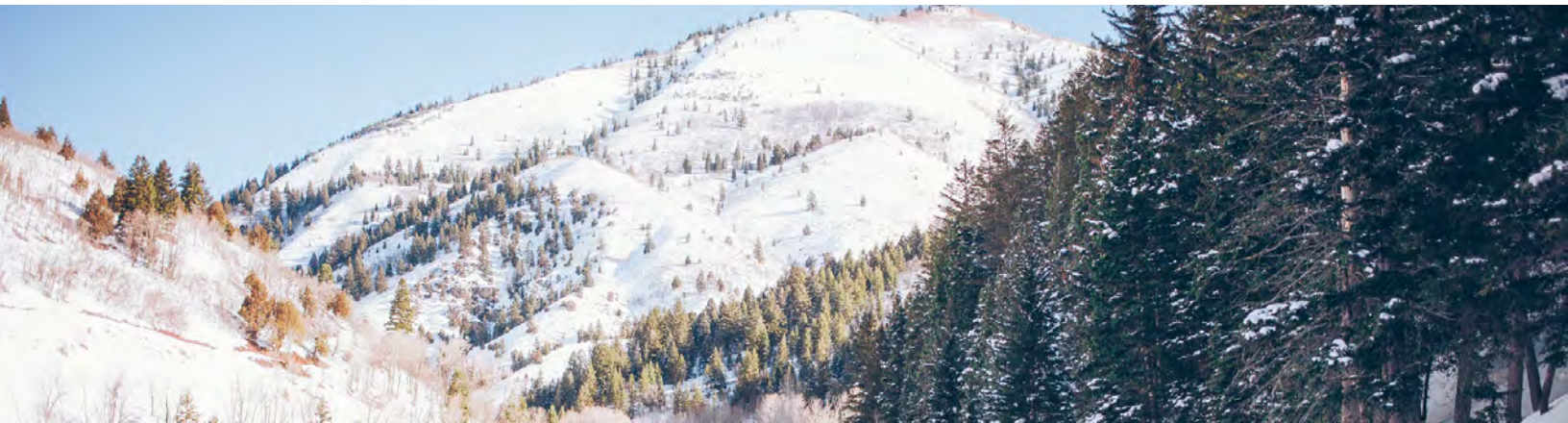


JANUARY 2021

SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter for Undergraduate Research & Creative Works



Happy New Year! We are thrilled to see you back on campus and to share our brand-new January issue. 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?

- HIGH-PURCS 2021
- STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROFILE
- NCUR
- GRANT RECIPIENTS
- FORAGERONE
- REGISTER YOUR RESEARCH

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

High-PURCS 2021

Students from all school, majors, and minors are 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 a revised abstract to present at High-PURCS this spring!

Virtual Event Date

(Tentatively) April 19 - May 3, 2021
with live Q&A's April 20, 2021

Abstract Submission Deadline

March 22, 2021

Register Online at www.highpoint.edu/highpurcs/
The portal is now open!



Who's it for? *Everyone from every major!*

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!

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF LAST YEAR'S PRESENTERS:



ENGLISH
CHRISTINE WATT '20



ART & INTERIOR DESIGN
EMILY LONGWELL



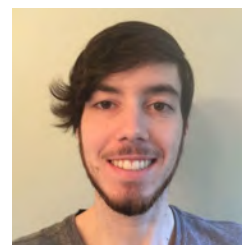
RELIGION
JACOB LANCASTER



EXERCISE SCIENCE
MONET GILMORE



CHEMISTRY
LUKE AKERS





MARY GREEN



This entire [research] process was one of the most memorable, difficult, and impactful experiences in my college career. I encourage anyone interested to pursue the opportunity of getting involved in URCW, as it gave me new skills, stronger relationships, and confidence that I would not have gained anywhere else. I owe a big thank you to Dr. Hall, Dr. Altman, and URCW."



Student Achievement Profile

How an undergraduate research project on Styrofoam sparked interest in environmental economics and graduate school pursuits

Mary Green, a mathematical economics major and communications minor, is finishing her senior year strong. As graduation nears, we take a look back on Mary's journey thus far and see how her involvement in the URCW community impacted her undergraduate career.

During her sophomore year, Mary got involved in undergraduate research, studying the economic and environmental impacts of Styrofoam in her environmental economics class. From this experience, the spark for research was ignited and as she was invited to present her research at North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (SNCURCS). Her interest for research continued to grow as she dove headfirst into the editing process, submitting a paper for publication in *Innovation: Journal of Creative and Scholarly Works*. Under the mentorship of Dr. Daniel Hall, Mary was able to undergo many revisions and learned all about the publishing process. She became a published author as a junior.

In addition to URCW, Mary is an active member within the HPU community. She is a member of the cheerleading team, a member of Phi Mu, and has completed two internships as a Growth Operations and Analytics intern and a Social Media and Research intern. Following her graduation this May, Mary plans to attend the University of Georgia in pursuit of a Masters of Science in Business Analytics.

**See volume 7 of the Innovation Journal for Mary's paper "Styrofoam: Past, Present, and Future"*

Student Presenters



Congratulations to the 21 students who were accepted to present their research virtually at the 2021 **National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)**, the largest and most competitive undergraduate research conference in the country! Of the student presenters, ten diverse disciplines will be represented, ranging from the sciences to the humanities. We're so proud of these students! You will be able to see their work at High-PURCS in April!



Student - Subject / Faculty Mentor

- **Timothy Beal** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Lauren Canfield** - Political Science / Dr. Mark Setzler
- **Christina Carilli** - Interdisciplinary Studies / Dr. Shaina Musco
- **Emmie D'Amico** - Theater / Mr. Jay Putnam
- **Nicholas Greiner** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Alexandra Griswold** - Dance / Ms. Lindsey Howie
- **Ashlyn Hanks** - Computer science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Christos Haramis** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Kyle Hoffpauir** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Nathan Markle** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Joseph Maronski** - Law and Legal Studies / Dr. Dean Smith
- **William Mathias** - Biology / Dr. Robert Coover
- **Allison Patrick** - Education / Dr. Sarah Vess
- **Tyler Percy** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Rachel Peterson** - Dance / Ms. Lindsey Howie
- **Anthony Quagliata** - Mathematics / Dr. Brett Geiger
- **Meghan Reed** - Political Science / Dr. Mark Setzler
- **Justin Riccardelli** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman
- **Gabrielle Schmale** - Biochemistry / Dr. Robert Coover
- **Heather Simmons** - Education / Dr. Sarah Vess
- **Kyle Wiseman** - Computer Science / Dr. Jason Pittman

Congrats to 21 student presenters!

URCW Grants

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:

- **Emily Poindexter** will present her independent short film at the virtual American College Dance Association (ACDA) Screendance Initiative, under the mentorship of professor Lindsey Howie.
- **Phillip Armentrout** will present his research in exercise science virtually at the American Heart Association EPI/Lifestyle Conference, under the mentorship of Dr. Colin Carriker.

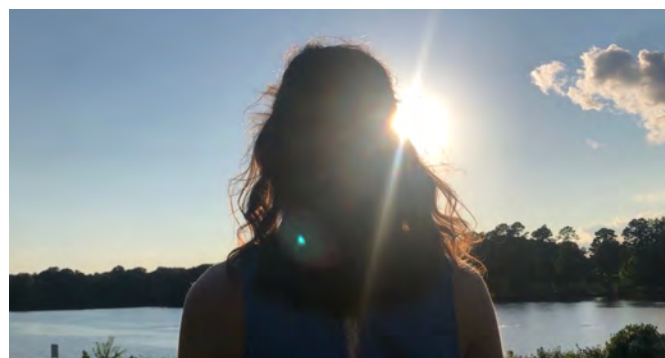


Image from Emily's film "The Land of Nod."



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 to create an account with your HPU email and start exploring!



Bookmark faculty of interest



Submit applications to collaborate

Here are two examples of professors that are actively recruiting for student researchers:

1.



Brian Heagney

Departments: N/A

Research Keywords: UE4, Unreal Engine, Game Design

Actively Recruiting

Bookmark Faculty

Apply Now

Faculty Information: Before coming to High Point University (HPU) to specialize in Video Game and Interactive Media Design, I spent over a decade wielding an arsenal of virtual tools to create visualizations, simulations and animations for architecture, urban planning, simulation and gaming, and even crime-scene reconstruction....

2.



Andrew Wommack

Associate Professor

Departments: Chemistry

Actively Recruiting

Bookmark Faculty

Apply Now

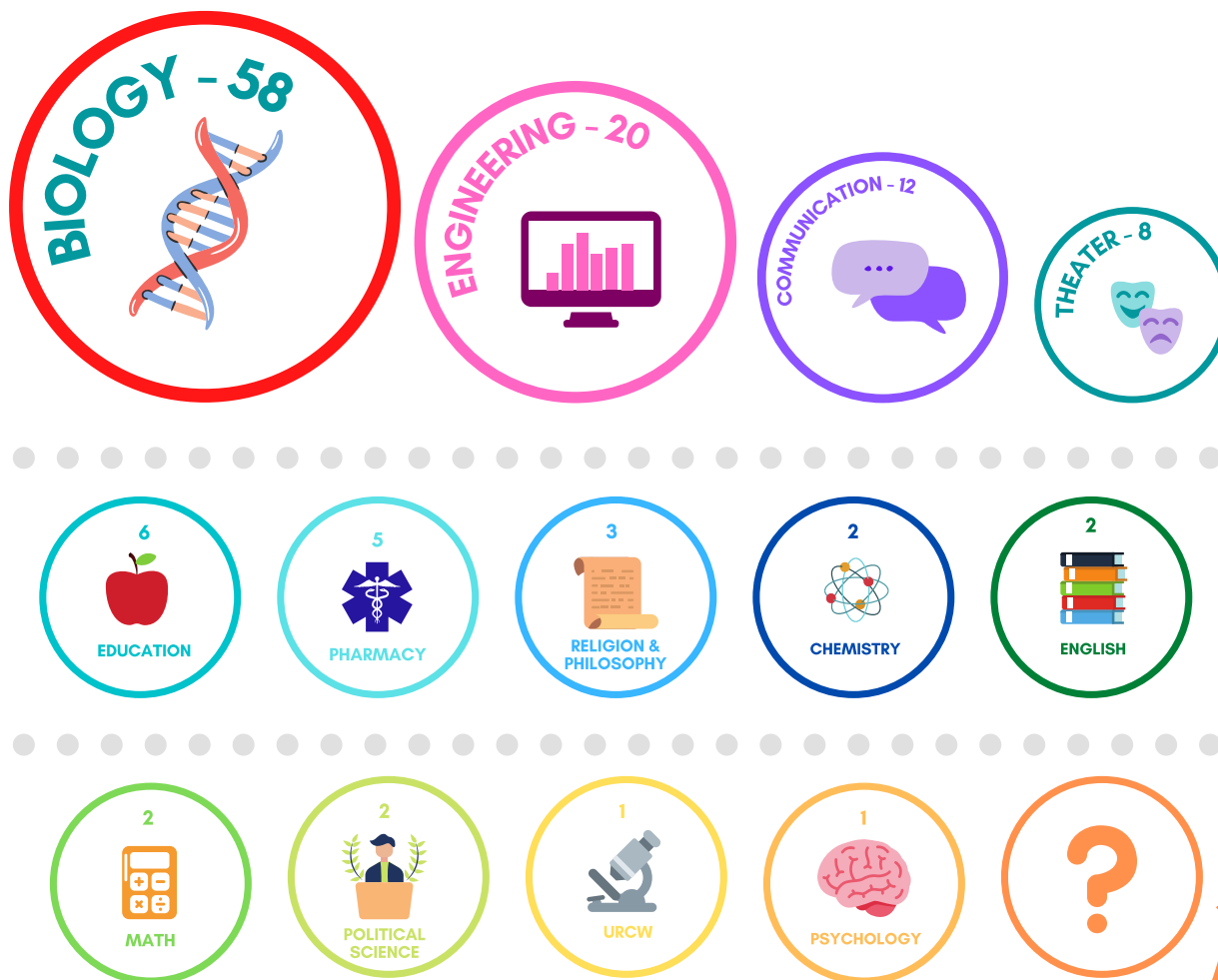
Faculty Information: My lab's current research programs are as follows: 1) "Total chemical synthesis of peptide-based kinase substrates" – We are interested in using synthetic chemistry to generate custom peptides and peptide fragments to track phosphorylation signaling in plants. The signaling networks that we are concerned with determine how plants mobilize and utilize carbon building blocks to modulate basic functions like cell growth and alternative pathways such as production of lipids. Analytical chemical instrumentation is extensively used to both characterize the synthetic peptides and track kinase activity. This work is in collaboration with the Hicks Lab at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. 2) "Modeling nature's antioxidant" – Glutathione (GSH) is the most abundant source of redox active...

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!