

# Research & Innovation

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

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## Undergraduate Students Showcase Summer Research Thursday, August 11, 2016

### Events

August 9, 2016   NSF, IREC, REU, STEM, Chemistry, Chemical Engineering   0 Comment

Fifteen undergraduates from across the country and one North Dakota tribal college instructor will present the results of their research this summer at the Interdisciplinary Renewable and Environmental Chemistry (IREC) Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) poster session from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, August 11, on the second floor of Abbott Hall. Light snacks and beverages will be served in the morning and ice cream in the afternoon.

The poster session is the culmination of the students' summer-long research and gives them a chance to explain their work to the public in an informal setting. The program participants, who have come to UND from all over the United States, have spent the past 10 weeks being mentored by interdisciplinary teams of faculty in UND's Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Biology, and Atmospheric Sciences departments, working together in their laboratories and at community outreach events.

Funding for the students and summer program activities was provided by the National Science Foundation through grants supporting the IREC REU, the Dakota Bioprocessing Consortium,

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[Uncategorized \(30\)](#)

and the Center for Regional Climate Studies; by the U.S. Department of Education through a Mathematics and Science Partnerships (MSP) program grant from the ND Department of Public Instruction, and by the UND Departments of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.

Research projects targeted development of renewable chemicals from lignin and lignocellulose, organic synthesis, measurement and modeling of atmospheric processes, modeling proteins for epigenetic gene regulation, evaluation of middle school STEM outreach, and performance of renewable fuel combustion systems. As a part of the program, students also received weekly training in science communication, community outreach, and research ethics.

This year's talented participants and their home institutions are the following:

- Zakiya Barnes, Savannah State University
- Tyson Berg, UND
- Brandon Bush, UND
- Logan Davis, Turtle Mountain Community College
- Matthew Galazzo, Cal Poly Pomona
- Clayton Geib, College of Wooster
- Armo Hayrabidian, Cal Poly Pomona
- Taylor Hennessy, Cal Poly Pomona
- Nicholas Hollister, UND
- Marianne Hull, King University
- Jasmine Kreft, UND
- Audrey LaVallie, Turtle Mountain Community College
- Toby Morken-Simmers, UND
- Sara Streed, St. Olaf College
- Ellen Walstad, UND
- Natallia Yeudakimenka, UND

~ 8/9/2016 *University Letter*

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[Research Main \(39\)](#)

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[Grant Awards \(123\)](#)

---

[Events \(240\)](#)

---

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---

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---

[August 2016](#)

---

[July 2016](#)

---

[June 2016](#)

---

[May 2016](#)

---

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