

OFFICE OF RESEARCH

The Program for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (PURS) is intended to support novel faculty-led pilot projects incorporating authentic research and scholarship experiences for undergraduate students. Spearheaded by the Old Dominion University Honors College Undergraduate Research Program and the Office of Research, PURS funds students to work with faculty members part-time during Spring and Fall semesters and full-time in the summer. PURS mentees will be active participants in a faculty-led team, and will perform research or scholarship and assist in preparation of reports and grant proposals. Undergraduate mentees will also present their findings at local, state, and national conferences, and will be contributing authors on peer-reviewed publications and/or scholarly exhibitions.

Awardees include:

- “Revisiting the design of elbow configurations to reduce erosion based on the study of particle-fluid interaction dynamics.” **Dr. Orlando Ayala**, Assistant Professor, Engineering Technology
- “Dynamic deformation response of bio-inspired freeze-cast multilayered porous ceramics.” **Dr. Dipankar Ghosh**, Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
- “Social justice & transportation equity.” **Dr. Erika Frydenlund**, Senior Project Scientist, VMASC
- “Detecting and classifying malware by novel biologically inspired approaches.” **Dr. Yaohang Li**, Associate Professor, Computer Science
- “Improving the performance of the Compton scattering-based photon sources through an innovative laser frequency modulation scheme.” **Dr. Balša Terzić**, Assistant Professor, Physics

PURS awards are for one calendar year, and include up to \$10,000 to support faculty summer salary, student stipend and travel, and supplies/small equipment. Research, tenure-track, and tenured faculty are eligible to apply. Student participants must be enrolled full-time for the project duration, and a minimum GPA of 3.25 is encouraged. Questions

about the PURS program can be directed to Dr. David Gauthier, Director of Undergraduate Research, HCUndergradResearch@odu.edu.