A group of students attended the Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium (BigSURS) at Campbell University on April 10-11, 2015. These students presented their research, either in an oral presentation or poster format, which ranged from communications studies to animal behavior. The following students won Best Presentation in session: Alex Mills, Christina Burchette, Lindsay Anuzis, Rodrigo Catalan-Hurtado, Justin Cummings, and co-authors Liz Pruitt and Taylor Daniel. We are proud of these students for going above and beyond to showcase their work!

On April 15th, High Point University hosted its third research and creative works symposium to showcase the diverse work and talent of its many undergraduate students. More than 130 students presented their research projects to fellow students, faculty and staff in Phillips Hall and the Slane Student Center. Work was presented orally, as posters, performances, interior design displays, and art exhibitions. In addition, two research awards were presented during the symposium. Macaulley Quirk won the best digital oral/media presentation for her “One Vision: A Guide Dog Documentary” project, and Calla Telzrow won the best poster presentation with “Arthropod Communities in Various Successional Forest Habitats.” Congratulations to these two young ladies for their excellent work.

Great work to everyone who presented! This is just a reminder that now is a great time to touch base with a faculty member about pursuing your own undergraduate research or assisting them with his or her own. November 14, 2015 HPU will host BigSURS.
Calla Telzrow and Macaulley Quirk were presented with awards for best digital presentations.

Students showcasing their work in formats such as oral presentations, art exhibitions or theatrical performances, and posters.

See the full program at http://highpoint.edu/highpurcs
Student Spotlight

Jeremy Johnson has been selected to receive a stipend that will allow him to travel to Qatar in Southwest Asia to conduct a story on the construction of the 2022 World Cup stadium. A Communication major with a concentration in journalism and a minor in sports management, Jeremy expects to investigate the working conditions of the laborers who will construct the stadiums, reporting on how the construction workers may be affected by conditions such as heat, temporary living assignments, and tight construction deadlines.

Mackenzie Allred, a High Point University graphical design and digital imaging major, is the recent co-owner of the city’s newest commercial printing operation, Printology, which specializes in the letterpress printing technique that had more or less been abandoned in place of more modern technology. Mackenzie launched Printology around a year ago in her garage, but recently she has teamed up with co-owner Mike Lawson, who teaches graphic design at Guilford Technical Community College, and opened a shop at Providence Place on Westchester Drive.

Zack Astran, a Communication major from Baltimore received a regional Mark of Excellence Award from the Society of Professional Journalists, which was presented to him at a society regional conference hosted by the University of Maryland. The article, which won the sports writing award, is titled “A Walk with Randy Rogers” which was previously published in HPU’s Campus Chronicle and the News and Record.

Mallory Drummond, a communication major at High Point University, recently presented her paper at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication conference held in Knoxville, Tennessee, on March 27. Her presentation, titled “To Pray or Not to Pray: Sectarian Prayer in Legislative Meetings,” is about the constitutionality of prayer in legislative meetings, specifically prayers that favor one religion over others. The research focused on two particular cases that presented some confusion on how the courts should rule on these issues. Drummond wrote the paper for her media law class last fall and says her professor, Dean Smith, encouraged her to submit it and was extremely supportive throughout the whole process.
The 3rd volume of *Innovation*, High Point University’s academic journal will be published and ready for viewing online at [http://www.highpoint.edu/urcw/hpu-journal/](http://www.highpoint.edu/urcw/hpu-journal/) in May. Congratulations to the students who submitted and revised manuscripts for publications!

These students are as follows:

Christina Burchette  
Andrew Colitti  
Tayla Curran  
Amy King  
Dan Lomas  
John Mariscano  
Patricia Suchan

**Summer Research Programs 2015**

We want to end this newsletter by congratulating the students who were accepted to both the SuRI and SuRPS program for this upcoming summer and who will be starting their research soon! There are now 24 students in each program, and they are listed as follows:

**SuRI**

Aakash Nawaz, Ariel Hodges, Catherine Bakewell, Charles Adams, Christina Honeycutt, David Bonzentka, Emma Zuk, Hailey Parry, Hallie Stidham, Helen Barker, Jacob Brooks, Jamie Schnuck, Jessie Drew, Katie Farina, Matthew Iczkowski, Micah Branscomb, Michael Newton, Michael Cantor, Morgan Ellis, Nicholas James, Nicholas Zayatz, Nicholas Pritchard, Liz Pruitt, and Reza Moghtaderi Esfahani

**SuRPS**

Cailyn Scanlan, Calla Telzrow, Christopher Wagner, Elizabeth Reardon, Gabrielle Hayes, Harold Coley, James Rager, Maria Valverde, Matthew Iczkowski, Matthew Beck, Matthew Sayger, Maxwell Maurer, Nicole Wright, Nicole Bayeur, Nicole Clark, Rebecca Ulrich, Rodrigo Catalan-Hurtado, Ryan Casey, Sarah Colbert, Sergio Guillon, Tyler Wilson, Halley Watson, William Shaw, and Alan Vasquez

Congratulations again to these students! We hope that they will find this research experience beneficial to their education.
My stint as editor for the undergraduate research and creative works office newsletter began in part because of my own undergraduate research experiences. My junior year, I edited and submitted a manuscript of a paper I had written my sophomore year to *Innovation*, the HPU academic journal, and it was accepted. The professor who had worked on this paper with me had been in communication with Dr. Altman, and informed me that she was looking for a new student to write and edit the newsletter. I very quickly applied to the job, and so began my journey into the wider world of undergraduate research.

It has been an honor for me to see and document the kinds of things that students are doing here at the university. Beyond the journal, I had never known what kinds of research opportunities and resources were available. Students and faculty were receiving grants to go to conferences in Las Vegas to talk about video game design, they were building spacewalking devices for NASA contests, they were performing monologues and they were building innovative chair designs. I had no idea the things that undergraduate students were capable of producing. I am happy to have had the opportunity to work with Dr. Altman and to speak to many of the students regarding their work, because it just goes to show the powerful impact that undergraduate research can have on a student. Through our research experiences, other students and I have learned the kinds of skills that not only make us more appealing to employers in the job market, but more well-rounded and successful people in general. We also have had the opportunity to establish the kinds of relationships with professors and those we meet along our research journeys that are beneficial to further critically-minded thinking and research. Once you spark your interest in research and creative works, the desire to discover and learn never goes away, and I think that is the most important benefit of all: becoming a lifelong learner.

Thank you to Dr. Altman for letting me take on this task, it has been the utmost pleasure to work with you (and whine to you too!) and thank you to my various mentors who pushed me to do the research that has truly made my undergraduate career outstanding. I commend and congratulate every student who takes the opportunity to do undergraduate research, and I encourage those who haven’t to start right away! It is an experience that you will not forget nor regret.