

URSCO NEWSLETTER

UNCG Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creativity Office | Fall 2022

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Important Dates
- SURF 2022
- MARC-U STAR
- ABRCMS
- STAMPS
- URCA
Recipients: Fall-Spring 2022/23
- URCA
Recipients:
Spring 2023

17TH ANNUAL THOMAS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY EXPO

APRIL 06, 2023
ABSTRACTS WILL BE ACCEPTED
JANUARY 25 – FEBRUARY 22

The expo is the campus-wide celebration of undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activities. All undergrads engaged in scholarly inquiry are encouraged to participate. Those involved in course-based undergraduate research projects are also encouraged to present. Students are eligible to compete for program recognition, which includes monetary awards. Categories for these awards include:

- **Business, Education, Social and Behavioral Sciences**
- **Humanities**
- **Mathematics, Life and Physical Sciences**
- **Performing Arts**
- **Visual Arts Exhibition**
- **Emerging Scholars (UNCG Residential College Students)**

Important Dates

~ Spring 2023 ~

- **January 09:** Classes begin
- **January 25 - February 22:** Abstracts accepted for the 17th Annual Thomas Undergraduate Research and Creativity Expo
- **January 16:** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Classes Dismissed
- **March 4 - 13:** Spring Break
- **April 06:** 17th Annual Thomas Undergraduate Research and Creativity Expo
- **April 07:** Spring holiday. Classes dismissed
- **April 21:** Request for Excellence in Undergraduate Research/Creative Inquiry Spring Transcript Notation Deadline
- **April 26:** Last day of classes
- **April 28 - May 4:** Final exams



SURF 2022



Eight students represented UNCG at the 6th annual Southern Conference Undergraduate Research Forum (SURF) on October 14-15, 2022. SURF was hosted by Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina and featured approximately 150 students from all 10 Southern Conference institutions. Participating students presented their research, scholarship, and/or creative inquiry from a wide array of disciplines. UNCG students that participated in SURF were able to attend presentations from other undergraduate students in addition to presenting their own project.

[Click here for more information....](#)



UNCG represents the University at the SoCon Undergraduate Research Forum. From left to right: Dr. Lee Phillips, Ata Artun Erdogan, Theresa Cole, Catherine Ricci, Shafaq Ahmed, Amarre Reid, Logan Brown, Marcos Tapia, and Brendan Diaz; Photo credit: Micki Roddy



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SURF Presentations

Student	Faculty Mentor	Project Title
Shafaq Ahmed	Zhenquan Jia	Investigating the Effects of Carbon Nanodots on the expression of pro-inflammatory genes in the Inflammation in Mice liver Tissue
Logan Brown	Mitchell P. Croatt	Influence of Various Migratory Alkyl Ethers in Regioselectivity of the Aromatic Claisen Rearrangement
Theresa Cole	Joanne Murphy	Regional trade in the Late Roman period on Kea, Greece
Brendan Diaz	Brittany Cassidy	An Attractiveness Halo on Perceived Friendliness is Stronger for Direct versus Averted Gaze Faces
Ata Erdogan	Jennifer Etnier	The acute effects of morning exercise on memory as a function of chronotype among college students
Amarre Reid	Dayna Touron	Examining the Role of Subjective Age in Older Adults' Work Activity and Everyday Engagement
Catherine Ricci	Jennifer Coffman	Beyond parents' elaborations: Children's memory questions in reminiscing conversations are related to early metacognitive monitoring
Marcos Tapia	Shabnam Hematian	Substituent Effects on Redox Behavior of Monomeric Synthetic Heme Complexes



MARC U-STAR

UNCG's Maximizing Access to Research Careers Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research (MARC U-STAR) Fellowship program offers talented students underrepresented in the biomedical sciences an opportunity to prepare for graduate school.

UNCG's MARC U-STAR Fellows work in research labs during their junior and senior year and receive:

- A yearly stipend and tuition is paid at the in-state level
- Undergraduate Research Experiences
- Funding to engage in year-round research projects
- Paid summer research experiences
- In a UNCG faculty mentor's lab
- With a research group at another institution
- Specialized courses and workshops
- Travel funds to attend scientific conferences
- Opportunities to publish and present their work

The UNCG MARC Fellows attended the 2022 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in Anaheim, CA from November 9-12, 2022. ABRCMS is one of the largest communities of underrepresented minorities in STEM. Students attend this conference to present their research, enhance professional development skills, explore graduate schools, and network. During the conference, attendees from over 350 colleges and Universities participate in poster and oral presentations in twelve STEM disciplines. This year, all 5 of the UNCG MARC Fellows presented their research at the ABRCMS.



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ABRCMS Presentations

Student	Faculty Mentor	Project Title
Daniel Araya	Ayalew Osená	Expression of Pyrococcus Furiosus Thioredoxin (PfTrx) in Transgenic Tobacco for Enhanced Abiotic Stress Tolerance
Logan Brown	Mitchell Croatt	Influence of Various Migratory Alkyl Ethers in Regioselectivity of the Aromatic Claisen Rearrangement
*Jonathan Dean	Kimberly Petersen	Substrate Synthesis Towards Copper Catalyzed 1,4- Difunctionalization of 1,3-Dienes
David Miller	Kari Eddington	The Warrior Mentality Scale: Initial Psychometric Properties and Exploration of Factor and Item Structure
Sydney Thompson	Norman Chiu	Comparison of RNA Secondary-Structure Prediction Programs Based on Accuracy

***Senior MARC Fellow Jonathan Dean won an award for his outstanding Chemistry poster presentation!**



STAMPS

The STAMPS (Science, Technology and Math Preparation Scholarships) Program is supported by the National Science Foundation and it offers scholarships for academically talented undergraduate students in the sciences. The primary goal of the STAMPS program at UNCG is to provide financial and community support for undergraduate students who are majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geography, Mathematical Sciences, and Physics and Astronomy. Students are awarded scholarships based on a demonstration of both a significant promise for success in science/math and a measurable financial need. In addition to financial support STAMPS incorporates a variety of community-building measures including peer mentors, a science colloquium series, tutoring, field trips to research facilities, and undergraduate research opportunities

Student	Major	Faculty Mentor
Zaynab Abdullah	Computer Science	Shan Suthaharan
Radell Allen	Physics	Ian Beatty
Karen Barcenas Alvarez	Biology	David Remington
Yessica Arzate	Biochemistry	Kimberly Petersen
Adam Cichoski	Computer Science	Somya Mohanty
Samuel Denney	Biochemistry	Kimberly Petersen
Elisabeth Eleazer	Biology	Ayalew Osen
Rebecca Felts	Mathematics	Maya Chhetri
Victoria Frye	Biology	Gwen Robbins Schug
Kiara Gonzales	Biochemistry	Shabnam Hematian
Sergio Guerra	Computer Science	Somya Mohanty
Emma Hughes	Chemistry	Kimberly Petersen
Jamani Ishmael	Biochemistry	Shabnam Hematian
Hannah Marshall	Computer Science	Shan Suthaharan
Brenton Perry	Physics	Ian Beatty
Nyah Quinones	Computer Science	Somya Mohanty
Steven Solowski	Biology	Gideon Wasserberg
Rachel Thompson	Physics	Ian Beatty
Fabrizio Vallejos	Biology	Ramji Bhandari
Erika Wells	Biology	Gwen Robbins Schug
Zion York	Biology	David Remington



URCA Recipients

~Fall-Spring 2022/2023~

Student	Faculty Mentor	Department	Project Title
Max Counts	Jennifer Etnier	Kinesiology	Effects of Rhythmic Entrainment to Music on Physical Activity in Community-Dwelling Elderly People (REPACE)
Ata Erdogan	Jennifer Etnier	Kinesiology	Efficacy of Rhythmically Entrained Exercise in Community-Dwelling Older Adults (REECO)
Aaron Goldman	Chris Wahlheim	Psychology	Conflict Saliency and Fake News Reminders Improve Memory and Beliefs
Madison Gullett	Alicia Aarnio	Physics and Astronomy	The Turbulent Lives of Young Stellar Interiors: Using Modeling to Understand the Magnetic Fields of Young Stars
Claire Haneberg	Rebecca Macleod	School of Music	An Investigation of Composer Gender, Race, and Ethnicity for Middle and High School Orchestra
Jessica Jacob	Charles Egeland	Anthropology	Three-Dimensional Models of Taphonomic Modifications to Bone
Jessica Linn	Donna Nash	Archaeology	Ethnicity and Mortuary Traditions at Yaracachi, Moquegua, Peru
Malachi McCaskill	Natalie Sowell	School of Theatre	Unity Holiday Spectacular



URCA Recipients

~Fall-Spring 2022/2023~

Student	Faculty Mentor	Department	Project Title
Ariel Pocock	Catherine Bush	Biology	Weaving Strength and Well-Being: A Novel Interview Approach for Improving Mental Health in Montagnard Elders and Youth
Beh Reh	Ramji Bhandari	Biology	Bisphenol A-induced Epigenetic Mutations in Male Germ Cells
Amanda Richardson	Michaeline Jensen	Psychology	The Role of Technology in Planned Drinking among NC College Students
Tiffany Stephens	Donna Nash	Anthropology	The Comparison of Material Culture in the Inkan Empire
Cameron Sturgis	Suzanne Vrshek-Schallhorn	Psychology	Impacts of discrimination among college students: A mixed-methods examination
Dominic Walker	Natalie Sowell	School of Theatre	Unity Holiday Spectacular
Empress Williams	Nadja Cech	Chemistry and Biochemistry	Antimicrobial Properties of <i>Turnera diffusa</i> and Identification of Active Compounds
Mufeng (Oscar) Xu	Robert Wiley	Psychology	Investigating Proactive Interference Effects After Switching Encoding Language in Bilingual Individuals



URCA Recipients

~Spring 2023~

Student	Faculty Mentor	Department	Project Title
Jonah Carrel	Teresa Heiland	School of Dance	Re-embodiment and reinterpreting a jazz dance duet designed for women called Calgon as a performance piece for two men: Reframing, analyzing, and notating the dance to capture the essence of ranges of male expressivity
Brandy Day	Teresa Heiland	School of Dance	Assessing Effects of Cortical Field Re-education on functional dynamic body alignment in dancers
Madison Gullett	Alicia Aarnio	Physics and Astronomy	Simulating Convection in Young Stellar Interiors: How do Stars Build Magnetic Fields?
Rebecca Kefer	Heather Adams	English	Communicating Wellness: Tacit Messages in Healthy Client Take-Home Literature
Grant Koher	Zhenquan Jia	Biology	Determining the effects of Pipturus albidus (Hawaiian Māmaki) on TNF- α -induced inflammation in human microvascular endothelial cells
Jessica Linn	Donna Nash	Archaeology	Ethnicity and Mortuary Traditions at Yacachi, Moquegua, Peru



URCA Recipients

~Spring 2023~

Student	Faculty Mentor	Department	Project Title
Diana Marcos Rosas	Jigna Dharod	Nutrition	Development of culturally appropriate study protocol and instruments to carry out food insecurity and infant feeding study with Latino families in Guilford County
Felyssa Mills	Plaxedes Chitiyo	Geography, Environment, and Sustainability	Alleviating Food Insecurity through the Free Farmers Market in Greensboro
Abigail Napier	Dana Logan	Religious Studies	Watch-Care: Baptist Discipline in the Antebellum South
Cathy Nicholson	Meredith Gringle	Public Health Education	Understanding UNCG Food Insecurity and Food Access Efforts
Luz Selena Villa Robles	Jigna Dharod	Nutrition	Food insecurity: does it affect infant feeding practices among low-income Latino families
Tiffany Stephens	Donna Nash	Archaeology	The Comparison of Material Culture in the Inca Empire
Kaysa Vaarre-Lamoureux	Sarah Koerner	Biology	Assessing the effect of cattle grazing intensities on mixed-grass prairie arthropod communities





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***URSCO is a unit within the
University Teaching and Learning Commons***



130 Shaw Residence Hall (on the quad)
1310 Walker Ave
Greensboro, NC

**For more information about what UNCG's undergraduate
scholars are up to, visit the URSCO blog!**



URSCO

**THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH,
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Welcome to the URSCO blog, where UNCG's undergraduate scholars share their work and its impact with the world. This blog aims to highlight the amazing undergraduate research and scholarly activity that takes place on our campus.



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