



HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT

THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORKS
JANUARY NEWSLETTER

NEW IN THIS ISSUE:

Registering Research	PAGE 2
Disney Trip & Grants	PAGE 3
Summer Research	PAGE 4
High-PURCS	PAGE 4
Research Rookies	PAGE 5
Student Achievement Profile: Paula Bender	PAGE 6

HAPPY JANUARY!

Happy New Year! We wish you a wonderful upcoming spring semester. With the kick off to 2022 comes plenty of news and exciting opportunities with URCW!

In UCRW, 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.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!



URCW@HIGHPOINT.EDU



@HPU_URCW



@HPU.URCW



HIGHPOINT.EDU/URCW

Register Your Research!



Remember to register your research projects at www.highpoint.edu/urcw. The numbers above reflect what has been registered for each school.

QUICK TIPS: WORKING WITH YOUR MENTOR!

"Sit down with your professor or mentor you're doing research with and do preliminary research. Find what interests you. Look for connections in the research with your mentor so you're able to carve your own niche in the field."

- Josiah Williams '22



HPU Acapella Takes Disney!



To kick off the new year, 35 HPU students from all three of HPU's student acapella groups were able to travel to Disney World in Orlando Florida to perform at Disney Springs Waterfront Stage.

Students from Petal Points, Off-Beats, and the Toccottatones went through an audition process to be selected to perform, then rehearsed as a group before traveling to Florida for their performances. With the assistance of the URCW grant for academic and creative works, all 35 students were able to travel and stay in Florida. They were accompanied by their advisor Dr. Candace Burrows.

Hannah Tameling, Vice President of Petal Points, described the trip as wonderful experience in collaboration: "As a group, I think it was amazing for us to do this together. Each of these three acapella groups typically operate on their own and are working on their own performances or albums. It was a great way for us to all come together, with one passion, and learn about teamwork and collaboration – especially with such a large group. We had to have incredible amounts of patience and grace, but I think I can speak for all of us when I say that it was so worth it. We had a great time and got to build new friendships and grow closer within our groups."



SUMMER RESEARCH!

The Summer Research Institute (SuRI) – SuRI is open to undergraduates in all disciplines. Students are required to identify a faculty mentor with whom they have arranged to work with during their summer research period and describe the project goal, method, and timeline.

The Summer Research Program in the Sciences (SuRPS) – SuRPS is a competitive program for 24-26 research assistant positions with faculty in biology, chemistry, or physics.

The Congdon School of Health Sciences (CSHS) – Summer Research Fellowship (SuRF) – SuRF is a competitive program for research assistant positions with faculty in the Health Sciences.

All three programs are accessed through the same application, but for SuRF and SuRPS, be sure you are looking at the 2022 approved projects. Students working for summer research will be provided with campus housing and a small stipend.

Application Deadline: March 1

Apply at www.highpoint.edu/urew/summer-research-opportunities-at-hpu/

WHAT IS HIGH-PURCS?



High Point University undergraduate students from all schools, majors, and minors are invited to participate in HPU's 10th Research and Creativity Symposium.

This event will showcase student scholarship in a supportive environment that models a professional venue.

Students may choose to present their work as a poster, oral presentation, brief performance, or exhibit.

Projects must be mentored, independent work that reflect originality and creativity and be quality products that contribute something new to the field.

High-PURCS will be hosted on April 12th, and abstracts are due on March 14th.

Check out the High-PURCS website at www.highpoint.edu/highpurcs.

RESEARCH ROOKIES

The High Point University Research Rookies Program works to incorporate students into the university's culture of research and creative work, early in their undergraduate careers. Getting involved in research or creative works in college helps students build unique credentials to distinguish themselves as they compete for jobs or entrance into graduate and professional schools!



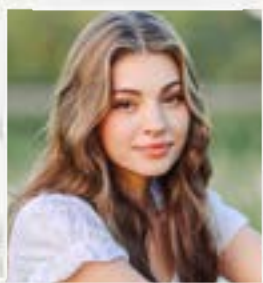
Freshmen and first semester sophomores who wish to apply to the Research Rookies Program should contact Dr. Joanne Altman, Director of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works: jaltman0@highpoint.edu

RESEARCH ROOKIES OF THE MONTH FROM THE FALL SEMESTER ON WHAT THE PROGRAM MEANS TO THEM



Research Rookies allowed me to familiarize myself with the thinking, creating, and working that goes into research. I am now confident in my abilities to contribute to research projects.
- Ethan Muckerheide

From the very beginning, I knew I wanted to participate in the Research Rookies Program because of all it had to offer to students interested in research. The program allowed me to enhance my oral and written communication skills and explore the different avenues of research.
- Jenny Nechyba



My time in Research Rookies has gifted me the skills and the opportunity to engage in undergraduate research early on in my education, which will help propel my career in scientific research. I have learned so many critical skills through this program and I can't wait to put them into practical use.
- Miranda Gough



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROFILE

A CONVERSATION WITH PAULA BENDER '22

Paula Bender is a Neuroscience major with a minor in math, graduating in the spring of 2022. As she prepares to leave High Point University, she shared her reflections on the last 4 years of mentorship and research within the neuroscience and mathematics departments.

As a Research Rookie, Paula developed the skills to work with a professor on a research project and was able to use ForagerOne as a way to reach out to a professor -- Dr. Geiger -- who was conducting research in both fields of Paula's interests: neuroscience and math. Since 2020, Paula has been working with Dr. Geiger on a computational neuroscience project entitled Mathematical Model of Learning Disabilities. Paula has presented at SNCURCS this past fall with plans to present at NCUR this semester. "I don't really like giving presentations," Paula explained, "but I love talking about my research, so being able to share it with people is really exciting."

Paula plans on going into pediatric care and research and chose this line of study in order to focus on helping children. About her research, Paula said, "I've really loved it and it's been challenging at times, but Dr. Geiger's been very helpful in teaching me what research entails. He's always encouraged me to bring my own ideas to the project."

When considering the lessons learned over 4 years of research at HPU, Paula shared some of her advice for Research Rookies and other undergraduate research students: "One of the biggest lessons is to be patient and know that in research, a lot of the time it takes you a while to get where you want to be. The time it takes doesn't make it a failure." Paula will be taking this wisdom with her as she heads to either medical school or a Ph.D. program focused on neuroscience research.

Know a student who has gone above and beyond in their research or creative works? Email urcw@highpoint.edu with suggestions for our next Student Achievement Profile!