAGERONE.COM IS JUST THE SOURCE FOR YOU

ForagerOne is an online platform for students to connect with faculty for collaborative research. Simply visit the website to create an account with your HPU email and start exploring:

- Find faculty using the search engine database
- Bookmark faculty of interest
- Submit applications to work with faculty
- Communicate with faculty through messaging



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's 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!

THE BREAKDOWN: The Mentee Registry by Program

