Research in Action!

Summer, (sūm’ər), noun: A three-month period when faculty take a break with family/friends, focus on their research, and recharge for the new academic year.

Yes, summer is a busy time for life, family, and personal pursuits! “Research in Action” is a good description of RASP’s summer. We’ve been busy building homes, helping faculty get proposals ready, engaging in professional training, and planning for the upcoming year.

Tell us what we can do to grow HPU’s research culture! How often do you hear that question? Seriously, RASP is brainstorming on ways to grow HPU’s research culture. If you have ideas or suggestions, please email them to us at rasp@highpoint.edu.

As always, call us if we can be of assistance!

Sincerely,

Director
Research Administration & Sponsored Programs

Interesting Opportunities

- NSF Major Research Instrumentation Program

The Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) serves to increase access to shared scientific and engineering instruments for research and research training in our Nation’s institutions of higher education, and not-for-profit museums, science centers and scientific/engineering research organizations. This program especially seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering by supporting proposals for shared instrumentation that fosters the integration of research and education in research-intensive learning environments.

Deadline: January 23, 2014

- NEH Collaborative Research Grant

Collaborative Research Grants support interpretive humanities research undertaken by a team of two or more scholars, for full-time or part-time activities for periods of a minimum of one year up to a maximum of three years. Support is available for various combinations of scholars, consultants, and research assistants; project-related travel; field work; applications of information technology; and technical support and services.

Deadline: December 5, 2013

Dr. Niky Hughes, Research Spotlight

Dr. Niky Hughes discusses her research efforts with HPU students.

1st Annual RASP-Faculty H4H Day

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Dr. Niky Hughes

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Research in Action is an apt description of Dr. Niky Hughes’ summer efforts. Dr. Hughes spent the summer with two students and a technician studying plant adaptations to regional climate patterns throughout the United States. This work, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), is in collaboration with Dr. William K. Smith at Wake Forest University.

In the field or in the classroom, Dr. Hughes uses her research experiences to connect with students. She states, “I use my research to illustrate specific concepts, so that students can see that there are real life applications to the information we are covering in class.”

Dr. Hughes notes that the greatest challenge in writing a proposal was the lack of an HPU research administration office (which is no longer a problem!). To overcome this obstacle, she collaborated with Dr. William Smith at Wake Forest University. RASP agrees that finding a collaborator is great idea. Having someone who can provide assistance and walk you through the proposal preparation process is invaluable.

Since she has gone through the proposal process as a co-investigator, she feels much more confident in writing grants.

If you would like assistance in finding a collaborator/opportunity or want to discuss how to write a proposal, email RASP at rasp@highpoint.edu. You’ll be glad you did!

On June 13, 2013, was the first annual RASP-faculty event for Habitat for Humanity (H4H). RASP and nine faculty members gathered less than a mile away from High Point University, in the Washington Terrace subdivision, to help build a home and offer hope to our community.

The day’s tasks included putting down roofing felt, flashing and installing windows, sheathing the gable ends, sealing insulation, and cleaning-up the job site. As always, the HPU crew exceeded expectations and finished all the tasks and a couple extra.

Teamwork was the mantra for the day. From holding the ladder to picking up debris, all were happy to lend a hand. The house under construction was far from complete. Luckily, volunteers were able to view a nearly completed house close by.

At the end of the day, many of the participants remarked that it was one of the most fun and fulfilling days that they’ve had at HPU. This is great news, as H4H has plans for many more houses in the subdivision. RASP is tentatively planning another H4H day in October, so stay tuned!

H4H is a non-profit foundation dedicated to providing affordable housing for low-income and deserving families. You can donate your time or shop at the H4H ReStore at 133 Montlieu Avenue. Learn more about High Point’s H4H chapter by visiting its website.

RASP Sponsors First Habitat for Humanity Day

In the Field

From left to right: Technician and HPU Biology alumnus David Cook, Dr. Niky Hughes, junior Alyssa Heisler, and senior Jasmine Jordan

Under Construction

From left to right: Ginny McDermott, Allison Walker, Laura Linker, Barbara Mallory, Jenn Brandt, Dan Erb, Eric Hegedus, Tim Linker, Daniel Hall, and Lexie Wright