

APRIL 2023



HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

SPOTLIGHT

FROM THE OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORKS

High-PURCS 2023 Review • Accomplishments • URCW Updates

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High-PURCS 2023
Review

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with URCW

OUR LAST ISSUE...

This year, the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works (URCW) worked harder than ever to provide students with scholarly opportunities, novel tools, and helpful resources to ensure their success. Read on to learn more about URCW opportunities and the amazing work our students have been doing this year!



The Nido and
Mariana Qubein
Arena and
Conference Center
was the site of
High-PURCS 2023!

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[hpu.urcw](https://www.facebook.com/hpu.urcw)



[hpu_urcw](https://www.instagram.com/hpu_urcw)

Our Mission: 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, inspire students to add to the global sum of human knowledge, and help students develop the skills to be competitive in the marketplace.

www.highpoint.edu/urcw/

HIGH-PURCS 2023 REVIEW



High-PURCS 2023 featured 154 projects from 255 students mentored by 77 faculty across 30 disciplines! The day began with concurrent sessions of oral presentations, covering subjects from the literary landscapes in Kazuo Ishiguro's novel to the reconstruction of the inner ear of a prehistoric mammal.

After 2.5 hours of oral presentations, we were treated to creative performances by our dancers and singers. Dance majors presented their capstone choreography, performed by their fellow dancers. Two acapella groups also performed, showcasing excerpts from what they sang at Disney earlier this year.

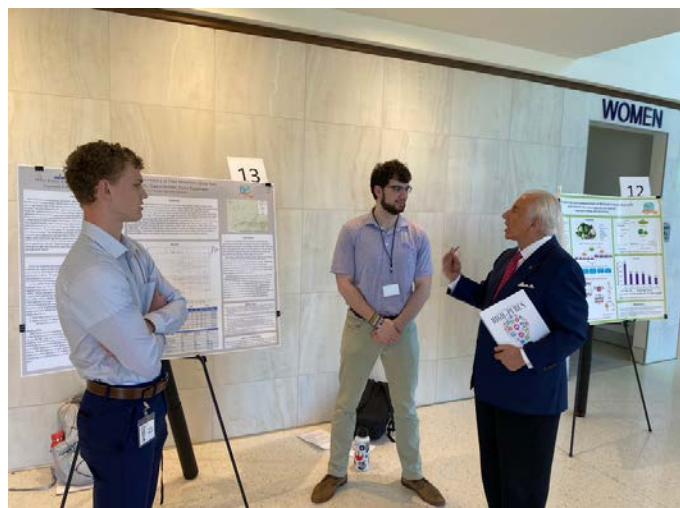
High-PURCS ended with a 1.5 hour poster session and reception. Students shared their work based in many different disciplines, ranging from pop culture to psychology to physics.



Faculty and students were able to mingle and discuss interesting projects during this session of nearly 100 posters. Students were also encouraged to chat with their peers about their shared interest in undergraduate research. Overall, High-PURCS 2023 was an amazing success!

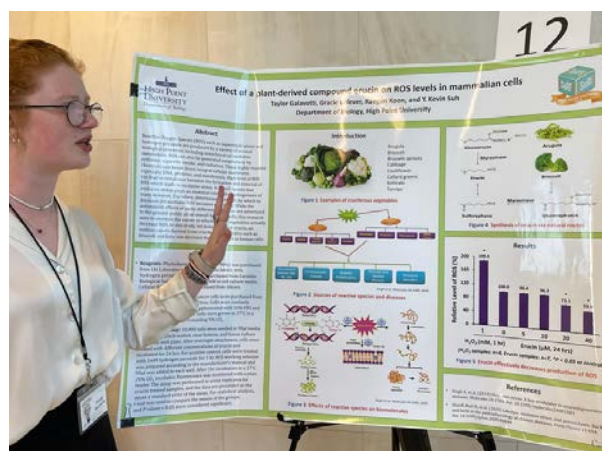
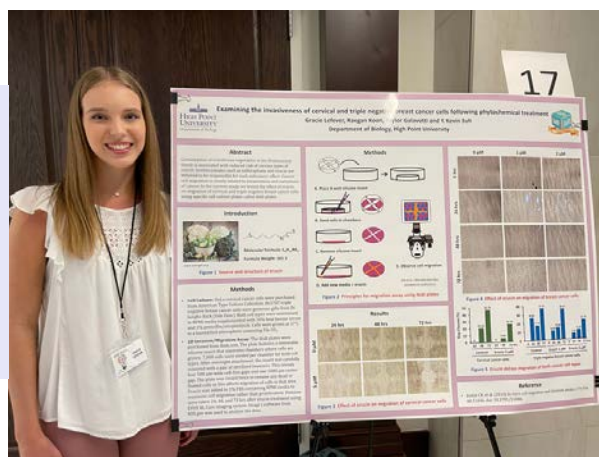


HIGH-PURCS 2023 REVIEW CONT'D.



Dr. Qubein even stopped by High-PURCS this year to chat with some students about their research into the fire history of the Piedmont Forest area!

Students are doing research on a wide range of topics; some of our students are even studying the effect of leafy greens on cancer!



A lot of the research presented at this year's High-PURCS was from an HPU Summer Research program, like SURPS, SURF, or SURI. These summer research opportunities are an amazing way to get involved in the world of undergraduate research!

URCW AWARD WINNERS AT HIGH-PURCS



SIRG GRANT AWARD WINNERS

The two winners of the SIRG - Scholarly Interdisciplinary Research Grant - were announced at this year's High-PURCS. Jalen Bynum won 1st place for her project that combines theater and pharmacy. James Gallagher won 2nd place for his project using oral history to examine the psychological impact of the Vietnam War. Congratulations, Jalen and James!

HIGH-PURCS PRESENTATION AWARDS

Congratulations to Ethan Muckerheide and Kelly Polk for Best Oral Presentation and Emerson Heckler for Best Poster Presentation. Students were encouraged to submit digital versions of their presentations which were judged by a committee of esteemed HPU faculty. Congrats, Ethan, Kelly and Emerson!



2023 RESEARCH APPRENTICES

Research Apprentices who completed their Research Rookies curriculum during spring 2022 through fall 2022 were recognized at this year's High-PURCS. They were awarded the medallion that they will wear at graduation during this ceremony. Many of our Research Apprentices are already paired with a research mentor, but there are some who are still looking for faculty mentors through ForagerOne. Congratulations, Research Apprentices!

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN SUMMER RESEARCH

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Kamryan Collis, Shane Cooper, Jake Drew, Austin Edwards, Nico Esposito, Jimmy Gallagher, Hailee Gosart, Miranda Gough, Abigail Hoag, Elijah Lachman, Isabella Maldonado, Charlotte Miller, Halle Nichols, Kelly Polk, Priya Thornton, Henry Wallace, Andrea Zaglin, Catherine Waldeck.



Alyson Acquard, Hayes Bowman, Espirit Cha, Taylor Cox, Sadie Flagg, Emily Gillis, Teagan Graham, Billy Hayden, Madison Hill, Sheridan Johnson, Nadia Kahn, Garrett Laws, Jake Morgan, Jenny Ngo, Parker Nyboer, Erik Peterson, Jack Quintana, Elizabeth Rubeira, Robin Stempel, Marie Streng, Brett Sykes, Gabriel Valenzano, Levi Wenger, Anaiya Whitaker, Darryl Wright, Justus Young, Muneeba Zaman, and Toheed Zaman

Alyvia Brainard, Nathan Conrad, Walter Crowley, Amanda Heafey, Emerson Heckler, Darren James, Caroline Langone, Sydney Litwiller, Tyler Matthews, Gabriella Rodriguez, Ioana Scalco, Mitchell Talton, Lindsey VanDerStad, Claire Wyatt



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



SADIE FLAGG

2023 Goldwater Scholar

Sadie Flagg is in her junior year, pursuing a BS in chemistry. She was recently named a Goldwater Scholar for her amazing achievement in undergraduate research. She currently works with Dr. Brian Augustine in Wanek School of Natural Sciences studying nano/microporous polymer thin films and developing a methodology to understand the mechanism of the formation of these nanoporous materials. Sadie was one of 413 students selected from a pool of 1267 applicants from 427 different institutions across the country. She is the third HPU student to be named a Goldwater Scholar. Congratulations, Sadie!



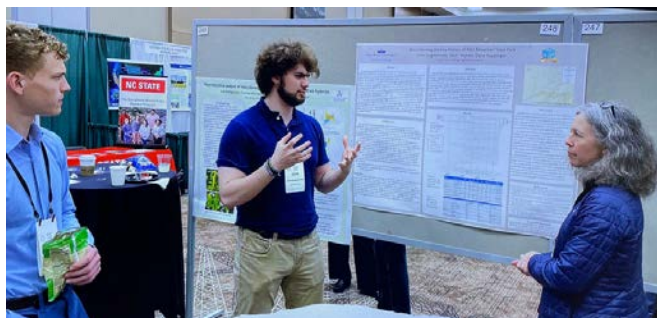
CAROLINE RIVERA

2023 American Kinesiology Association's National Undergraduate Scholar

Caroline Rivera is graduating this year after completing exercise science and chemistry majors. She was selected as the 2023 American Kinesiology Association's (AKA) National Undergraduate Scholar Award winner for her work with Dr. Roger Vaughan, studying the effect of amino acids on skeletal muscle metabolism and insulin signaling using an in vitro model of skeletal muscle. Caroline was selected from all the AKA Undergraduate Scholars across the country as the student with the most distinguished academic and leadership record. Congratulations, Caroline!

STUDENTS BACK FROM CONFERENCES SUPPORTED BY URCW

Eighteen biology students from Wanek School of Natural Sciences presented their research at this year's American Southeastern Biology conference (ASB). Topics covered many spheres of biology, from molecular biology to ecology. Good job, students!



ASB (March 23 - 26)

Maya Davis, McKinley Johnson, and Max Kresock presented their work at the International Sigma Tau Delta convention, a research conference put on by the English honors society. McKinley won 2nd place in the Original Poetry Division for his poem "Contemplations of a Changeless Nature". Max won 2nd place in the Beth DeMoe Poetry Award for his paper entitled "Yeats's Nightingale and the 'Artifice of Eternity'". Awesome job, Maya, McKinley, and Max!



SIGMA TAU DELTA (March 29 - April 2)

Jordan Morrison, Lindsay Conway, Jenna Mastropolo and Noah Stillman presented their work at NCUR, the largest undergraduate research conference, this April. Each of the four presented work on different disciplines: education, art history, physics, and marketing, respectively. Great work, Jordan, Lindsay, Jenna, and Noah!



NCUR (April 13 - 15)

RESEARCH ROOKIES INFO

ALL ABOUT RESEARCH ROOKIES

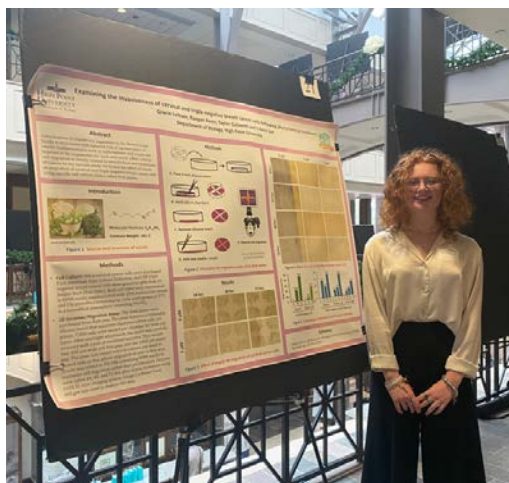
Rising sophomores can still join Research Rookies! If you're interested in getting involved contact jaltman0@highpoint.edu. You can even start the curriculum over the summer!



FORAGERONE

As the semester comes to a close, take this opportunity to make connections with faculty through ForagerOne and plan your involvement in an undergraduate research project for the fall, now!

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Me presenting my research at SNCURCS

For the past year, I've had the pleasure of writing the URCW Newsletter. This work has taught me a lot about myself, but so much more about the amazing culture of undergraduate research and creative work that has been cultivated on our campus. So many students are working on so many insightful and engaging projects that I never would've known about if not for this newsletter. For that, I want to say a sincere thank you, not just to all the amazing students that make this work possible, but to all the faculty members, the amazing staff at URCW, and Dr. Altman who make this incredible dream a reality.

Sincerely,

Taylor Galavotti