

# **T** UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH **AY 19 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **NUMBERS**

We can report that in the 2018-19 Academic Year, 4,460 students participated in undergraduate research both inside and outside of the classroom.

## **EVENTS**

### **Participation in EURêCA**

Over 1000 students presented 763 projects. 114 projects received recognition at the EURêCA Awards night.

### **Participation in NCUR**

UT sent 28 students to present at NCUR 2018 held at the Kennesaw State University.

### **Summer Research Scholars**

Over 200 undergraduate students conducted research the University of Tennessee campus this summer, an increase from 2018's 160 participants. Half were UT students and the other half are visiting students from 52 outside institutions across the country. 16 students came from overseas locations including Ireland, Hong Kong, China, and Puerto Rico.

### **Posters at the Capitol**

Seven students were selected to represent the University of Tennessee, Knoxville at the 2018 Posters at the Capitol event, February 26, 2019 in Nashville, TN.

### **Posters on the Hill**

Every year, 60 students present their undergraduate research on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. This year, UT junior Alexander Tripp was among them as he presented his research project Modern Chinese Development of Latin America. Tripp is the fifth UT student in the past five years to have a project accepted for Posters on the Hill.

# NEW PROGRAMS

## **SMaRT Program**

Funded by Science Alliance, the Student Mentor and Research Training (SMaRT) program pairs undergraduates in STEM with a UT faculty member on ORNL-related research projects. Each student is awarded \$5,000 over the course of the summer and provided free housing if needed. In summer 2019, 14 internships were awarded. These students presented their research at Oak Ridge National Lab and Discovery Day.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

## **Global Undergraduate Awards**

The Undergraduate Awards (UA) is the world's largest international academic awards program, recognizing excellent research and original work across the sciences, humanities, business, and creative arts. The top 10 percent of students in their respective categories are honored as Highly Commended. Regional Winners are then chosen from each of the seven regions in the competition, and a final Global Winner is selected in each category. UT's 2018 winner was Siori Koerner, a May 2018 graduate who was Highly Commended in the Literature category.

## **Undergraduate Research Mentors of the Year (College-level)**

- Steven Abel, Tickle College of Engineering
- Matthew Cooper, College of Arts & Sciences – Social Sciences
- Keerthi Krishnan, College of Arts & Sciences – Natural Sciences
- Graham Hickling, Herbert College of Agriculture
- Emily Paskewitz, College of Communication and Information
- Lance Saunders, Haslam College of Business

## **Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year (Chancellor's Award)**

- Dr. Barry Bruce, Department of Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology

## **Undergraduate Researcher of the Year (Chancellor's Award)**

- Brandon Barker, College of Arts & Sciences

## **Graduation Recognition**

As of spring 2019, our office now recognizes students' efforts in undergraduate research by awarding cords and medallions to be worn during commencement ceremonies. In spring 2019, 61 students earned 'Excellence in Undergraduate Research' (cord) and 30 students earned 'Distinction in Undergraduate Research' (medallion).