

Conference Awards

This year, presenters have several opportunities to gain recognition for their presentation skills and excellence in research and creative scholarship. In order to be considered, please check the appropriate box(es) on the conference registration form to indicate your eligibility in one or more category.

Undergraduate Research Excellence Award

The prestigious Undergraduate Research Excellence Award recognizes students who holistically engage in research and are able to effectively communicate their results to a broad audience. Up to three (3) awards are given each year.

Eligible students must be graduating seniors who complete all requirements for the [Undergraduate Research Excellence program \(UREP\)](#) by April 1 and present their work at the annual Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference. Finalists will be selected from the UREP participants and their presentations will be judged at the symposium.

Please direct questions to Keri Swaby (email: kswaby@vt.edu) or Amanda MacDonald (email: abmacdon@vt.edu).

Policy Undergraduate Research Award

The Policy Destination Area (DA) is offering one or more undergraduate research award(s) for work presented in 2022 at the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference. Awards will be up to \$100.

Selection criteria will include: 1) Use of systematic data and analyses to address a problem that affects people, society, other living organisms or the environment; 2) research-to-practice translation with possible implications for governmental or nongovernmental action; 3) potential to inform more than one discipline; 4) originality of the research; and 5) accessibility of the presentation to a broad audience.

Interested applicants must indicate their eligibility on the symposium registration form. Judges will attend your presentation at the symposium. We anticipate awards notifications to be made the week following the research symposium.

Adaptive Brain and Behavior Awards

First, second and third place awards will be given to the research projects dealing with topics relating to the Adaptive Brain and Behavior Destination Area (DA). Judges will review the presentations during the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference. All three winners will receive an award certificate. First place will receive a \$150 honorarium and Second place will receive a \$100 honorarium. This award is sponsored by the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science.

Critical Technologies Awards

First, second and third place awards will be given to the research projects dealing with critical technologies. Judges will review the presentations during the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference. All three winners will receive an award certificate. First place will receive a \$150 honorarium and Second place will receive a \$100 honorarium. This award is sponsored by the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science.

High School Research Excellence Award

First, second and third place awards will be given to high school students presenting exceptional research projects. Judges will review the presentations during the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference. All three winners will receive an award certificate. First place will receive a \$150 honorarium and Second place will receive a \$100 honorarium. This award is sponsored by the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science.

Karen Roberto Award

This award recognizes excellence in undergraduate research involving the social sciences. One award of at least \$400 will be awarded for an outstanding presentation and project, as judged at the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference.

Stefan Duma Award

This award recognizes excellence in undergraduate research involving biomedical engineering. One award of at least \$400 will be awarded for an outstanding presentation and project, as judged at the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference.

Ben Knapp Award

This award recognizes excellence in undergraduate research involving creative arts. One award of at least \$400 will be awarded for an outstanding presentation and project, as judged at the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference.

Natural Resources and Environmental Research Award

Funded by the College of Natural Resources and Environment, this award of up to \$500 recognizes excellence in natural resources and environmental research. Student presentations will be judged at the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference.

Service Learning and Research Award

This award is sponsored by [VT Engage: The Center for Leadership and Service Learning](#) and recognizes one exceptional undergraduate project at the intersection of research and service learning. Students will be judged at the Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship Conference. Students will be awarded a certificate and their names will be added to a plaque on display in the VT Engage office. Non-graduating seniors may also be given the opportunity for conference travel if their application is accepted.