What’s news in undergraduate RSCA
Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities

Six Spring 2014 AYURE Awards Funded
The Academic Year Undergraduate Research Experience program supports collaborative efforts on a great variety of projects (www.newpaltz.edu/research/usr_ayure.html).

Faculty mentors direct and provide guidance to participating students as they work on a project. Funds are provided for supplies and other activities related to the project. The student spring 2014 awardees and faculty mentors (in parentheses) are:

- **Elizabeth Reid**, Theatre Arts and Technology/Scenic Design, ’14 (Ken Goldstein, Theatre Arts) Scenic Design and Research for Sam Shepard’s *Buried Child*
- **Micheal Khoury**, Biology/Computer Science, ’15 (Aaron Haselton, Biology) Crop Involvement in Carbohydrate Homeostasis in the House Fly
- **Izabela Mlynarska**, Biology/Evolutionary Studies, ’15 (Spencer Mass, Biology) Using TSA to label B-Catenin in regenerating planaria exposed to BPA
- **Thomas Savidge**, Political Science-Theory/Philosophy, ’15 (Kate McCoy, Educational Studies) Drug Use, Drug Policy, the Self, and the Limits of Reason
- **Ari Kaputkin**, Geography, ’14 (Lawrence McGlinn, Geography) Pathways through time: Effectiveness of Mapping Human Movement in 3D

In memoriam
It is with great sadness that the RSCA Program shares the news of former Dean John Harrington’s passing. John was a great supporter of undergraduate research. As Dean of the School of Science and Engineering, John oversaw the creation of the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience program in 2004. He continued to mentor undergraduate student research projects into his retirement. John’s influence will always be a part of undergraduate research at New Paltz.

Four Students Accepted to NCUR
The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (http://www.ncur.org), which annually hosts ~2,000 students to present their research through posters, oral presentations, visual arts and performances, was held at The University of Kentucky. The New Paltz students selected for this competitive conference were: Katherine Betuel (Cellular/Molecular Biology/Chemistry); Chen Zhou (Linguistics); Rui Wang (Economics); Emma Lagle (History/Sociology). (pictured below)

Student Research Presentations
- **Samantha Schiffman**, Psychology, ’13, presented the results of her research at the 6th Conference on Emerging Adulthood in Chicago, IL.
- **Jonathan Valle**, Geology, ’14, traveled to Denver, CO, to present his research at the Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Conference.
- **Juliana Hedeman**, Anthropology, ’14, traveled to the American Anthropological Association Meeting in Chicago, IL, to present her research.
- **James Baglia**, Geology, ’14, presented his research at the 49th Geological Society of America (GSA) Northeastern Section Conference in Lancaster, PA.
- **Elizabeth Reid**, Theatre Arts, ’14, traveled to Fortworth, TX, to present her research at the 2014 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) and Stage Expo.
- **Rachel Silverbloom**, Philosophy, ’14, presented her essay at a conference named Albert Camus & Philosophy of Communication: Making Sense in an Age of Absurdity in Erie, PA.
**Enhanced CUR membership**
New Paltz is an enhanced institutional member of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). CUR supports and promotes undergraduate research and scholarship. This membership provides free individual membership for all students, faculty, and staff. Membership includes a subscription to the CUR Quarterly plus access to special information on funding to support undergraduate research.

**RSCA offers new travel award**
In an effort to expand the dissemination of student research and creative activities, the RSCA program is offering a limited number of travel awards to students who have not been awarded SURE or AYURE funding. The Student Travel Award (STA) applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. See the conference travel link at the RSCA web site: www.newpaltz.edu/research/travelfunds.html

**Student Travel Award (STA) News**
- Max Benezra, Psychology/Sociology/Disaster Studies, ’15, traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii, to present his research at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention.
- Ryan Taylor, Chemistry, ’13, presented his research at the ACS Northeastern Region Meeting in New Haven, CT.
- Brian George, Psychology, ’15, traveled to Toronto, Canada to present his research at the 2013 Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting.
- Martina Rodriguez, Theatre Arts, ’14, presented her research at the 2014 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) and Stage Expo in Fortworth, TX, with the help of STA funds.
- Sara Gilley (pictured here), Sociology, ’14, traveled to Baltimore, MD, to present her research at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference.

**Minds at Work event**
This student achievement celebration will be held on Friday, May 2nd (4p-7:00p). Minds at Work includes the 20th annual Student Research Symposium (SRS), the Annual Spring Foundation Art Exhibition, Honors Thesis Presentations, the Writing Board's Celebration of Writing (COW), Student Documentaries, and a Theatre Arts-Communication and Media collaborative student produced TV show. Last year, approximately 250 students participated.

web site: www.newpaltz.edu/research/srs/

**RSCA alumni news**
- Corinna Ridgeway (Biology, ’12) had a research fellowship at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital after participating in our Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program and is applying to medical school this year. Her SURE research partner, Michael Minicozzi (Biology, ’12) is currently working on his PhD in Biology at the University of Northern Arizona.
- Sarath Manual (Psychology, ’13) and his mentor, Dr. Navin Viswanathan (Psychology), were published in Frontiers in Psychology for their research titled Comparison of native and non-native phone imitation by English and Spanish speakers.
- Savannah Blum (BFA/Sculpture, ’14 premiered her research documentary on April 26th at the Rosendale theater titled At Home In Detroit - a documentary about hope in Detroit.
- Mary Schappert (Biology/Chemistry, ’12), AYURE awardee, is currently a graduate student in the PhD program at UConn, Storres.

**The mission of the RSCA program** is to encourage and support student-faculty collaboration on scholarly and artistic activities that generate new knowledge or works. The RSCA program is supported by the Office of Academic Affairs.

www.newpaltz.edu/research/usr.html