Office of Undergraduate Research \& Scholarship Joe Wirgau, Director
Jennifer McDonel, Associate Director Grace Bryant, Administrative Assistant

Kate Mullins, Graduate Assistant
Anna Ruff, Graduate Assistant
Cora Burt, Executive Student Assistant Abbi Green, Executive Student Assistant Lily McConkey, Executive Student Assistant

Special Thanks to:
Mary Beth Kegley, Strategic Communications Graphic Design Manager Jeanne Mekolichick, Associate Provost for Research, Faculty Success, and Strategic Initiatives


## 11th Annual

## SUMMER

 RESEARCH
## CELEBRATION

## October $3^{\text {rd }}, 2023$

Tom Cruise, Director of Sponsored Programs and Grant Management Steven Fesmire, Chair, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Abhay Kaushik, Professor of Accounting and Finance
Sandra Liss, Assistant Professor of Physics
David Sallee, Professor of Health and Human Performance
Pei-Chun Tsai, Associate Professor of Psychology
Ginny Weisz, Associate Professor of Nursing
Wesley Young, Professor of Theatre

## 11th Annual



This past summer, the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF) program funded 23 remarkable and diverse student-faculty collaborative projects. The following schedule provides the times students will be presenting. Thank you for supporting these students with your presence; we hope you will be inspired to reach for new knowledge in your field of interest!

## 10:00-10:50am Poster Session I

Emily Brandow - mentored by Dr. Jason Davis
"Sick" of Stress? Social Stress and Its Effects on Neuroendocrine and Immune Response in Zebra Finches

Ashley Glover - mentored by Dr. Sekyung Jang
Black Professionals in Music Therapy: Perspective and Approaches when Working with Black Americans and Mental Health

Madison Rader - mentored by Dr. Sarah Foltz Burial Practices Leading Us to Drinking the Dead

Austin Swallow - mentored by Dr. Jason Davis
Sex and Sociality and Their Influence on Neurocognition and Behavior in Australian Zebra Finches (Taeniopygia guttata castanotis)
Katie Wheeler - mentored by Dr. Sara O'Brien
Partnerships \& Plastics: Using Wildlife Carcasses to Identify Microplastics

## 11:30-12:15pm Film Screening <br> Dorian Starr - mentored by Dr. West Bowers <br> Men of the Mountains

## 12:30-1:45pm Oral Presentations I

Tom Ausburne - mentored by Dr. Chet Bhatta
Antimicrobial Properties of Propolis in Southwestern Virginia
Brennan Hays Cox - mentored by Dr. Nathaniel Lahn
Transformation Invariant Pattern Recognition
Jamison Reddy - mentored by Dr. Steven McBride
The Effects of Manganese on Plastic Degradation

## 2:00-3:15pm Oral Presentations II

Cora Burt - mentored by Dr. Joe Wirgau
Beyond the Classroom: Workforce Readiness through Undergraduate Research Experiences
Eni Szabad - mentored by Dr. Sandra Liss
Gravitational Wave Analyses
Brittle Williams - mentored by Dr. Jeff Aspelmeier
Pluralistic Ignorance: Attitudes Toward Transgender Individuals

## 3:30-4:00pm Oral Presentation III

Nicholas Beach - mentored by Dr. Jason Davis and Dr. Paul Thomas
Nature and Mind: Exploring the Impact of Nature Based Interventions

## 4:00-4:50pm Poster Session II

Jenna Blanchette - mentored by Dr. Matthew Eckard
Using Endocannabinoid Therapies to Reduce Immediate Early Gene Activation in Rats During Cannabinoid Withdrawal

Lauren Craddock - mentored by Dr. Md Shamim Sarker
Optimizing the Prevalence of Multiple Infections Using Adaptive Pooled Testing
MegAnne Gilmore - mentored by Dr. Laura Gruss and Dr. Cassady Urista The Study of Valgus Angle and its Effects on Human Biomechanics

Angelina Walters - mentored by mentored by Dr. Laura Gruss and Dr. Cassady Urista The Study of Valgus Angle and its Effects on Human Biomechanics

Katerina Peters - mentored by Dr. Andrea Barrick Domestic Violence Survivors, Protection Orders, and the Intermediate Appellate Courts

Jackson Hunter - mentored by Dr. Tay Keong Tan and Ms. Rachel Sharret Cryptoassets and the Next Great Recession

Luke Quesenberry - mentored by Dr. Tay Keong Tan and Ms. Rachel Sharrett Killer Robots and the Coming AI Apocalypse

Sonya Sanie - mentored by Dr. Tay Keong Tan and Ms. Rachel Sharrett Zoonotic Outbreaks and the Next Pandemic

