Fall 2022 Awards

**Biological Sciences Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Swati Agrawal

Student: **Caroline Beasley** - *The Role of PGAM5 in the apoptosis pathway in Kinetoplastid*

Student: **Jay Boudreau** - *Counteracting Antibiotic Resistance in Bacillus Bacteria with Phage Therapy*

Students: **Abigail Delapenha, Emily Sizemore** *- Characterization of Toxoplasma gondii Calcium regulator* *proteins TGGT1\_253640 and TGGT1\_222060 for Toxoplasma gondii growth and invasion*

Student: **Emily Sizemore** – Research with Dr. Silvia Moreno of Univ. of Georgia

Faculty Sponsor: Josephine Antwi

Student: **Curtis Kasiski** - *Determining Dietary Diversity of Bees in the Genus Bombus along an Urbanization Gradient*

Faculty Sponsor: Lynn Lewis

Student: **Marianne Beaulieu -** *The Effect of Multi-Phage Resistance Mutations in Bacillus thuringiensis subsp. kurstaki on Virulence to Manduca sexta Larvae*

Student: **Karissa Highlander** – *In-vitro testing of Indazole Inhibitors of KasA, A Vital Enzyme of M. Tuberculosis*

Student: **Skylar Houston** – *Development of Phage cocktail for treatment of MRSA*

Student: **Valeria Ortiz Jimenez** – *The Effect of Fluorourcil on Pathogenic and Non-pathogenic Oral Microorganisms and Microbial Interactions with Restorative and Preventative Measure*

Students: **Valeria Ortiz Jimenez, Marianne Beaulieu, Karissa Highlander, Skylar Houston** - Poster Presentations by 4 students at the Annual Meeting of the Virginia Branch of American Society for Microbiology

Faculty Sponsor: Ginny Morriss

Student: **Jada Gundy** - *Effect of CUG expression on vascular development in the cell culture of model myotonic dystrophy*

Student: **Andrea Waltrip** - *Localization of CTG repeat-containing transgenes in Drosophila melanogaster myotonic dystrophy models*

Faculty Sponsor: Parrish Waters

Students: **Abigail Algeier and Emily Landry** - *The Effects of Estrous Stage on Voluntary Wheel Running and Anxious Behavior in Female CD-1 Mice*

Student: **Cidney Collins** - *Effects of Exercise on Brain-derived Neurotrophic Factor and Cortisol on Cognitive Function*

Student: **Dylan Crann** - *The Effect of Social Isolation on Depression-like Behavior in Mice*

Student: **Kristin Haes** – *A Potential Driving Force of Social Dominance in Mice: Wheel Running and BDNF*

Student: **Jessica Mimms** - *Affects of social dominance on AMPA-R in PFC of Mice Models*

Student: **Timothy Philbeck** - *Validation of Dominance Tests in CD-1 Mice*

Faculty Sponsor: April Wynn

Student: **Aber Gadelrab** - *Sugar's Role in PDC Expression*

**Chemistry Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Leanna Giancarlo

Student: **Abigail Seputro** - *Optimization of Adsorption of Methylene Blue on Activated Charcoal*

Faculty Sponsor: Randall Reif

Student: **Eliza Van Essendelft** - *Improving Biological Pedagogy by Formulating a Laboratory Experiment Including the Effect of Icariin on the Tyrosinase*

**Earth and Environmental Science Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Tyler Frankel

Students: **Talia Tanner, Carolyn Willmore, Elizabeth Tyler and Rachael Harrington** - Student presentations at 2022 SETAC NA conference

Faculty Sponsors: Tyler Frankel and Ben Kisila

Students: **Elizabeth Tyler and Rachael Harrington** - *Effect of Coal Ash from Local Power Plants on Heavy Metal Load in Fluvial Systems in Northern Virginia*

Faculty Sponsor: Ben Kisila

Student: **Jack Lanier** - *Spatial Analysis of Dam Sediment and metal contamination in the Northern Nashua River Basin, Massachusetts, USA*

Faculty Sponsor: Melanie Szulczewski

Students: **Anna Velardi, Faith Jones, Katherine Cook** - *Preliminary Survey of Total and Bioavailable Concentrations of Trace Metals in Surface Soils in the Kingston, Jamaica Region*

**Economics Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Amrita Dhar

Students: **Paige Harrington, Tara Fitzgerald, Dillon Durocher, Shane Sutton, Dana Smith, Jason Mueller, Matthew McGlynn, Peter Smith** - Student presentations at the 16th Annual Dallas Economics Scholars Program Conference

**English, Linguistics, and Communications Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Mara Scanlon

Student: **Hollis Cobb** - Speaker at the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services 2022 Conference

**Geography Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Dawn Bowen

Students: Anders Baretta, Devin Thigpen, Kaleb Dunlap, Elisa Luckabaugh, Josie Allamby, Ricky Munoz – Participation in the World Geography Bowl Competition

**Modern Languages and Literatures Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Ana Chichester Garcia

Student: **Chantal Duval-Pena** – *Narratives and poetry of the displacement from the Caribbean and US*

Faculty Sponsor: Betsy Lewis

Student: **Madeline Killian** - *Women and Science in Spain’s Junta de Damas*

Student: **Julia May** - *Elite Women’s Contribution to Art and Politics in 18th-Century Spain*

**Political Science and International Department**

Faculty Sponsor: Rosalyn Cooperman

Students: **Liam Keily, Ricky Munoz, Max Hiznay, Philip Hope, Katherine Allen, Kadin Sawers, Eugene Hlaing, Dayton Combs, Jesse Frye, Maggie Dye, Patrick Rigdon, Tanner Nalley, Elanor Hass** – Participation in the Model United Nations Conference