ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH, WELCOME TO THE 2021 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY CONFERENCE!

WHAT IS OUR? The Office for Undergraduate Research offers resources that can enrich a student’s undergraduate experience by offering an opportunity to actively engage in learning outside of the classroom. Undergraduate researchers gain hands-on experience with research in all majors, often working one-on-one with faculty mentors that challenge them intellectually and can become lifetime mentors. OUR can provide students with the information and resources necessary to engage in original inquiry, scholarship, and creative work during their undergraduate years at the Capstone. Likewise, OUR can connect faculty members to eager, innovative young researchers to assist in their labs.

WHAT IS ESP? The Emerging Scholars Program is an exciting opportunity for students at The University of Alabama to get involved in research with a faculty mentor in their chosen field. These research opportunities allow a student to gain experience that deepens his or her understanding in a field of study, to develop necessary professional skills, to interact with a diverse group of students and faculty members, and to learn appropriate methods and techniques for presenting professional research. ESP also benefits faculty by connecting them with students eager to learn and participate in research throughout their UA careers.
March 31, 2021

Dear Participants,

Welcome to The University of Alabama’s 14th annual Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference (URCA). We are excited to have 205 presentations with over 350 students participating in-person and virtually. The Office for Research & Economic Development is proud to host URCA, the only University-wide research conference for undergraduate students. We see the research efforts undertaken by our undergraduate students align with the University’s strategic plan for interdisciplinary research and collaborations. Research and creative activities have become hallmarks of the undergraduate experience at The University of Alabama.

Our faculty continuously seek new opportunities to engage our undergraduate students in quality research, discovery and creative endeavors that define academic experiences at the Capstone. We want to give special thanks and recognition to those faculty members who have mentored our student presenters today. We also offer hearty congratulations to our student participants for their contributions to the impressive body of work presented.

Through the collaborative efforts of the Office for Research & Economic Development, the Graduate School, and the colleges and schools, the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference has become a premier event at The University of Alabama. We sincerely appreciate the tireless efforts of the students, faculty, staff and judges who made today’s event possible.

This premier event provides undergraduate students an opportunity to highlight their research and creative activities, and allows students to gain experience presenting, to compete for cash prizes, and to form relationships with mentors and fellow presenters. We celebrate this tradition of annually recognizing the research and creative accomplishments of our best and brightest undergraduate students and look forward to the presentations.

Thank you for sharing your ideas and hard work.

Most sincerely,

John C Higginbotham, PhD, MPH
Senior Associate Vice President for Research & Economic Development
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Health Science
Engineering
Computer Science

SESSION 2
Social Science
Life Science
Physical Science

SESSION 3
Education
Arts and Humanities
Business

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1-2 Kelvin D. Dam
Improved Performance of Cementitious Materials by Tree Nut Extracts
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1-3 Emily Ager
Reviewing the Nutritional Quality and Sensory Properties of Microgreens
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1-4 Madison Scott
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Han-A Park

1-5 Claire Brewer
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1-6 Emily Gray
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1-7 Avery Power
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1-10 Essence Cochran, Ashley Harrington, Jordan Haywood, Madison Horton, Jasmine Maynor, and Brianna Snider
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1-30  Ashlyn Hall
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