

OCTOBER 2020

# SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter for Undergraduate Research & Creative Works



Mid-terms have passed and Thanksgiving approaches! We are thrilled to share this October issue of our Spotlight newsletter. 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?

- GRANT RECIPIENTS
- STUDENT PRESENTERS AT SNCURCS
- NCUR
- FORAGERONE
- RESEARCH ROOKIES
- REGISTER YOUR RESEARCH
- APPLY FOR A GRANT

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



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urcw@highpoint.edu

# Student Grant Recipients

Students receive URCW grants to support their senior capstone projects.



VICTORIA ROMERO



*Without this grant my vision for this project would never have been able to come to life. I'm so happy that the research community is invested in creative works.*

*With higher quality production materials, I was able to make a piece with Barbie dolls look cinematic and professional in a mature and intentional way.*

Victoria Romero, a senior pop culture and media productions major, received a grant to produce her senior capstone project, under the mentorship of Joe Michaels. Victoria's film explores broken relationships and echos the question of "Autumn's Song" by Steven Day: "Memories, they take so long to erase / Will they ever even start to fade?" With Barbie dolls as her subjects, Victoria's filming approach is unexpected, though quite intriguing. Miniature sets, beautiful outdoor locations, and polaroid pictures recreate the key moments of a romantic relationship in a highly sophisticated manner—a surprise, perhaps, for a film whose subjects are children's toys! Tinged with the nostalgia of a lost love, Victoria's capstone film is certainly not her last creative endeavor. She plans to attend graduate school to pursue critical media studies following her graduation this spring.



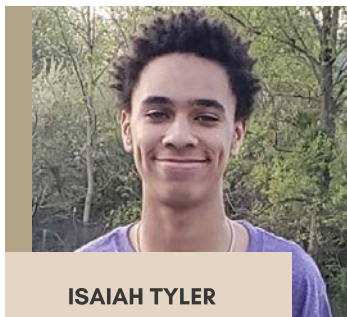
CAITLYN LEAF

Caitlyn Leaf, a senior media entrepreneurship major, used her URCW grant to fund her senior capstone project, under the mentorship of Joe Michaels. She created three original commercials for various food and beverage brands including Doritos, Jamba Juice, and Smirnoff. With the support of URCW, Caitlyn was able to purchase production materials including backdrops and props. With the pressure to fully finance her project alleviated, Caitlyn felt a sense of creative freedom and was able to focus her attention on her work. She encourages students with similar projects to consider applying for grants from the office of URCW, since it made all the difference in her senior project.

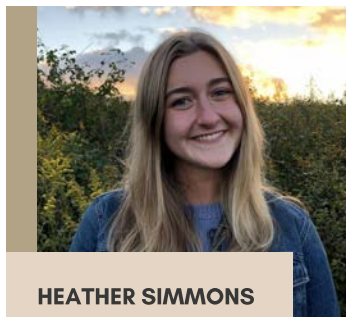
# Student Presenters at **SNCURCS**

Congratulations are in order for four students who will be presenting their research at this year's virtual State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium. Make sure to tune in to [www.sncurcs.org](http://www.sncurcs.org) on November 7th to access the event at home. Congratulations students!

Visit [www.sncurcs.org](http://www.sncurcs.org) on November 7th!



ISAIAH TYLER



HEATHER SIMMONS



LESLIE BOSSE



JAMES LAST

## Submit your Abstract for NCUR

Going virtual in 2021!



Participants will:

- Gain experience presenting their research to a broad audience
- Gain opportunities for professional development
  - Virtual graduate school fair
  - Networking sessions with students & faculty in their field

For more information, visit

<https://www.cur.org/what/events/students/ncur/2021/>

Early Decision Abstract  
Submission Deadline:  
**November 1, 2020**

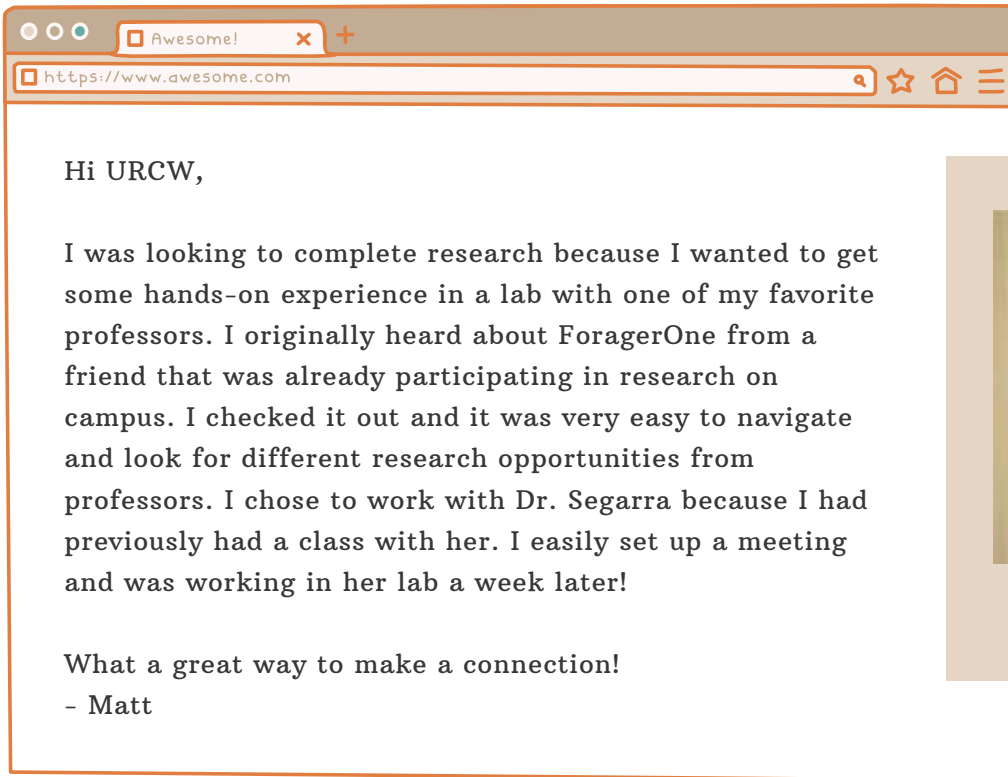


Regular Decision Abstract  
Submission Deadline:  
**December 1, 2020**



Virtual Event Date  
**April 12-14, 2021**

# Making Virtual Connections



Hi URCW,

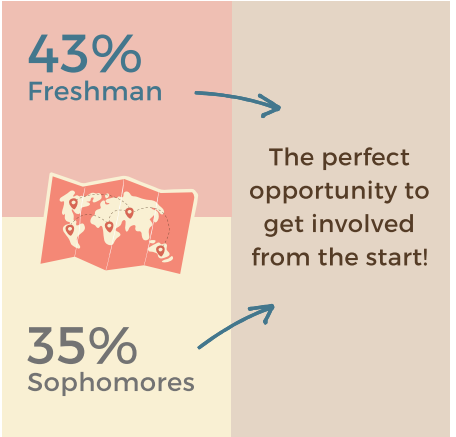
I was looking to complete research because I wanted to get some hands-on experience in a lab with one of my favorite professors. I originally heard about ForagerOne from a friend that was already participating in research on campus. I checked it out and it was very easy to navigate and look for different research opportunities from professors. I chose to work with Dr. Segarra because I had previously had a class with her. I easily set up a meeting and was working in her lab a week later!

What a great way to make a connection!  
- Matt




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

Communicate with faculty through messaging



Find faculty using the search engine database



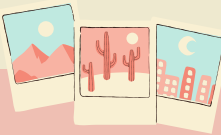
3,000+ Virtual Visits

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

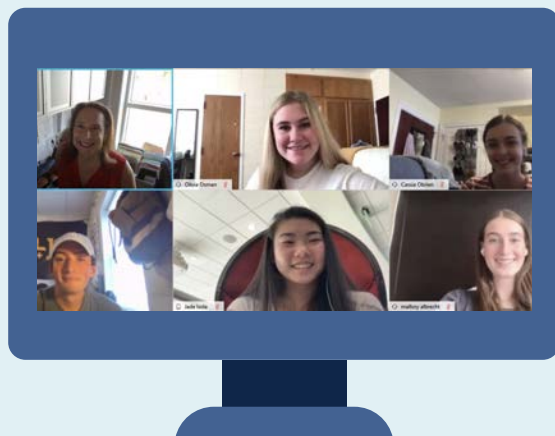


Submit applications to collaborate

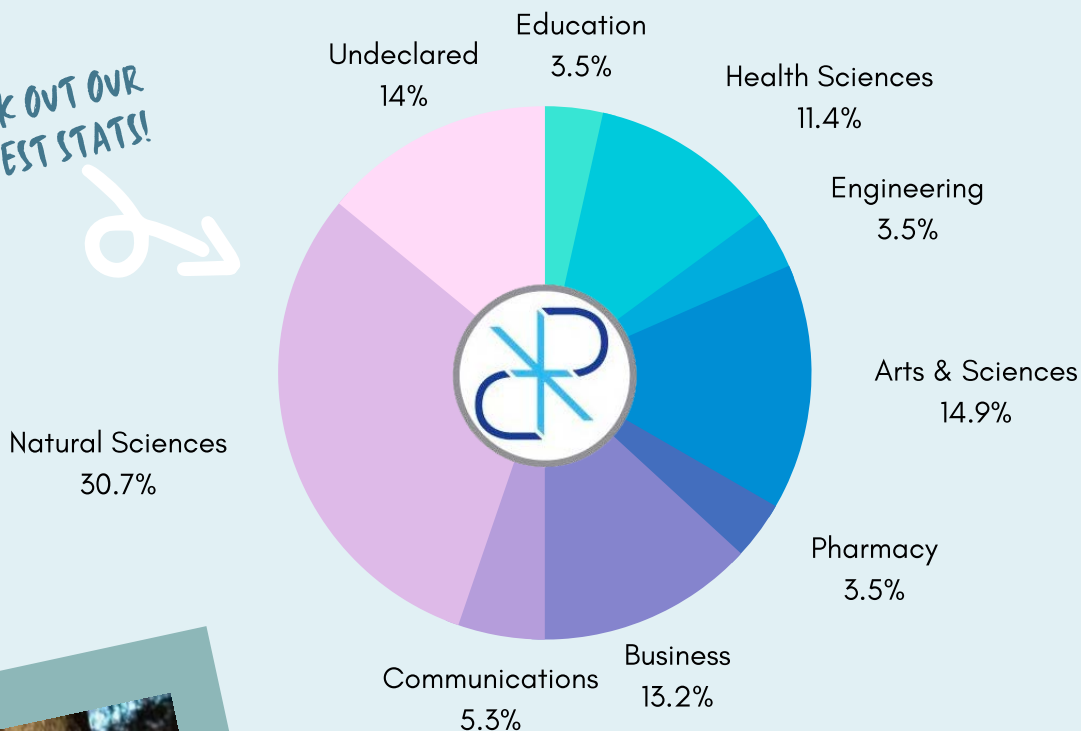
- Most Visited Departments
1. Pharmacy
  2. Physical Therapy
  3. Psychology
  4. URCW
  5. Biology

# Research Rookies Update

We're proud to report that 115 students became Research Rookies this semester. Of those students, 50% are STEM majors and the other 50% represent all different kinds of majors across campus! Check out the breakdown below. If you didn't get a chance to sign up yet, don't worry. There will be numerous opportunities to sign up this spring.

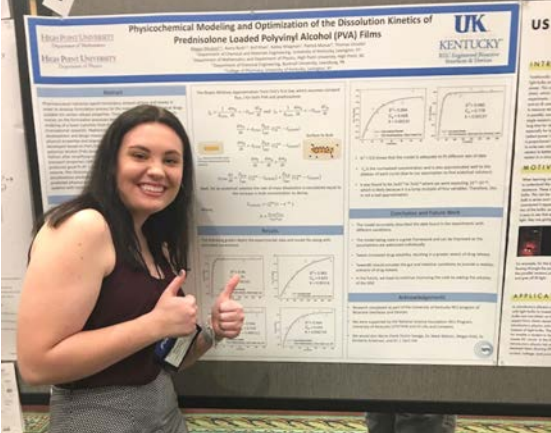


CHECK OUT OUR LATEST STATS!



Kassidy McFeeley

“  
*Research Rookies provides a unique community of students who are really passionate about research and dedicated to academic success. Already, Research Rookies has led me to unique opportunities for learning and engagement on campus. It's a great way to make connections and set yourself up for success.*  
”



# 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!

# Apply for a Grant

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

# URCW

