

URSCO NEWSLETTER

The Undergraduate Research, Scholarship & Creativity Office at UNCG



Important Dates:



December 6, 2016: [URSCO Open House](#) from 11am to 1pm in 132 McIver. Please RSVP by **November 29, 2016!**

April 2017: the [21st annual Poster on the Hill](#) in Washington, D.C. Applications will be accepted through **November 2, 2016.**

April 6-8, 2017: the [31st annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research](#). This event will be held at the University of Memphis, Tennessee. Abstracts will be accepted through **December 2, 2016.**

April 10, 2017: the [11th annual Carolyn and Norwood Thomas Undergraduate Research & Creativity Expo!](#) Abstracts will be accepted from **February 8, 2017 to March 1, 2017.**



Research in the News

UNCG represented at National Undergraduate Research Event for US Congress

UNCG honors student, Amanda Baeten, her mentor Dr. Blair Wisco (Psychology), and Dr. Lee Phillips (URSCO) traveled to Washington, D.C to participate in the **20th Annual Posters on the Hill**. Her project was one of 60 from across the nation selected from 400 nominations for the event, which is sponsored by the **Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)**. On April 20th, Baeten presented her research project, titled “How Rumination Affects Emotions,” which examines the harmful effects of rumination, a negative thinking style that increases the risk for depression. Amanda’s research reveals that individuals suffering from depression can be helped by using healthy distraction techniques instead of ruminating about their problems, particularly when managing feelings of anger. The project was discussed with staffers in Senators Burr and Tillis’ office, as well as with many NC representatives to the U.S. Congress. *Baeten will be participating in undergraduate research again this year and we wish her all the best in her endeavors!*



Communication Studies

Undergraduate Researcher Wins National Award!

Essma Boucteb (Senior) was awarded the Bob and Ann Weiss Undergraduate Paper Competition Award for the top undergraduate research paper at the **2016 National Association of Communication Centers Conference**. Boucteb received her award for her paper, “Organizational Identification at Communication Centers,” which was developed during her time

serving as the Pete and Joan Allan Student Research Fellow at the University Speaking Center. Essma completed her research under the guidance of her mentor, Dr. Roy Schwartzman. She is a double major in Communication Studies and Psychology and is enrolled in the Lloyd International Honors College at UNCG. *Congratulations Essma!*



2016-2017 Lilian Nile Undergraduate Research Assistantship Fund Recipient*

This year, the Assistantship was awarded to **Eni Minerali**, a Chemistry and Biochemistry major at UNCG. She conducted research with Dr. Terence A. Nile and Dr. Kimberly Petersen in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. *Congratulations, Eni!*

From left to right: Julia B. Nile, Eni Minerali and Dr. Terence A. Nile

*Dr. Terence A. and Julia B. Nile established the **Lilian Nile Undergraduate Research Assistantship Fund** in honor of Terry’s mother with a named fund that will support undergraduate re-

search in the field of Chemistry and Biochemistry at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. This award has positively impacted the lives of so many students interested in chemistry through the years.



Free Resources for Students and Faculty:



New for 2016-17: UNCG has adopted a resource that connects you to over 10,000 student conferences, journals, research and funding opportunities specifically for undergraduate researchers and honors students.



UNCG is an Enhanced Institutional Member of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). *This allows any interested UNCG faculty members to join CUR as an individual member at no additional cost.*



UNCG Psychology Students Snag 1st Place in New Orleans

A record number of 15 Psychology undergraduate students were able to attend the annual meeting of the **Southern Psychological Association** in New Orleans from March 30th-April 2nd in 2016*. The students presented their research, attended talks, and networked with the region’s top researchers. On April 1st, 12 students, led by Psi Chi president Nicole Pocchiari, took part in the SEPA Diversity Quiz Bowl sponsored by Psi Chi. This event is where all the region’s schools face off against each other to answer questions on the role of diversity

in psychology. The 12 students representing UNCG took home 1st place defeating over 20 other institutions and netting themselves \$120 in prize money. *Awesome work!*

*Thanks to travel and research awards granted from URSCO, generous funding from donors to the College of Arts and Science, including the Margaret Mitchell Fund for Undergraduate Liberal Education, the Walter H. Beale Arts and Sciences Enrichment Fund, and the Arts and Science Enrichment Fund.



**“How to Create a Poster Presentation”
Workshop Dates**



October 27th	12:30 pm
October 28th	10:00 am
October 31st	11:00 am 2:00 pm
November 1st	9:30 am 11:30 am
November 2nd	12:00 pm 2:00 pm

Register at: https://workshops.uncg.edu/workshops.jsp?wks_id=44006012



2016 Thomas Undergraduate Research Mentor

Dr. Olav Rueppell honored as the 2016 **Thomas Undergraduate Research Mentor Award Recipient**. Dr. Olav Rueppell is a Professor in the Department of Biology at UNCG. His research methods encompass genetic analyses, bioinformatics, studies of cells, behavioral and physiological observations and experiments, and demographic and ecological approaches. Dr. Rueppell has mentored over 50 undergraduate students at UNCG, reaching beyond the borders of the department and university. Previously, Dr. Rueppell was also the recipient of the 2015 CUR-Biology Division Mid-Career Mentor Award.

The Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creativity Office at UNCG established this award to recognize faculty members who engage students in projects that contribute to the expansion of knowledge and understanding in their discipline. Dr. Olav Rueppell has managed to do this in exemplary fashion and continues to provide guidance to budding biologists at UNCG. We are honored to present him with the Thomas Undergraduate Research Mentor Award for 2016. *Congratulations Dr. Rueppell!*



Faculty Development

Register at <https://workshops.uncg.edu> for faculty workshops.

Upcoming Workshops:

Integration of Research into the Curriculum #4: Assessment of Undergraduate Research

Wed., 11/16, 1:00-3:00, Faculty Center

Workshops Previously Offered:

Integration of Research into the Curriculum #1: Value of Undergraduate Research

Wed., 9/7, 1:00-2:00, Faculty Center

Dialogues on Undergraduate Research: MENTORING UNDERGRADUATES IN RESEARCH

Wed., 9/14, 1:00-3:00, Faculty Center

Integration of Research into the Curriculum #2: Integrating Research Skills into Lower Level and Intermediate Classes

Wed., 9/21, Noon-2:00, Faculty Center

Integration of Research into the Curriculum #3: Curricular Mapping

Wed., 10/19, Noon-3:00, Faculty Center

*Keep an eye out for Spring workshops!

10th Annual Carolyn & Norwood Undergraduate Research and Creativity Expo Award Winners

(Held on March 29, 2016)

Health and Behavioral Sciences

1st- Rose Ewald and Sarah Howle

-Dr. Lauren Haldeman, (Nutrition)

“Hypertension and Obesity in Low-Income, Immigrant, and Minority Adolescents”

2nd– Fizah Zafar

-Dr. Dayna Touron, (Psychology)

“Does stereotype threat contribute to older adults’ avoidance of memory strategies?”

Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

1st-Elizabeth Wilson

-Dr. Linda Stine, (Anthropology)

“Postbellum Agrarian Life: The Archaeology of Family, Self-reliance, and Thrift”

2nd– Phillip Sheldon

-Dr. Gregory Grieve, (Religious Studies)

“Constantine’s Memory: Metaphor, Liturgy, and a Processional in the Forum of Constantine”

3rd– Alaina Monts

-Dr. Sarah Cervenak, (African American and African Diaspora Studies; Women’s and Gender Studies)

“Don’t let me be Misunderstood: Meshell Ndegeocello, Liminality, and Radical Black Sexualities”

***Honorable Mention:**

Shannon Keller

-Dr. Maria Lim, (Art)

“A Case Study on relationships between Choice-based Art Education and Student’s Creative Thinking”

Zoe Fishman

-Dr. Roy Schwartzman, (Communication Studies)

“Poems of the Holocaust: Tattooing the Truth”

Marissa Sarver

-Dr. Jonathan Zarecki, (Classical Studies)

“Internal and External Motivations of the Late Republican Mob”

Sciences

1st-Nadjali Chung

-Dr. Nadja Cech, (Chemistry and Biochemistry)

*“Glycerol as an Extraction Solvent for Botanical Extracts of Goldenseal (*Hydrastis Canadensis*)”*

2nd-Louis Sulit

-Dr. Karen Katula, (Biology)

“Does WNT5A transcript levels correlate with epigenetic profiles in HepG2 and Caco-2 cell lines?”

3rd-Eni Minerali and Jennifer Wilent

-Dr. Kimberly Petersen, (Chemistry and Biochemistry)

“Asymmetric Synthesis of Enantioenriched Lactams”

***Honorable Mention:**

Osbin Perdomo and Sunbin Deng

-Dr. Alice Haddy, (Chemistry and Biochemistry)

“Comparison of PSII salt washing methods and their effects on oxygen evolution activity”

Visual Arts

1st-Quinn Hunter

-Nikki Blair and Amy Purcell, (Art)

“My Inheritance”

2nd-Margaret Bailey

-Amy Purcell, (Art)

“The Art of Rebranding”

3rd-Isaac Smith

-Amy Purcell, (Art)

“Social Circle – Web Project”

***Honorable Mention:**

Sarah Kim

-Artist in Residence

“Vulnerability”

2016 International Conference of Undergraduate Research Participants

- * [The International Conference of Undergraduate Research \(ICUR\)](#) was held September 27-28, 2016. This conference is an annual event that connects students from universities across the world to a 24-hour forum via videoconferencing. This year, UNCG students participated in the conference with students from the University of Warwick (England), the University of Leeds (England), and Monash University (South Africa).

Gregory Bernstein

Faculty Mentor: Jan Rychtar
Title: Racial Bias in Individual Officers in Greensboro Police Department

Nadjali Chung

Faculty Mentor: Nadja Cech
Title: Identification of New Quorum Sensing Peptide from *Staphylococcus Caprae*

Itane O. Coleman

Faculty Mentor: Sarah Cervenak
Title: My Afro Doesn't Speak for Me: Issues with Associating Dress/Style with Black Women's Radical Activism

Natalia Husby

Faculty Mentor: George Michel
Title: Examining the Effects of Infant Rearing Experiences on Delay of Gratification Tasks by Rhesus Macaques

Brandon Joyce

Co-Author: Ashley Jones
Co-Presenter: Christopher Pritchard
Faculty Mentor: Jan Rychtar
Title: Analysis of Individual Greensboro Police Officers' Stopping Patterns Using Propensity Score Weighting

Sydney Meeks

Faculty Mentor: Jan Rychtar and Hyunju Oh (Bennett College)
Title: Using a Game Theoretic Approach to Analyze the Rift Valley Fever Virus Vaccine

Marissa Sarver

Faculty Mentor: Jonathan Zarecki
Title: The Res Gestae: Christianity through the Eyes of a Passive Aggressive Pagan

Katherine Skinner

Faculty Mentor: Sudha Shreeniwas
Title: Managing Dementia Symptoms through ART-mail

David Perez-Suarez

Faculty Mentor: Sat Gupta
Title: Variations of the Unrelated Question RRT Model

Ena Prskalo

Faculty Mentor: Joanne Murphy
Title: Deviant Burials in Classical Athens

Julia Thompson

Co-Author: Alicia Feryn
Faculty Mentor: Xiaoli Gao
Title: Detecting DNA Copy Number Variation

Uyeong Yang

Faculty Mentor: Kenneth Snowden
Title: Korean Monetary Union, Is it Feasible and How?

2016 SURF Participants

- * Nine students will represent UNCG during the first ever [Southern Conference Undergraduate Research Forum](#) (SURF) on October 28-29, 2016, which will be held on the campus of Wofford University in Spartansburg, SC. This forum will feature students and faculty from the 10 Southern Conference institutions presenting their research (scholarship and creative inquiry) in all disciplines of the Arts, Humanities, and STEM.

Mario Augustinovic

Mentor: David Remington

Title: The genetic architecture of complex traits

Amanda Baeten

Mentor: Blair Wisco

Title: The Association between Co-rumination and Social Anxiety in an Adult Sample

Amber Campos

Mentor: Janet Boseovski

Title: Getting Pleasure from Others' Pain: Effects of Liking on Schadenfreude

Nadjali Chung

Mentor: Nadja Cech

Title: Identification of New Quorum Sensing Peptide from *Staphylococcus caprae*

Jordan Crowell

Mentor: Robert Anemone

Title: A Geometric Morphometric Analysis of the Shoulder of *Homo naledi*

Cory Henderson

Mentor: Charles Egeland

Title: Patterns of hominin landuse and raw material procurement in the paleo-Olduvai Basin, Tanzania

Ena Prskalo

Mentor: Joanne Murphy

Title: Identifying Deviants in Classical Athens

Marissa Sarver

Mentor: Jonathan Zarecki

Title: Res Gestae: Christianity through the eyes of a passive aggressive pagan

Phillip Sheldon

Mentor: Stephen Sills

Title: Is Mortgage Loan Discrimination Present in Guilford County, North Carolina? An Analysis of the Available Data



Connect With Us!

Twitter: @UNCG_URSCO

Facebook: UndergradResearchatUNCG

LinkedIn: UNCG URSCO

