2019 Research Impact Award Recipients

The Undergraduate Research & Creative Inquiry Committee is pleased to announce the 2019/2020 Research Impact Awards. Every college was represented in the highly-competitive applicant pool, and the following projects were selected because of the impact of the research on a significant disciplinary topic and the impact of the student's work on the university’s scholarly community.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

- Kierstin Ekstrom ’20 - Project Title: Conflict Migration and Shocks Decrease Government Trust in the DRC. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Seth Gitter (Department of Economics). Kierstin has a minor in History and she is also a member of the Honors College.
- Kai Johnson ’19 - Project Title: Determinants of College Student Consumption. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Melissa Groves (Department of Economics). Kai is also a member of the Honors College.
- Alexandra Rakus ’19 - Project Title: Free NARCAN in Schools: Saving Students. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Seth Gitter (Department of Economics). Alexandra has a minor in Spanish and she is also a member of the Honors College.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

- Julie Mangano ’20 - Project Title: Preservice Teachers’ Beliefs Regarding Science Teaching. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deepika Menon (Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences).

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATION

- Madeline Gorman ’19 - Project Title: ADDICT: Dance of Addiction. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Hyang-Sook Kim (Department of Mass Communication). Madeline is also a member of the Honors College.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Marisa Bennett ’19 - Project Title: Impacts of Sleep Duration and Fatigue on Substantial Postpartum Weight Retention. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Adriane Burgess (Department of Nursing). Marisa is also a member of the Honors College.
• Emily Fornatora ’19 - Project Title: Impact of Applied Electives in Sport Management Education and Career. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jaime DeLuca (Department of Kinesiology).

• Kevin Hamidi ’19 - Project Title: Greater Forearm Blood Flow is Associated with Better Walking Economy and Gait Speed in Older Adults. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nicolas Knuth (Department of Kinesiology).

• Abigail Poindexter ’19 - Project Title: Lactation and Metabolism in Postpartum Women. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Adriane Burgess (Department of Nursing). Abigail is also a member of the Honors College.

• Julia Tenbus ’19 - Project Title: Using Video Modeling to Enhance Social Communication Skills in Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kaitlyn Wilson (Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology). Julia is also a member of the Honors College.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

• Sarah Elsayed ’19 - Project Title: The Interaction of Anxiety and Heart Rate Variability on Executive Function. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jared McGinley (Department of Psychology).

• Sarah Rowan ’19 - Project Title: Analyzing Collaborative, Culturally Inclusive Reproductive Healthcare & Education in Guatemala. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Alison McCartney (Department of Political Science). Sarah is also a member of the Honors College.

• Teresa Tran ’20 - Project Title: Influences of Parenting Styles on the Subjective Well-Being of Young Adults from Diverse Cultures. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Maria Fracasso (Department of Psychology).

FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS

• Derek Margulies ’20 - Project Title: Sports Analytics for Towson University Men’s Basketball Team. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Alexe Kolesnikovi (Department of Mathematics). Derek is also a member of the Honors College.

• Danielle Reifer ‘19 - Project Title: Investigating the Relationship between Furin Cleavage and Cytotoxicity in a Recombinant Immunotoxin Based on Pseudomonas Exotoxin A. Faculty Mentor: Dr. John Weldon (Department of Biological Sciences). Danielle is also a member of the Honors College.