

STAY IN TOUCH

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR

The **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH RESOURCE CENTER** (124 Burke West) is staffed with research ambassadors from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily to help with all research-related questions. They can help with completing projects, locating research labs, and finding faculty mentors for research and creative activity. Check website for Virtual Office Hours.

Visit the **FACULTY RESEARCH SHOWCASE** in the fall to meet faculty mentors and learn about their research.

Explore the **FACULTY RESEARCH DATABASE** on undergraduateresearch.ua.edu to connect with professors looking for student help in their labs, and register in the **STUDENT RESEARCH DATABASE** so research faculty can find you.

FUND YOUR RESEARCH with OUR or Departmental travel and research grants.

PRESENT YOUR RESEARCH at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference (**URCA**), the National Conference of Undergraduate Research (**NCUR**), or other national conferences. Apply online to present each spring and be recognized for your research.

OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

124 Burke West
922 Sixth Avenue
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
P.O. Box 870381
205-348-2491

JACKIE HARRISON

Program Specialist
jharrison@ua.edu

DR. KIM BISSELL

Director of Undergraduate Research
kbissell@ua.edu



@UAOUR



@UAOUR



@UA_OUR

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GETTING INTO RESEARCH WITH THE OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA

Research &
Economic Development
Office for Undergraduate Research

FOLLOW US



NEED MORE HELP?

ONE-ON-ONE PEER ADVISING

Whether you have questions about getting started in undergraduate research or are already involved and want to learn about all of the opportunities available, OUR can help. Email Jackie Harrison or visit our website for advising hours each semester. You can also stop by the Undergraduate Research Resource Center in 124 Burke West for help and guidance.

OUR WORKSHOPS

OUR hosts a workshop series for students who are new to research, as well as those who are currently conducting research and want to learn more about available opportunities. These include abstract writing and presentation poster workshops in the spring leading up to URCA.

OUR AMBASSADORS

OUR Ambassadors are current UA undergraduate researchers who assist in supporting and promoting undergraduate research across the campus. To learn more about ambassadors, visit the OUR website.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO GET STARTED:

STEP 1 IDENTIFY POTENTIAL FACULTY MENTORS

IDENTIFY YOUR AREAS OF RESEARCH INTEREST: Research can be done in any field, and students are welcome to pursue opportunities inside or outside of their major. Take the time to explore different types of research by reading about faculty projects on department websites and the OUR research database.

TALK TO PEOPLE IN YOUR DEPARTMENT: Professors, instructors, teaching assistants, advisors, and upperclassmen may suggest possible mentors and help inspire your research interests.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK: Utilize campus and internet resources, including the library and library website, to find recently published work from faculty who you are going to contact and make sure you are familiar with their work before you reach out.

STEP 2 CONTACT POTENTIAL FACULTY MENTORS

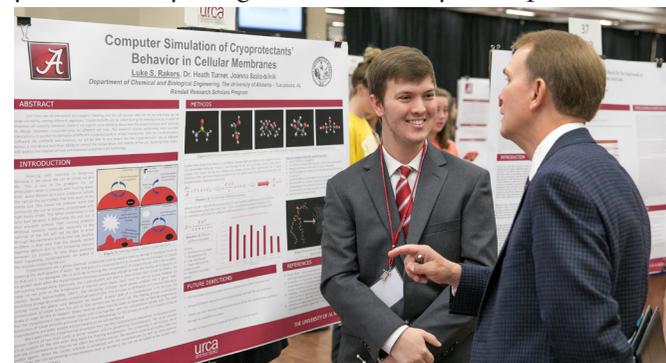
Email is often the best method to contact potential faculty mentors. If you would like to have your email reviewed before sending, please attend a peer advising session in the URRC. Your email should contain the following information:

- Who are you? If applicable, do you have any relevant experience or coursework?
- What aspects of the faculty member's research interest you? Why?
- Ask the faculty member if you can make an appointment to discuss their research in detail.
- Include a salutation, greeting, an email signature, and a resume.

STEP 3 MEET WITH FACULTY MENTORS

BEFORE YOUR MEETING: Before interviewing for a research position, make sure that you are familiar with the faculty member's research interests and have prepared a list of questions to ask your potential mentor.

DURING YOUR MEETING: Business casual attire is recommended. Be prepared and professional, but remember that there is no need to stress. Faculty want to get to know you, and may ask you why you are interested in their research, how research will help you achieve your goals, and what you hope to learn.



STEP 4 GET INVOLVED

RESEARCH FOR CREDIT: The Emerging Scholars Program is a three-credit hour class split over two semesters that allows students to learn research methods, meet research faculty, earn credit by conducting research, and become skilled in presenting their research.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PAID POSITIONS: Students may be paid from a faculty member's grant, a Federal Work-Study program, or a structured research program.

