May 10, 2012

The Office for Undergraduate Research newsletter is published two times per month to share news about undergraduate research at UNC, relevant events, accomplishments of our students and faculty, and more. For additional information, please visit our website at www.unc.edu/depts/our or email us at our@unc.edu.

Announcements and OUR News

**OUR Blog:**
- Staff Spotlight: Chelsey Bentley Discusses Her Creation of Research Bingo

**GRC Blog:**
- A Psych GRC’s Role: A Sounding Board for Ideas and an Anchor for Ambitions
- HIST480 Tsarist Russia: Students Work With GRC
- GRC Experience in HIST480

**OUR Programs:**
- Seats are still available in IDST195: Modes of Inquiry.

**OUR People:**
- Dr. Gidi Shemer wins award from the National Association of Academic Advising.
- Congratulations to our graduating OUR Ambassadors! We’ll be sharing profiles of our seven new Ambassadors soon!

**Events and Opportunities:**
- The School of Nursing showcased research from its May 2012 Honors graduates on April 19 in Carrington Hall.
- The Department of Computer Science Undergraduate Symposium features three grant-funded student researchers.
- Undergraduate student publication opportunity: The Council on Undergraduate Research seeks student authors.
- The 2012 Faculty-Staff Campaign is underway. Please consider supporting the Office for Undergraduate Research with your gift.

Announcements and OUR News:

**Staff Spotlight: Chelsey Bentley Discusses Her Creation of Research Bingo**

OUR Staffer Chelsey Bentley discusses increasing interaction and participation about research through Bingo.

**A Psych GRC’s Role: A Sounding Board for Ideas and an Anchor for Ambitions**

Jason Kahn, a GRC in the Psychology Department, shares his experience as a GRC.

**HIST480 Tsarist Russia: Students Work with GRC and GRC Experience in HIST480**

Dr. Louise McReynolds and GRC Andrew Ringlee discuss the benefits of and strategies for incorporating a GRC in a Russian History course.

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Seats are still available in IDST195: Modes of Inquiry. Here are some comments from IDST195 Spring 2012 students:
- “Being a psychology major, which is trying to be considered as a hard science, I did not even really think about researching in other fields like religious studies or English. This class made me realize that different studying techniques can be applied across fields in something that is not so experimentally based.”
• “I did not realize that there was so much research being done on this campus not just in the physical sciences but in social sciences as well. I did not realize that it was so easy to get involved.”
• “Before taking the class, I thought real research was limited to the natural sciences, but I was quite wrong. Other department’s research is just as time consuming if not more and equally valuable to human growth. Research is also not limited to observations and running an experiment to test a hypothesis. Research involves traveling, physical labor, interviewing, and much, much more. If I ever pursue research, I learned to do so in a field that really interests me, and I realized results can be a lifelong mission.”

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Dr. Gidi Shemer, lecturer and faculty advisor in biology and undergraduate research liaison for the Office for Undergraduate Research, is the recipient of an Outstanding New Advising Award from the National Academic Advising Association. Warm congratulations to our colleague!

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EVENTS:

The School of Nursing showcased research from its May 2012 Honors graduates in a poster session on April 19 in Carrington Hall. Projects presented included Nurse-Pharmacist Relationships in the Hospital Setting, Assessment and Intervention Strategies to Improve Healthcare Management in Elementary Classrooms, Nursing in Critical Care: An Oral History Project and more.

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The sixth annual Computer Science Undergraduate Symposium was held at Sitterson Hall on April 25, 2012. Under the supervision of faculty advisors Kevin Jeffay and Jay Aikat, Computer Science undergraduates Stephanie Zolayvar, Rebecca Crabb, and Wai Yau worked on networking research projects on measurement and analyses of Internet traffic. The students were funded by a Collaborative Research Experience for Undergraduates (CREU) grant for the 2011-2012 academic year. This grant, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), was awarded by the Computing Research Association’s Committee on the Status of Women in Computing Research (CRA-W).
All three students successfully completed their honors thesis as part of this CREU projects and are graduating with honors this weekend. Wai’s project, titled: "Variability of TCP Round-trip Times (RTTs) Over the Years", was a study of the changes in magnitude and variability of round trip times seen in TCP connections over the years. Stephanie studied network traffic to distinguish the characteristics between HTTP and HTTPS requests and responses in her paper titled: "Characterizing Modern Web Traffic using TCP Headers". Rebecca defined a model to represent UDP traffic by analyzing network traffic in her project titled: "Modeling UDP Traffic." These students will also be presenting their research at the Grace Hopper Conference in Baltimore this October.

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Staff from the Advising Office talk to transfer students at the Transfer Students Welcome Reception on May 4, 2012.

OUR was there, too, and shared lots of information about undergraduate research with incoming transfer students!

Thanks to the Transfer Advising Committee for inviting us to participate.

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The Council on Undergraduate Research wants student authors! The theme of the Spring 2013 CUR Quarterly will be “Students Voices in Undergraduate Research.” We seek several student authors who can write articles that focus on students’ experiences engaging in undergraduate research.

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