



**PRESS RELEASE: Ferris Student Research Fellows Participate in Summer Projects**

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Included below is a press release regarding Ferris State University students participating in the Student Research Fellowship program. Any questions about this release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager.

Here is a link to the online version of the story:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2012/may/fellowships.htm>



Student Research Fellows.doc

For Immediate Release  
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Sandy Gholston  
Ferris State University  
News Services and Social Media Manager  
sandygholston@ferris.edu, (231) 591-2021

**Ferris Student Research Fellows to Participate in Summer Projects**

**BIG RAPIDS** – Twelve Ferris State University students will spend the summer on campus to gain research experience as part of the Student Research Fellowship program.

The new program supports collaborative research projects between faculty and students, and is intended to increase on-campus summer research, contribute to the professional development of faculty and provide students with another mechanism to gain research experience.

Summer 2011 was the pilot run of the program and included just five students from natural sciences. This year, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Fritz Erickson provided the means to expand the program and support research projects from any discipline at Ferris, said Karen Strasser, director of Academic Research and Grants.

“Working on a research project with a faculty member can be a life-changing experience,” Strasser said. “I believe many faculty at Ferris, myself included, would tell you that it was an undergraduate experience like this that directed them toward graduate study and a career in academia.”

The student fellows will work full time on a research project with a faculty mentor for a 10-week period over the summer. Results of their work will be presented to the Ferris community at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22 in Room 234 of the Michigan College of Optometry.

Applications for the Student Research Fellowship program are collaborative, Strasser said. Faculty members submit the application along with a statement from the student. A committee of faculty and

administrators selects the recipients, a process expected to become increasingly competitive.

“Although faculty work hard to provide students with hands-on experiences in their classes, the depth of these projects is often limited due to the many time constraints students have during the year, such as other classes, jobs and clubs,” Strasser said. “The SRF allows students to work full time on their project for 10 weeks, allowing them to have a more focused experience.

“The program follows the Ferris mission by preparing students for the opportunities they don’t even know are out there. Research is about asking good questions that can be addressed through experiments or investigation – skills that can be taken to any career they pursue in the future.”

Applications for Summer 2013 are expected to be available in September with a spring deadline to allow time for recruitment and planning. For more information about the SRF program, email Strasser at [KarenStrasser@ferris.edu](mailto:KarenStrasser@ferris.edu).

Student Research Fellows for 2012 are:

**Caleb Archambault**

Hometown: Fenton

Major: Chemistry /Industrial Chemistry Technology

Project: Development and improvement of protocols and methodologies for chemical analysis in the fermentation industry

Faculty mentor: **Mark Thomson** (Physical Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences)

**David Birdsall**

Hometown: Lansing

Project: An investigation of the cocrystallization behavior of saccharin

Faculty mentor: **Dan Adsmund** (Physical Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Katie M. Boolman**

Hometown: Cadillac

Major: Social Work

Project: Teaching racial tolerance

Faculty mentor: **Michael Berghoef** (Social Work, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Blake Bonkowski**

Hometown: Owosso

Major: Pharmacy

Project: The synthesis of Novel PPAR delta agonists to better improve upon the clinically used gamma agonists; such as Avandia

Faculty mentor: **Tracey Boncher** (Pharmacy)

**Donald Bucholz**

Hometown: Weidman

Major: Architecture and Facility Management

Project: A comparative, case study analysis of industry standard sustainability assessment methods and their application to sustainable architecture and urban development in West Michigan.

Faculty mentor: **Paul Long** (Architecture, College of Engineering Technology)

**Amber Carr**

Hometown: Morley  
Major: Biology Education  
Project: Enrichment and isolation of novel bacteria from a Zodletone anaerobic spring  
Faculty mentor: **Anne Spain** (Biology, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Lauren Clements**

Hometown: Alto  
Major: Biotechnology  
Project: Determine if UVA or UVA induces DNA damage in melanocyte stem cells and whether that damage persists and results in mutations in regenerated pigment cells.  
Faculty mentor: **James Hoerter** (Biology, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Sarah Gilbert**

Hometown: Bruce Township  
Major: Pre-Molecular Diagnostics  
Project: Preparation of histological sections and histopathologic identification of microscopic structures that may result from exposure to selected UV wavelengths (UVA and/or UVB) in the dermal layers of the zebrafish (*Danio rerio*).  
Faculty mentor: **James Hoerter** (Biology, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Jerry Kinsey**

Hometown: Howard City  
Major: Biology/Pre Med  
Project: From Brown-Green: Wastewater Electricity  
Faculty mentor: **Anne Spain** (Biology, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Daniel Langenburg**

Hometown: Big Rapids  
Major: Pharmacy  
Project: Stability of extemporaneously compounded amlodipine suspension made from commercially available dosage forms vs. the pure USP drug compound.  
Faculty mentor: **Kim Hancock** (Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy)

**Kaylee Moreno**

Hometown: Alma  
Major: Social Work  
Project: Motivation and communicative action in bullying  
Faculty mentor: **Stephanie Thomson** (Communication, College of Arts and Sciences)

**Evan Weaver**

Hometown: Rockford  
Major: Architecture and Facility Management  
Project: A comparative investigation of digital and physical architectural daylighting analysis methods: A proposed Ferris State University, Timme Center case study  
Faculty mentor: **Paul Long** (Architecture, College of Engineering Technology)

Advancement and Marketing  
420 Oak St., Prakken 108  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
Phone: (231) 591-2991