

Research Matters

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Notes from Beneath the Blue Awning

Hello, UWF Researchers,

Could you or your department use some help to develop a plan to pursue external funding as a means to expand your capabilities in teaching, research, and service? RAE is ready to provide assistance before you ever start work on a proposal's concept paper or budget estimate. Please invite us to your next faculty meeting. In 15 minutes or less, we can introduce you to some of our resources and staff and help you get ready to proceed with the search for external funding or set up a more substantive planning session. We are also happy to meet with you one-on-one.



To schedule an appointment for RAE to meet with you, your department, or your research team, please reach out to us at research@uwf.edu. Better yet, contact me directly at 850.474.3455 or mschwartz@uwf.edu.

Regards,

Matt Schwartz
Professor and Associate VP of Research Administration

p.s. We are completing a number of products to better inform and support UWF faculty and staff who want to pursue external funding. Be on the lookout for updates and additions to our [website](#).

Summer research program draws students from many fields of study

By **JEFFREY CASSADY**
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Students from all five University of West Florida colleges participated in the annual **Summer Undergraduate Research Program** this year, according to program administrators.

“We had more reach this year,” said **Dr. Allison Schwartz**, director of **the Office of Undergraduate Research**. “We had students from the **College of Education and Professional Studies** and the **College of Business**. In history, **Dr. Marie Therese-Champagne** had a student this year. **Paul Pilger** had a student in communications.

“I think (the program) was very successful.”

Seventy-five students participated in SURP this year.

SURP launched in 2015 to encourage research among undergraduate students in the **Hal Marcus College of Science Engineering**. In 2018, the program expanded universitywide, allowing students in any degree program to participate.

Students who participate in SURP spend up to 25 hours per week for up to 12 weeks in the summer conducting research with a faculty mentor. Participating students receive stipends of up to \$2,500.

“By the end of the summer, students have a much better understanding of what it means to be a researcher and a professional,” Schwartz said. “They have an idea of what it would look like if they were to continue to work in their field after graduation.”

This year marked the second time since 2018 that students from all five colleges participated in the program during the same summer, Schwartz said. Nineteen students outside the Hal Marcus College of Science and Engineering conducted research as part of SURP this year compared to 11 students in 2018, the last year students from all five colleges participated in the program.

The **Haas Center** also played host to an undergraduate researcher this summer, Schwartz added.

The annual SURP Symposium, which usually closes out the program each summer, was canceled this year because of the threat posed by the COVID-19 Delta variant. The symposium usually serves as an opportunity for SURP participants to display their posters and show off their work.

Schwartz said she is unsure when the delayed symposium will be held. In the meantime, OUR has encouraged SURP participants to hang their posters around the University’s campuses (with approval from the appropriate authorities). Additionally, OUR has worked with the John C. Pace Library to include the posters in the University’s **institutional repository**.

New publications

The Office of Research Administration and Engagement congratulates the following researchers for their recent publications.

- **Dr. Helena Allman**, M. Mackie, Anton Fenik, and **Dr. Scott Keller** for their article "No More Missing Inventory: Blockchain and RFID Technology Applications within the Retail Inventory Management System" in the Journal of Transportation Management.
- **Dr. Elizabeth Bemiss** for her article "**Examining Learning Experiences Designed to Help Teacher Candidates Bridge Coursework and Fieldwork**" in Teaching and Teacher Education.
- **Dr. Julie Gray** for her article "**Academic Optimism and Enabling School Structure: Predictors of Professional Learning Communities**" in the International Journal of Educational Leadership Preparation.

If you or your students have a new publication you'd like to see highlighted here, please contact Jeffrey Cassady at jcassady@uwf.edu. Be sure to include the name(s) of the author(s), the name of the article or chapter, the name of the journal or book in which it appears, and a link to the article or an abstract.

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