2022

Undergraduate Poster Competition

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National Undergraduate Week Poster Presentation Competition

In April 2022, the University of Arkansas celebrated National Undergraduate Research Week with its own week-long celebration of student research conducted on our campus. This week, hosted by the Honors College, Office of Undergraduate Research, and University Libraries, included a Research Poster Competition, that exhibited the breadth of research/creative projects undertaken by undergraduate students at the university. Over 50 honors and non-honors students entered the competition. The winners in the eight research categories are listed below.

Art/Design & Humanities

First Place
Emily Snyder
Hometown: Bentonville, AR
Major(s): History, Latino and Latin American Studies
Mentor: Shawn Austin

Second Place
Kaleigh Alwood
Hometown: Centerton, AR
Major(s): Music Education, Music Theory
“Analysis of Robert Schumann’s “Fantasy Pieces for Clarinet and Piano”, opus 73, for a Greater Understanding of a Standard in Western Classical Solo Repertory”
Mentor: Nophachai Cholthitchanta

Third Place
Daniella Ruiz Cantu
Hometown: Bentonville, AR
Major(s): Political Science
“Black Occularity, the White Gaze, and Color-Blindness in Shonda Rhimes’ Bridgerton”
Mentor: Lisa Corrigan

Engineering

First Place
Fah Sysavanh
Hometown: Springdale, AR
Major(s): Biomedical Engineering
“The Interaction of Angiotensin I and II on Calcified Aortic Valve Cells”
Mentor: Kartik Balachandran

Second Place
Katherine Skiles
Hometown: Baton Rouge, LA
Major(s) Biological Engineering
“Representativeness Evaluation of the Delta-Flux Network for Assessing Rice Landscapes in the Mid-South”
Mentor: Benjamin Runkle
Third Place
John Sooter
Hometown: Bentonville, AR
Major(s): Industrial Engineering
“Developing a carbon inclusive pricing model for time constrained last mile delivery services”
Mentor: Chase Rainwater

Health Group 1

First Place
Madeline Kelly
Hometown: Plano, TX
Major(s): Communication Sciences and Disorders
“Assessment of Tinnitus in Marching Band Members”
Mentor: Margie Gilbertson

Second Place
Savannah Ellis (O’Fallon, MO; Biology, Psychology) and Sarah Aly (Fayetteville, AR; Biomedical Engineering)
“The Effect on Mental, Physical, and Social Health as a Result of the Return to In-Person Classes”
Mentor: Samantha Robinson

Third Place
Alric Fernandes
Hometown: Bentonville, AR
Major(s): Chemistry, Biology
“Robust Geographically Weighted Regression to Explore Regional Differences in Tobacco Use Determinants”
Mentor: Samantha Robinson
Health Group 2

First Place
Meghan Underwood
Hometown: Memphis, TX
Major(s): Exercise Science
“Effects of Estrogen and Progesterone on Fluid Retention and Perceived Thirst”
Mentor: Brendon McDermott

Second Place
Haley Stanton
Hometown: Mabelvale, AR
Major(s): Animal Science
“Prevalence of Ehrlichia and Rickettsia Species in Ticks in Arkansas State Parks”
Mentor: Ashley Dowling

Third Place
Brittany Martin
Hometown: Dover, AR
Major(s): Kinesiology, Exercise Science
“Correlation Between Circulating Inflammatory Biomarkers, DOMS, and Self-rated Function in Lean and Obese Populations After a Heavy Lifting Protocol”
Mentor: Brendon McDermott

Natural Science Group 1

First Place

Nathan Rives  
Hometown: Fayetteville, AR  
Major(s): Biology  
“Type I Antifreeze Protein in Polar Fish as a Model to Study Convergent and New Gene Evolution”  
Mentor: Xuan Zhuang

Second Place  
Miller Bacon  
Hometown: Little Rock, AR  
Major(s): Biochemistry, History  
“Amine Enhancement of Cyanoacrylate Fuming of Fingerprints”  
Mentor: Wesley Stites

Third Place  
Alexia Lo  
Hometown: Gentry, AR  
Major(s): Biochemistry  
“Characterization of a Ras-Related Protein in the Presence and Absence of a Small Molecule Inhibitor”  
Mentor: Paul Adams

Natural Science Group 2

First Place  
Dominic Dharwadker  
Hometown: Fayetteville, AR  
Major(s): Biochemistry, French  
“Regulation of vacuolar H+ translocating pyrophosphatase (V-PPase) impacts sucrose formation and cytosolic pH during germination in rice”  
Mentor: Vibha Srivastava

Second Place  
Ashley Lieber  
Hometown: Wichita, KS  
Major(s): Physics  
“Modeling the Variability of the Sun’s Total Solar Irradiance through Supervised Machine Learning Techniques”  
Mentor: Julia Kennefick

Third Place  
Ethan Peters  
Hometown: Fayetteville, AR  
Major(s): Biochemistry, Spanish  
“Design of a stable variant of FGF1-FGF2 dimer with potent cell proliferation activity”  
Mentor: Suresh Kumar

Social Science Group 1

First Place  
Hannah Frala  
Hometown: Fayetteville, AR  
Major(s): Psychology
“Using Social Media to Regulate Emotions is Associated with Psychopathology”
Mentor: Jennifer Veilleux

Second Place
Danielle Shaver
Hometown: Germantown, TN
Major(s): Psychology, Social Work
“It’s Not You, It’s Me: Contextualizing Relationship Conflict, Self-Criticism, and Emotion Regulation”
Mentor: Jennifer Veilleux

Third Place
Brynn Schuetter
Hometown: Conway, AR
Major(s): Psychology, Criminology, Sociology
“The Effects Identification Procedures Have on Eyewitness Identification”
Mentor: James Lampinen

Social Science Group 2

First Place
Aryn Blumenberg
Hometown: Conway, AR
Major(s): Food Science
Mentor: Nathan Kemper

Second Place
Ryan Harra
Hometown: Olathe, KS
Major(s): Psychology
“The effectiveness of peer to peer Mentoring”
Mentor: Ivan Vargas

Third Place
Trinity Walker
Hometown: Fayetteville, AR
Major(s): Psychology, Spanish
“Our theory of Mind: temporary super power or coincidence?”
Mentor: Bill Levine