

# SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter for Undergraduate Research & Creative Works

THE  
*March*  
ISSUE

Happy March! We're pleased to share our latest issue of the Spotlight newsletter as we enter the second half of our spring semester. 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 STORIES
- FORAGERONE
- STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROFILE
- 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

**April 19 - May 3\* with live Q&A's April 20**

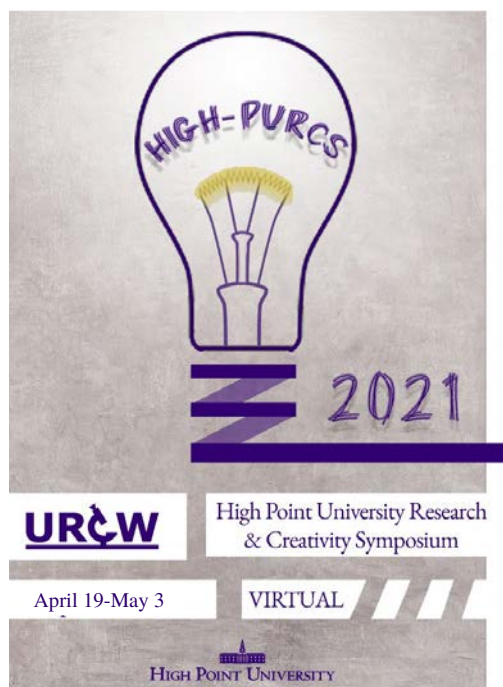
\*Projects available to view online

Congratulations are in order for all of our student presenters at the 9th annual High Point University Research and Creativity Symposium (High-PURCS).

We invite you to attend our virtual event to view various presentation styles (poster, oral, performance, exhibit) that exhibit students' original works, as well as live Q&A's with the presenters. This event is the perfect time to engage with research projects in different disciplines and consider getting involved in undergraduate research in the future!

## How to Participate:

1. Visit: [www.symposium.foragerone.com/high-purcs2021](http://www.symposium.foragerone.com/high-purcs2021)
2. Create an account with your HPU email
3. Interact with pre-recorded presentations by viewing and commenting
4. Tune in to live virtual Q&A on April 20th (Honors & Scholars Day)
5. Check out the schedule at [www.highpoint.edu/highpurcs](http://www.highpoint.edu/highpurcs)



Featuring 91 presentations from 20 departments that include every school on campus!

## Student Presenters:

Allie Abel  
Anthony Akers  
Michael Alcozer  
Daniel Allen  
Amaiya Anthony  
Bijan Arasteh  
Olivia Armendarez  
Phillip Armentrout  
Tom Bermel  
Nicholas Bloom  
Steven Boan  
Caitlyn Bontempo  
Leslie Bosse  
Matt Boyer  
Jordan Bramhall  
Sydney Brett  
Samantha Bridge  
Lauren Canfield  
Christina Carilli  
Alison Carroll  
Claire Cartrette  
Abby Copeland  
Banks Cozart

Taylor Cunningham  
Sarah Dahlberg  
Madison Drobny  
Jenna Duncan  
Samantha Dunn  
Charles Edwards  
Trinity Erjo  
Samantha Ethier  
Maddison Faggart\*  
Alec Garfield  
Emily Gonzalez  
Nicholas Greiner  
Alexandra Griswold  
Andrew Gustetic  
Bill Hagmeier  
Ashlyn Hanks  
Elijah Hawkins  
Kyle Hoffpauir  
Tift Hollis  
Franzi Jakobs  
Jonathan Jansma  
Lauren Johnson\*  
Libby Johnson

Ekabouna Joseph  
Lauren Kaelin  
Storm Kaffenberger  
Alexandra Kapolis  
Olivia Keider\*  
Cassandra Kinerson  
Ashley King  
Trey Kivett  
Reilly Kobbe  
Cameron Labrecque  
Cheyse Lattie\*  
Emily Longwell  
Myaisha Lucas  
Taylor Lynch  
Sawyer Lyons  
Shayne Maggard  
Alec Manzer  
Elizabeth Manser  
Avery Marchand\*  
Nathan Markle  
Joseph Maronski  
Evonne Marsh  
Billy Mathias

Francesca Mauceri  
Margaret Mauer  
Logan Mayo  
Tabitha McGuire\*  
Lisa Motosicke\*  
Daniel Nixon  
Thomas O'Hara  
Scott O'Neil  
Joshua Onufer  
Katie Pearson  
Tyler Percy  
Spencer Peters  
Rachel Peterson  
Emily Poindexter  
Kayla Prado  
Nicole Prince  
Anthony Quagliata  
Elizabeth Ragan  
Elizabeth Riser  
Christina Robinson\*  
Victoria Romero  
Sydney Salone  
Vincent Scavo

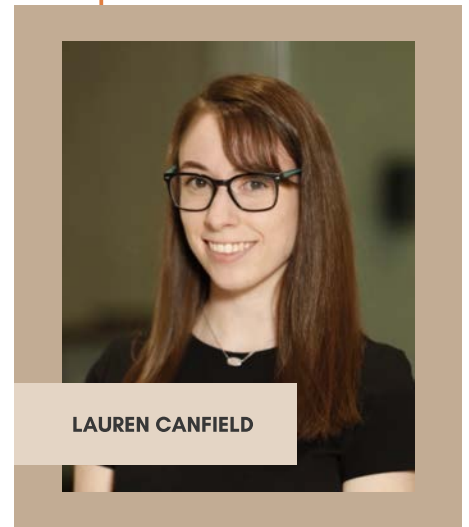
Gabrielle Schmale  
Mikaela Seemann  
Carter Shipen  
Josh Shogren  
Tara Shtayyeh  
Evan Silver  
Heather Simmons  
Courtney Smith  
Sarah Spangler  
Sam Stewart  
Allison Tucker  
Hailey Turner  
Quinn Van Popering  
Brianna Viering  
Kayla Wattenbarger  
Maggie Weinbaum\*  
Kristen Weiss  
Abby Williamson  
Alex Wirth  
Kyle Wiseman  
Ross Woods  
Nicholas Zanghi

\* dancers involved in performative works; not presenting

# Student Stories

Awesome! x +  
https://www.awesome.com

*"I am a senior Political Science major from Connecticut. Following graduation this spring, I plan on staying in North Carolina and pursuing a career within the state government. Participating in undergraduate research has been an amazing experience for me. I am extremely lucky to have had the support of my mentor, Dr. Setzler, as I pursued the topic of the relationship between religion and support for female leaders in American politics for my Senior Seminar this past fall. In February, I presented my thesis virtually at the 2021 Joint NCPSA/NCPAA Conference alongside other students and professors of political science where I was commended for presenting what sounded like a graduate level analysis as an undergraduate student. I will also be presenting my research at the upcoming virtual National Conference on Undergraduate Research [and High-PURCS] in April. I am incredibly thankful for getting involved in undergraduate research here at HPU and I could not have done it without the help of my mentors and the office of URCW!"*



Awesome! x +  
https://www.awesome.com

*"I am a History major from Winnetka, IL graduating in May 2021. I recently presented my Senior Seminar paper, "Fashion and Symbolism in Portraiture of Queen Elizabeth I," at the North Carolina Association of Historians. My paper was the result of five months of research; my biggest tip to students would be to pick a research topic of interest to them so that the process is an enjoyable one and not a chore. I enjoy art history and fashion, so my topic was one that I was enthusiastic about. Finding the necessary primary sources was probably the most frustrating part. My presentation at the NCAH Conference was an exciting and rewarding way to cap off my academic career. And, it was something that I could not have achieved without the guidance, support and care of so many professors in the High Point University History department: my academic advisor, Dr. Kennedy, my Senior Seminar advisor, Dr. Arthur-Montagne and my British History thesis advisor, Dr. Allen. They were there for me every step of the way."*



Awesome! x +  
 https://www.awesome.com

*"I am a Computer Science major with a concentration in Cybersecurity. I will be graduating this May of 2021 and I worked with Dr. Pittman doing undergraduate research in novel cybersecurity tools for the past two years. The research that I did with Dr. Pittman was very influential in helping me gain confidence and understanding within the field of cybersecurity. Undergraduate research played a key role in giving me content to discuss during technical interviews which directly translated to multiple internships at FireEye and a full-time offer.*

*Undergraduate research affords you the opportunity to become an expert in some facet of your field. During the interview process, this level of expertise is an invaluable asset to demonstrate your competency."*



# ForagerOne

A platform for student & faculty collaboration



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

Communicate with faculty through messaging

43% Freshman

35% Sophomores

The perfect opportunity to get involved from the start!

Find faculty using the search engine database

3,000+ Virtual Visits

23 Majors Represented

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

Most Visited Departments

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



KYLE WISEMAN



The mentorship and skills that I gained from undergraduate research provided some amazing opportunities like being able to start my own business around a project that I love working on every day.



#### Kyle's Research Tip:

"The best piece of advice I could give to any student is to give undergraduate research a try. Whether you bring a project idea to a professor or join an existing one, you will develop valuable skills in your academic and professional life, get to conduct some interesting work, and have great experiences along the way."

# Student Achievement Profile

Kyle Wiseman is a senior, computer science major with a concentration in cybersecurity. In his four years at High Point University, Kyle said that undergraduate research played a large role in his academic career and led him to some amazing professional opportunities:

*"I interned with Neo IP over the summer of last year as a patent analyst, and I will be joining them full-time after I graduate. I'll be working in a dual-role position as a software engineer and will continue my work as a patent analyst. I believe my internship over the summer was so successful because of the project management skills that I learned through my undergraduate research."*

Kyle is also starting his own company, Salus Technology, that is dedicated to creating software that gives users control over their data. The first product, Swarm Secure Messaging, was directly inspired by the research he conducted with Dr. Pittman over the past year. Swarm will be the first messaging app to offer metadata protection online, and the unique software that makes it work is already patent-pending. He is currently preparing to compete in the HPU Business Plan Competition to secure funding to develop and launch the Swarm application. These incredible opportunities, Kyle shares, would not have been possible without the research experience and mentorship he gained through URCW.

#### Kyle's Research Projects:

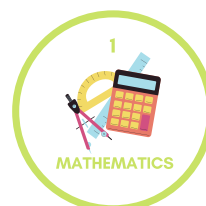
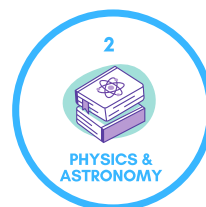
- "A Knock in the Dark: Detecting Port Knocking on IPv4 Networks" - Presented at State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium 2020 (SNCURCS 2020)
- "Open Sesame: Validation of Port Knock Sequence Generation" - Presented at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research 2021 (NCUR 2021) and High-PURCS 2021

# 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!

## Count of Primary Mentor's Discipline:



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