



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

Center for Undergraduate
Research Opportunities

2026

CURO

Symposium

highlighting UGA's undergraduate research

April 20-21, 2026 | Classic Center
Athens, GA

Program



2026 CURO Symposium

highlighting UGA's undergraduate research

Welcome to the 2026 CURO Symposium! Hosted by the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities, the two-day event highlights exceptional undergraduate research at the University of Georgia. Across campus, administrators, faculty and staff members, and graduate and undergraduate students have collaborated to make this an invaluable academic event.

This year, we are celebrating the 27th anniversary of the CURO Symposium. The 2026 Symposium features 937 undergraduates communicating their substantial research accomplishments. The presenters are pursuing 200-plus different majors from 16 schools and colleges and are conducting research with faculty members from departments, units, and offices across campus.

The CURO Symposium is a celebration of our students' hard work and engagement in research as well as the commitment of their faculty mentors to their success, which would not be possible without UGA's broad and substantial investment in outstanding experiential learning opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support of undergraduate research and the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities.

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Schedule

Monday / April 20, 2026

Oral sessions will be held in Athena Rooms B, C, D, G, H, I, and J.

All Day

Café Curo
Athena Room A

8:15-9:35 a.m.

Oral Session 1

9:55-11:15 a.m.

Oral Session 2

11:35 a.m. to 12:55 p.m.

Oral Session 3

1:15-2:35 p.m.

Oral Session 4

1:15-2:35 p.m.

Introduction to Mentoring
(for graduate students)
Athena Room D

3-4 p.m.

Awards and Keynote Session
Athena Room E

4-6 p.m.

Poster Session
Grand Hall South & Atrium

Tuesday / April 21, 2026

All Day

Café Curo
Athena Room A

8:15-9:35 a.m.

Oral Session 5

9:55-11:15 a.m.

Oral Session 6

11:35 a.m. to 12:55p.m.

Oral Session 7

1:15-2:35 p.m.

Oral Session 8

2:55-4:15 p.m.

Oral Session 9

CURO Research Mentoring Awards

The Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost and the Jere W. Morehead Honors College established the CURO Research Mentoring Awards at the first CURO Symposium in 2001 to recognize outstanding faculty who consistently engage undergraduate researchers through CURO programming (courses, symposium, summer fellows, theses, etc.) and enhance the learning experience of undergraduate researchers at the University of Georgia. Award recipients have provided superior research opportunities and mentoring and have collaborated with undergraduate researchers on publications and presentations at professional conferences.

The 2026 recipients are **Dr. Erin Dolan**, left, *Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Georgia Athletic Association Professor of Innovative Science Education, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences*; and **Dr. Roberta Salmi**, right, *Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences*. Previous recipients and their years are listed below.



2025 recipients

- **Dr. Deborah A. Barany**, Assistant Professor, Department of Kinesiology, Mary Frances Early College of Education and Augusta University/UGA Medical Partnership
- **Dr. Jarrod Call**, Professor of Physiology & Pharmacology, College of Veterinary Medicine

2024 recipients

- **Dr. Ramvijas Nattanmai Parasuraman**, Assistant Professor, School of Computing, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences and College of Engineering
- **Dr. Hea Jin Park**, Associate Professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences, College of Family and Consumer Sciences

2023 recipients

- **Dr. Brandon Rotavera**, Associate Professor, School of Environmental, Civil, Agricultural, and Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering, and Department of Chemistry, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
- **Dr. Vincent Starai**, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

2022 recipients

- **Dr. Xiaoqin Ye**, Professor, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, College of Veterinary Medicine
- **Dr. Puneet Dwivedi**, Associate Professor of Sustainability Sciences, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources

2021 recipients

- **Dr. Cheryl T. Gomillion**, Assistant Professor, School of Chemical, Materials, and Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering
- **Dr. Walter K. Schmidt**, Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

2020 recipients

- **Dr. Jamie Cooper**, Associate Professor, Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences
- **Dr. David Cotten**, Research Scientist, Department of Geography, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

CURO Symposium Best Paper Awards

CURO Symposium Best Paper Awards recognize excellence in papers developed from work being presented at this year's Symposium. Applicants may submit in one or more of the following categories: Arts, Humanities, and Media; Business; Life Sciences; Physical and Environmental Sciences; Public and International Affairs; Public Service and Outreach; Social Sciences; and Technology, Engineering, and Math. Each recipient is recognized at the Symposium's Awards and Keynote Session, and each award carries \$100 in financial support. Recipients for the 2026 CURO Symposium are listed below, along with their research topics and faculty mentors.

ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND MEDIA

Nathan Haynes

Does Literary Criticism Have a Future? Representational and Technological Ambiguity in the Age of Generative Artificial Intelligence
Faculty Mentor: Rodrigo Martini

BUSINESS

Sophia Beasley

Laugh Now, Litigate Later: Why Memes Challenge the Foundations of Intellectual Property
Faculty Mentor: Mike Schuster

LIFE SCIENCES

Noah Klugman

CS-Hydrogels Facilitate Chronic Motor and Sensorimotor Recovery After Severe Traumatic Brain Injury
Faculty Mentor: Lohitash Karumbaiah

PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Lia Mathews, Cameron Rene Halaby, Agni Athreya, Charles Sagely,

Yoshna Agarwal, Anish Banda

VIPR: Enhancing 3D Reconstruction Using Multi-Objective Loss Functions in Neural Radiance Fields for Broad-scale Outdoor Scenes
Faculty Mentor: Deepak Mishra

PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Sophia Nguyen, Rohan Srivatsa, Jason Eappen

Measuring Division: The Language of Dissent in the Supreme Court and American Polarization
Faculty Mentor: Katherine Ireland

PUBLIC SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Sponsored by the Office of Service-Learning

Claire Scafidi

Identity and Art for Community Resilience in Gainesville, Georgia
Faculty Mentor: Leigh Askew Elkins

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Lauren Smith

The Effects of Live versus Recorded Music on the Engagement of Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Music Therapy
Faculty Mentor: Ellyn Evans

TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

Ella Wileman, Bhargav Gudapati, Nivedha Natarajan, Kristian Pitshugin, Swapnil Roy

VIPR CoolDawgs: Building Wearable Sensor and Mobile Application for Canine Heat Stress Detection
Faculty Mentor: Bradley Barnes

Libraries Undergraduate Research Awards

Since 2007, the UGA Libraries has sponsored the Undergraduate Research Awards, which provide cash prizes for excellence in research. Awards range from \$250-\$1,000.

The award celebrates the different kinds of research projects students participate in and, more importantly, what they learned from the process. Submissions across all formats are encouraged and evaluated based on their creativity, clarity of expression, and research process reflection.

Recipients for the 2026 CURO Symposium are listed below, along with their project title and project medium.

FIRST PLACE

Raquel Beatriz Caldas Laranjeira

Turning Data into Light: A Research Journey

Project medium: Poem

SECOND PLACE

Dharshine Priya Jayakrishnan

Unraveling an Archival Murder Mystery: My CURO Research Journey

Project medium: Interactive presentation

THIRD PLACE

Norah Philipp

Archival Translation: Analog Research for the Digital Era

Project medium: Animation and image

HONORABLE MENTION

Rebecca Bohn

Redlining and Health Outcomes Reflection

Project medium: Comic strip

HONORABLE MENTION

Zachary Stiles

Reflections on Research, a Video Essay

Project medium: Video essay

Oral Session 1, Monday, 8:15-9:35 a.m., *Athena Breakout Rooms*

Room B	Becca Kann	Exploring the Association between ADHD and the Relationship Quality of Couples	<i>Dr. Ted Futris</i>
	Rachna Murugula	Growing Up Hungry: How Food Deserts Affect Child Development	<i>Dr. Dawn T. Robinson</i>
	Hannah-Marie Dutton	Longitudinal Associations Among Home, Community, and Child Behavioral Risk Across Early Adolescence	<i>Dr. Drew Abney</i>
	Morgan Arrington	The Effects of Siblings on the Instances of Negative Emotion in Children	<i>Dr. Niyantri Ravindran</i>
	Sara Simkins	Connecting Medication, Age, and White Matter in Psychosis	<i>Dr. Jennifer McDowell</i>
Room C	Michael Landry	Investigation of the Role of Lipopolysaccharide in the Virulence of <i>Kingella kingae</i> , an Emerging Pediatric Pathogen	<i>Dr. Artur Muszyński</i>
	Trisha Thalanki, Arwen Dale,	<i>Achromobacter xylosoxidans</i> GN050 Biosynthesis of Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and Their Role in Biology	<i>Dr. Maor Bar-Peled</i>
	Maddie Wilson	In Vivo Assembly of <i>Bordetella</i> Colonization Oligosaccharide	<i>Dr. Maor Bar-Peled</i>
	Poorvi Iyer, Pablo Ashi	Development of a Novel Extracellular Vesicle-Based Biomarker Approach for Pediatric High-Grade Glioma	<i>Dr. Kosuke Funato</i>
	Niha Saini	Drug Discovery for Mucopolysaccharidosis Type IIIA	<i>Dr. Ryan Weiss</i>
Room D	Benton Kleiber	Post-Industrial Expansion: Advocating for Small-Town Brownfield Redevelopment	<i>Prof. Alfie Vick</i>
	Veronika Viazovaia	Transformation of Kazakhstan's Architectural Landscape in the Transition Period	<i>Prof. Matthew Ryan Riggs</i>
	Claire Scafidi	Identity and Art for Community Resilience in Gainesville, Georgia	<i>Leigh Askew Elkins</i>
	Sam Olvey	Learning from the Past, Accelerating Towards the Future: A History of CAIS	<i>Dr. Megan A. Conger</i>
	Anna Rose Powell, Elizabeth Pearce, Trinity DeLima, Savannah Celeste Scott, Sydney J. Cole	VIPR: "Beyond Outreach: Sustained Humanities Engagement Between UGA and Tift County"	<i>Dr. Sharina Maïllo-Pozo</i>
Room G	Temilope Alna	Contextualizing Longitudinal Growth in the Metacognition of Undergraduate Life Science Students: A Case Study	<i>Dr. Julie Dangremond Stanton</i>
	Gheed M. Nafea	Examining the Relationship Between Metacognitive Monitoring and Problem Solving Performance in Life Science Majors	<i>Dr. Julie Dangremond Stanton</i>
	Rayna J. Carter	Regulation Across the Years: A Longitudinal Analysis of Metacognition in Life Science Students at Georgia Gwinnett College	<i>Dr. Julie Dangremond Stanton</i>
	James Squires	Persistent Homology for Early Identification of At-Risk Students in Introductory Physics Courses	<i>Dr. Nicholas T. Young</i>

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Room H	Ben Haines-Eitzen	Symbiont Diversity in Aphids Allows Parasitoid Co-existence	<i>Dr. Kerry Oliver</i>
	Selina Sun	Correlating Infection Sites and Sexual Behavior to Genetic Variations in Bacteria Responsible for Sexually Transmitted Infections	<i>Dr. Tatum Mortimer</i>
	Edie Sharpton	The Determination of ZP Protein Components of the Germinal Discs of Various Avian Eggs	<i>Dr. Andrew Benson</i>
	Shelby Greer	Effects of Pig Weaning Weight and Sex on Growth Performance, Fecal Score, and Blood Antioxidant Capacity in Early Nursery Period	<i>Dr. Young Dal Jang</i>
Room I	Nivedha Natarajan, Kristian Pitshugin, Bhargav Gudapati, Sydney Staggs, Nikita Neeli	VIPR CoolDawgs App: A User-Centric Application for Canine Heat Stress Mitigation	<i>Dr. Lakshmish Ramaswamy</i>
	Ella Wileman, Nivedha Natarajan, Bhargav Gudapati, Kristian Pitshugin, Swapnil Roy, Sophia Rhoads	VIPR CoolDawgs: Building Wearable Sensor and Mobile Application for Canine Heat Stress Detection	<i>Dr. Bradley Barnes</i>
	Ella Wileman, Swapnil Roy, Disha Dhangar, Sydney Staggs, Manaswi Gorle	VIPR CoolDawgs: Application Personalization and Event Detection through Machine Learning Methods	<i>Dr. Lakshmish Ramaswamy</i>
	Will Schuurman, Salma Hanifa	Citric Acid Crosslinking of Nanofibrillated Cellulose and Chitosan Coatings for Enhanced Dye Retention in Textile Applications	<i>Dr. Suraj Sharma</i>
	Owen Coleman	Synthesis and Properties of a Copper-Containing Nitrite Reductase Mimic	<i>Dr. Todd Harrop</i>

Oral Session 2, Monday, 9:55-11:15 a.m., Athena Breakout Rooms

Room B	Noah Klugman	Modified Neurological Severity Score and Vertical Cylinder Assessments in a Rat Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Model	<i>Dr. Lohitash Karumbaiah</i>
	Benjamin Lefkovits	The Effects on Selected Motor Function, Cognition Behavior, and Brain Pathology in Mice with Gulf War Illness Treated with the Immunotherapeutic LNFPIII and an Inulin Diet	<i>Dr. Nikolay Filipov</i>
	Arianna Brown	Therapeutic Delivery of Induced Neural Stem Cells Modulates Pathological Outcomes After TBI in a Translational Pig Model	<i>Dr. Franklin West</i>
	Anisha Hadimani	Glycosaminoglycan Hydrogel Implants Facilitate Forelimb Motor Recovery After Severe Traumatic Brain Injury	<i>Dr. Lohitash Karumbaiah</i>
	Fatima Manzar	Identifying PK2-Expressing Cell Types in the Brain of Parkinson's Disease Mouse Models	<i>Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy</i>

Room C	Adam Rose	Prevalence of <i>Leptospira</i> spp. in Mesocarnivores from North Carolina	<i>Dr. Christopher Cleveland</i>
	Savanna Evans	<i>Colpoda steinii</i> Swimming Patterns Under Decreasing Nutrient Availability	<i>Dr. Travis Ichikawa</i>
	Ellie Nease	Predators, Parasites, and Prey: Testing the Effects of <i>Gambusia</i> Predation and Parasitic Disease on <i>Daphnia dentifera</i> over Time	<i>Dr. Alexander Strauss</i>
	Pranavi Kuravi	Pastured Poultry Impacts on the Arthropod Community	<i>Dr. William Snyder</i>
	Lauren Tanner	Comparing Catch of Atlantic and Shortnose Sturgeon Based on Net Type	<i>Dr. Adam Fox</i>
Room D	Madison J. Caspers	The Evolving Role of Chatbots in Chemistry Learning: A Longitudinal Study of Student Perceptions and Use	<i>Dr. Brandon Yik</i>
	Vincent Van Epps	Developing an Empathetic Large Language Model Peer-Bot for Young Adult Financial Anxiety Support	<i>Dr. Gaurav Ranjan Sinha</i>
	Carter Kim	Artificial Intelligence in the Workplace: How Agentic Interaction Type and Communication Style Affect Financial Decision Making and Human Behavior	<i>Dr. Aaron Schecter</i>
	Landon Drapatsky	The Impact of COVID-19 on Consumer Behavior Across Different Income Groups	<i>Dr. Maduranga Dassanayake</i>
Room G	Lyle Paquette	Stuck in the Middle with Vous? A Comparative Approach to the Framing of French-American and Sino-French Relations in the French Press	<i>Dr. Maureen DeNino</i>
	Julia Heins	Cultural Resistance in Practice: The Counter-Hegemonic Politics of Jamel Rockt den Förster	<i>Dr. Jan Uelzmann</i>
	William Titshaw	The Illness of the Liberal Arts, and St. Augustine's Diagnosis	<i>Dr. Erika Hermanowicz</i>
Room H	Oscar de la Torre	Generating MLO-Knockout Flowering Dogwood Using Embryogenic Cultures	<i>Dr. Lav Yadav</i>
	Will Johnson	Transforming Flowering Dogwood Using Embryogenic Cultures	<i>Dr. Lav Yadav</i>
	Marlee Greenspan	Investigating the Role of Germ Cell Number in Amhy-driven Sex Determination in Threespine Stickleback Fish	<i>Dr. Mike White</i>
	Gabrielle Lum	Impact of Dietary Protein Manipulation in Standardized Digestibility Assay Diets on Gut Morphometrics and Jejunal and Hepatic Gene Expression in Broilers	<i>Dr. Oluyinka Olukosi</i>
	Gabriel Lobdell	Modeling the Impacts of Atmospheric Dust on Aggregation and Sinking Dynamics of Phytoplankton Detrital Particles	<i>Dr. Adrian Burd</i>

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Room I	Evan Self	Improving Wheelchair Accessibility in Small Cars	<i>Dr. John Mativo</i>
	Chrystian Martin, Glona Bang	LLM Integration for Smart Factory Control via IoT	<i>Dr. Jaime Camelio</i>
	Karthikeyan Rajkumar Jayapriya	When Lives are Data: A Python-Based Assisted Tool for Detecting ESP-32 Medical Software Vulnerabilities	<i>Dr. Wenzhan Song</i>
	Sumedha Tunga	Turning Anecdotes Into Heuristics – Figuring Out the UGA Bus System	<i>Dr. Lan Mu</i>
	Kerry Syhavong	VIPR: Development of an Automated Gait Scoring System for Broiler Chickens Using Multimodal Sensing and Machine Learning	<i>Dr. Guoming Li</i>

Oral Session 3, Monday, 11:35 a.m. to 12:55 p.m., *Athena Breakout Rooms*

Room B	Benjamin Brown	Dance from Music in Extended Reality	<i>Dr. Rebecca Atkins</i>
	De'Nasia Thomas	An Application of W.E.B Du Bois's Concept of "Double Consciousness" to Beyoncé's Cowboy Carter	<i>Dr. Richard Lee</i>
	Nika Shlomi	From Studio to Stage: Exploring a Personal Journey of Turning Movement into Magic	<i>Dr. Lisa Fusillo</i>
	Victoria Rose Fitzgerald	Effects of Focus of Attention on Muscle Activity of Singers	<i>Dr. Rebecca Atkins</i>
Room C	Colin Lemaistre	Global French, Local Practice: A Case Study of Benin Youth	<i>Dr. Jonathan Haddad</i>
	Sam Schiappa	Environmental History and Epistemology of History in Early Medieval France	<i>Dr. Jan Pendergrass</i>
	Benen Chancey	Ginga and Groove: Blues and Capoeira Epistemologies in Cross-Cultural Conversation	<i>Dr. Cecília Rodrigues</i>
	Britton Hare	Documenting the Semantic Variation of Navajo Pluractionality	<i>Dr. Pilar Chamorro</i>
Room D	Luke Netto	The Return of Catholic Integralism and Implications for American Jurisprudence	<i>Dr. Logan E. Sawyer III</i>
	Sophia Beasley	Laugh Now, Litigate Later: Why Memes Challenge the Foundations of Intellectual Property	<i>Prof. Mike Schuster</i>
	Riley Eckstrom	From Regulation to Reality: Implementing an Effective Enforcement Model for Chile's Data Privacy Law	<i>Dr. Marisa Anne Pagnattaro</i>
	Caroline Kraeuter, Georgia Noori, Caroline Roshelli, Fiona Leary, Angela Lynden	VIPR: Digital Platforms, Tourism, and Established Community in Rural Georgia	<i>Dr. Dana Bultman</i>
	Grayson Smith	VIPR: A Participatory Mapping Approach to Assess Social Flood Risks and Vulnerabilities in Rural East Tennessee	<i>Dr. Thomas Mote</i>

Room G	Agni Athreya	Reverse Engineering Epson ET-3850 Firmware: Certificate Chain Vulnerabilities & Cloud MITM Risks	<i>Gary Luke Mason</i>
	Yao Liew	Adversarial Attacks Against SMS Phishing Detection Systems	<i>Dr. Jaewoo Lee</i>
	Hassan Hassan	IoT Sweep: Proactive Monitoring of Smart Home Security Through Network Traffic and Vulnerability Analysis	<i>Dr. Karthika Subramani</i>
	Shreya Adhikari	VIPR: Automatic Analysis of Behavioral Activity Levels in Salmonella Infected and Non-infected Broilers	<i>Dr. Guoming Li</i>
Room H	Andrew Stefan	Book of Veles Connection to Nationalism in Russia and Ukraine	<i>Dr. Alexandra Shapiro</i>
	Zane Sylvester	Human Rights in Abkhazia from 1993 to Today	<i>Dr. Olga Thomason</i>
	Heather Bittle	Repression in Contemporary Russia: Legal Framework and ECHR Jurisprudence	<i>Dr. Alexandra Shapiro</i>
	Chris Haswell	Corporate Sovereignty in the Digital Age: Platform Governance and the Structural Amplification of Authoritarian Disinformation	<i>Dr. Victoria Hasko</i>
Room I	Maya Verano	Evaluating Fisherman Safety in Southern Georgia - a Focus Group Qualitative Analysis	<i>Dr. Jennifer Gay</i>
	Aditi Ravi, Vincent Van Epps	The Myth of Algorithmic Neutrality: What "Neutral" Student Debt Posts Reveal	<i>Dr. Gaurav Ranjan Sinha</i>
	Arine Kim	Where AI Needs Humans: A Systematic Review of Human-in-the-Loop in Mental Health Chatbots	<i>Dr. Gaurav Ranjan Sinha</i>
	Arya-Kay Brown	Early Childhood Trauma, Adolescent Substance Use, and Neurocognitive Outcomes in Psychosis	<i>Dr. Jennifer McDowell</i>
Room J	Keren Oh	Pil-Chp Gene Function in <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Twitching Motility	<i>Dr. Courtney Ellison</i>
	Ayden Mamaghani	How Does Salmonella Sense the Stress of its Neighbors?	<i>Dr. Jorge Escalante</i>
	Nalin Dechkampu	Studying the Mechanisms Behind Mitochondrial Uniparental Inheritance in <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i>	<i>Dr. Xiaorong Lin</i>
	Daniel Lanier	Cross-Reactive Recognition of Fusarium Solani KEX1 Recombinant Protein by Anti-NXT-2 Antibodies	<i>Dr. Karen Norris</i>
	Joanna Zhu, Lauren Silverman	Characterization of a Novel Aminotransferase That Produces Rare Sugar Modifications of the Bordetella Colonizing Oligosaccharide (b-Cool)	<i>Dr. Maor Bar-Peled</i>

Oral Session 4, Monday, 1:15-2:35 p.m., Athena Breakout Rooms

Room C	Carleigh Brisendine	Digitizing Historical Clothing Collections for Improved Access and Engagement	<i>Dr. Monica Sklar</i>
	Norah Philipp	The Peabody Awards Collections LibGuide: Developing a Research Guide for the Peabody Awards Archival Materials	<i>Mary Miller</i>
	James Callaham	Visual Language and Emotional Perception: A Study of Color and Composition in Museum Works	<i>Alexis Gorby</i>
	Sameeka Prabath Rajamani, Casey Ellen Pac, Karina Mendoza	Testing the Impact of Visual Features of Public Health Campaign Messages	<i>Dr. Chelsea Ratcliff</i>
	Chandra Sunkara	Heritage Textiles: Sustainability, Women, and Colonialism	<i>Dr. Sha'Mira Covington</i>
Room D	Jason Eappen, Rohan Srivatsa, Meryem Acioz, Sophia Nguyen	Measuring Division: The Language of Dissent in the Supreme Court and American Polarization	<i>Dr. Katherine Ireland</i>
	Makayla Bangoura	Do Certain Kinds of UN Military Peacekeeping Missions Reduce Violations of Children's Right to Education in Active Conflict Zones?	<i>Dr. K. Chad Clay</i>
	Ava Godbey	The Economic Side Effects: The Impact of U.S. Tariffs on the Export of Chinese Raw Pharmaceutical Goods Since 2018	<i>Dr. Justin Conrad</i>
	Logan Magilligan	Preventing and Nullifying Mass Attacks Through Behavioral Threat Assessment and Mass Casualty Incident Preparedness Training	<i>Dr. Michelle Ritchie</i>
	Sarah Liberman	Federated Unlearning	<i>Dr. Jaewoo Lee</i>
Room G	Kathleen Miller	The Role of Abraçada Cells as a Potential Niche for Stem Cell Function	<i>Dr. Rachel Roberts-Galbraith</i>
	Corbin McKay	Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Derived Models to Investigate Familial Dysautonomia Mechanisms and Potential Treatments	<i>Dr. Nadja Zeltner</i>
	Lily Watts	Quantifying the Effects of Extracellular Matrix Composition on Breast Cancer Cellular Morphology	<i>Dr. Cheryl T. Gomillion</i>
	Maddison Gay	Investigating How Partial-Loss of Synaptonemal Complex Alters Recombination	<i>Dr. Katherine Billmyre</i>
	Kaitlyn Eichele	Targeting, Diversification, and Horizontal Transfer of W.e.i.1 Group II Introns in Wolbachia	<i>Dr. Kelly Dyer</i>

Room H	Sophia Hou	Ahab as Pilot-Prophet: Biblical Typology, Sermonic Form, and Narrative Voice in Melville's Moby-Dick	<i>Dr. Cody Marrs</i>
	Levi Hubbard	The Aftermath of America in D.H. Lawrence	<i>Dr. Adam Parkes</i>
	Nathan Haynes	Does Literary Criticism Have a Future? Representational and Technological Ambiguity in the Age of Generative Artificial Intelligence	<i>Dr. Rodrigo Martini</i>
	Caroline Moore	Reclaiming Craft: Rhetorical Labor Within The Guild of Women Bookbinders	<i>Dr. James Dylan Sargan</i>
Room I	Rowan Starr	Ecocide in the Ukraine War	<i>Dr. Alexandra Shapiro</i>
	Skye Palmer	The Evolution of the Concept of "Terrorism" and Its Role in the Russian Media Space	<i>Dr. Alexandra Shapiro</i>
	Sarah Ellington	The Life Cycles in Slavic Folklore and Ancient Greece: Hatched and Dispatched	<i>Dr. Olga Thomason</i>
	Bridget Peach	A Lasting Influence: Russian Language Minorities in the Post-Soviet World	<i>Dr. Olga Thomason</i>
	Julia Wickman	Sustainable Development and Geopolitical Competition in the Arctic	<i>Dr. Olga Thomason</i>
Room J	Widener Norris	Evaluating HA Immunodominance over NA Using Rationally Coformulated Recombinant Influenza Vaccines (RIVs)	<i>Dr. Mark Tompkins</i>
	Ben Starks	Synaptojanin 1 (SYNJ1) Haploinsufficiency Causes Impaired Autophagy and Age-Dependent Decreased Dopamine Release in Dorsal Striatal Slices	<i>Dr. Hui Zhang</i>
	Emma Gartland	Motor Development and Gesture-Based Communication in Infancy	<i>Dr. Drew Abney</i>
	Khadija Ayub	Structural, Computational, and Evolutionary Analysis of Calmodulin- α Interactions	<i>Dr. Jeffrey Urbauer</i>
	Carson Kennedy	Investigating the Neuromuscular Connection in Children with Cerebral Palsy	<i>Dr. Christopher Modlesky</i>

Awards and Keynote Session

Monday, 3 to 4 p.m.

Athena Room E

Welcome and Introductions

Meg Amstutz, *Dean of the Jere W. Morehead Honors College*

Remarks

Jere W. Morehead, *President of the University of Georgia*

Awards Introduction

Andrea Silletti, *CURO Program Coordinator, Morehead Honors College*

CURO Research Mentoring Awards

Marisa A. Pagnattaro, *Vice President for Instruction*

CURO Symposium Best Paper Awards

Chris King, *Interim Vice President for Research*

UGA Libraries' Undergraduate Research Awards

Toby Graham, *University Librarian and Associate Provost, UGA Libraries*

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker

Keynote Address

Maryann E. Gallagher, *Director of the Richard B. Russell Security Leadership Program,
Senior Lecturer in the Department of International Affairs, School of Public and International Affairs*

Closing Comments

Meg Amstutz

Audience adjourns to Poster Session and Symposium Reception, held in Grand Hall South and the Atrium.

Poster Session, Monday, 4 to 6 p.m., *Grand Hall South & Atrium*

Poster 1	Phillip Salzinger	Song Sparrow Behavioral Differences Across a Gradient of Urbanization	<i>Dr. Richard Hall</i>	Stamps, Ecology
Poster 2	Jessica Muniz	Can Rubberized Road Material Reduce the Urban Heat Island Effect?	<i>Dr. Andrew Grundstein</i>	Stamps, Geography
Poster 3	Owais Kamran	Comparing Coastal Wetland Land Use/Land Cover Products	<i>Dr. Courtney Di Vittorio</i>	Stamps, Engineering, Wake Forest University
Poster 4	Zinn Amos	INTACT-olotl: A Dynamic Method for Cell-Type Specific Profiling of Pro-Regenerative Cell-Types	<i>Dr. Joshua Currie</i>	Stamps, Biology, Wake Forest University
Poster 5	Maxi Brogi	Extending DeepPath for Protein-Nucleic Acid Conformational Pathway Prediction	<i>Dr. JC Gumbart</i>	Stamps, Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology
Poster 6	Mia Jastrzembski	Comparison of Jet and Mesh Nebulizer Characteristics and Deposition in a Stochastic Lung Model	<i>Dr. Sinjae Hyun</i>	Stamps, Biomedical Engineering, Mercer University
Poster 7	Kaylee Nichols	Multi-Axial Flange for Mercer Universal Prosthesis	<i>Dr. Ha Van Vo</i>	Stamps, Biomedical Engineering, Mercer University
Poster 8	Ria Tamrakar	Comparative Analysis of Eubacteria in Avian Excreta with Eubacteria in Porcine and Equine Feces on a Georgia Farm	<i>Dr. Jonathan Coffman</i>	Stamps, Medicine, Mercer University
Poster 9	Emmanuel Attah	Miniaturized Constant Current Stimulator from High Voltage Pulses	<i>Dr. Mark Brinton</i>	Stamps, Engineering & Computer Science, Elizabethtown College
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Poster 500	Sam Purba	VIPR: Fine Grained Bimanual Operation and Autonomous Design for Use in Poultry Farms	<i>Dr. Guoming Li</i>	Poultry Science
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Poster 523	Kimberly Castro-Godinez	Design Optimization of a 3D Printed Heart Model for Reproducible Pulsatile Flow Testing	<i>Dr. Kenan Song</i>	Environmental, Civil, Agricultural, and Mechanical Engineering
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Poster 529	Aidan Carr	But Does It Pass the Bechdel Test? A Scoping Literature Review of the Journal of Engineering Education's Publications Over the Last 25 Years	<i>Dr. Rachel Figard</i>	Environmental, Civil, Agricultural & Mechanical Engineering
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Poster 532	Ethan Vaughn	Strain Accumulation and Microstructure Evolution in Ultrasonic Additive Manufacturing	<i>Dr. Michael Pagan</i>	Environmental, Civil, Agricultural & Mechanical Engineering
Poster 533	Jenna Dekich	Culturally Responsive Rehabilitation for South Asians with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRDs)	<i>Dr. Javad Anjum</i>	Communication Sciences & Disorders & Special Education
Poster 534	Clarissa Hane	Coral Disease Survey of Catacombs Reef in The Florida Keys	<i>Dr. James Porter</i>	Ecology

Oral Session 5, 8:15-9:35 a.m., Athena Breakout Rooms

Room B	Amelia Orr	Dance as Philosophy in Time: Mina Loy's "Songge Byrd"	<i>Dr. Susan Rosenbaum</i>
	Evie Foley	Shame and the Self in D. H. Lawrence's "Meeting Among the Mountains"	<i>Dr. Adam Parkes</i>
	Lucy Ingram	The World We Have Lost: D. H. Lawrence and Modern America	<i>Dr. Adam Parkes</i>
	Aiden Tranovich	Intermedial Illumination: Visual-Verbal Collaborations of the Black Sun and Tiber Presses	<i>Dr. Susan Rosenbaum</i>
Room C	Keyan Vales	Livability and Sustainability Between Cities	<i>Dr. Olga Thomason</i>
	Adanna Majekodunmi	From Waste to Access: Implementing a Meal Redistribution Program to Address Food Insecurity at UGA	<i>Dr. Victoria Hasko</i>
	Bryce Knoll	Reporting on Venezuela: How Russian State Media Shapes an Anti-American Narrative	<i>Dr. Alexandra Shapiro</i>
	Katherine Kentos	Lenin and the Youth: How Soviet Propaganda Crafted a Foundation for Party Loyalty	<i>Dr. Olga Thomason</i>
	Eliana Trapp	Systemic Failure: Soviet Management Culture and the Chernobyl Disaster	<i>Dr. Alexandra Shapiro</i>
Room D	Nupoor Joshi	Digitizing IF-AT: A Scalable Model for Collaborative Assessment in Higher Education	<i>Dr. Nandana Jayashantha Weliweriya Liyanage</i>
	Morgan Shorter, Olivia Le	VIPR: The Recipe for Role Modeling: What Characteristics Make an Effective Lab Role Model?	<i>Dr. Erin Dolan</i>
	Sarah Portnell, Rojan Khademi	VIPR: Strong Ties or Many Ties? Mentorship Dynamics in Undergraduate Research	<i>Dr. Erin Dolan</i>
	Abby Kirry	Best Practices in Education Workforce Alignment: Examining Responses to Skills-Based Hiring Trends	<i>Rebecca Hunt</i>
Room G	Arwa Abdelrahman	Exploring Empathy and Intersectional Understanding Through Performance	<i>Prof. Raife Baker</i>
	Chloe James	Community, Empowerment, and Leadership in Music Education	<i>Dr. Kristen Lynch</i>
	Jennifer Noel	Barriers to Seeking Mental Health Support Among College Students in Underserved Regions in India	<i>Dr. Gaurav Ranjan Sinha</i>
	Savannah Milburn, Chitra Nulu, Gabriel Claussnitzer	VIPR: Co-Created, High-Resolution Climate Scenario Narratives for Transhumant Pastoral Communities	<i>Dr. Thomas Mote</i>

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Oral Session 6, 9:55-11:15 a.m., Athena Breakout Rooms

Room B	Grey Cohen	Democratic Backsliding and Territorial Conflict	<i>Dr. Andrew Owsiak</i>
	Mary Wahn, Hannah Lee	In Canisters We Trust? Measuring Public Attitudes Towards Spent Nuclear Fuel Management in the United States	<i>Dr. Naomi Egel</i>
	Vikram Bharadwaj	Big Brother's Machine: Artificial Intelligence, Surveillance, and the Rise of Executive Overreach	<i>Dr. Maryann Gallagher</i>
	Mark Vincent Zimmer, Jr.	The Partisan Pen: How Party Control Shapes the Language of Immigration Legislation	<i>Dr. Maryann Gallagher</i>
	Wells Benjamin	The Lavender Veil: A Novel Theoretical Framework for Analyzing the Role of Covert Digital Security Partnerships in Arab-Israeli Relations	<i>Dr. Eli Sperling</i>
Room C	Aylin Ulloa	Understanding Temporal Shifts in the Physiology & Phenology of Spring Ephemerals Under Warming	<i>Dr. Megan DeMarche</i>
	Isabella Elise Pellicano	Global Change Alters Shrub Biogeochemical Mechanisms in a Boreal Peatland	<i>Dr. Nina Wurzburger</i>
	Cooper England	Future Compound Impacts to Coastal Forests from Wind, Heat, and Drought in CMIP6 models	<i>Dr. Anna Harper</i>
	Falih Faizal	Development of Control Schemes for Autonomous Indoor Navigation of a Ground Robot in GPS-Denied Environments	<i>Dr. Guoming Li</i>
	Phoebe Boudreaux	Weather and Landscape Effects on Salmonella Prevalence in Chicken Feces	<i>Dr. William Snyder</i>
Room D	Annabelle Hartley	A Correlation of Paleoclimate Proxy Data and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ -Calculated Weaning Ages: Possible Evidence for Temperature and Weaning Age Correlation	<i>Dr. Laurie Reitsema</i>
	Reena Thangamani	Why Tuberculosis Persists in a High-Income Country: Trends in Cases and Outbreaks in the United States, 2015–2025	<i>Dr. Juliet Sekandi</i>
	Ava Nguyen	Time-restricted Feeding and Triple-negative Breast Cancer Outcomes in a Mouse Model of Obesity	<i>Dr. Emily Noble</i>
Room G	Pavan Indukuri	VIPR: Development of an Autonomous Navigation System for Ornamental Crop Pest-Scouting Robots	<i>Dr. Md Sultan Mahmud</i>
	Abhinav Yedla	VIPR: Deep Learning-Enhanced LiDAR Densification for Precise Ornamental Tree Trunk Detection and Distance Measurement in Autonomous Pest-Scouting	<i>Dr. Md Sultan Mahmud</i>
	Sanjana Arun	VIPR: A Mobile Decision Support System for Diagnosis, Management Recommendations, and Risk Forecasting of Hydrangea Leaf Spot Diseases	<i>Dr. Md Sultan Mahmud</i>

Room H	Callie Viktora	Effects of Conditional RhoA Deletion on the Expression of Progesterone Receptor and Estrogen Receptor α in the Mouse Uterus	Dr. Xiaoqin Ye
	Elijah Jernigan	Whole-Brain Tissue Clearing Reveals Prokineticin-2 Connectivity in the SVZ-RMS-OB Neurogenic Niche in Models of Parkinson's Disease	Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy
	Shivani Yadavalli	Methods of Spore Isolation in <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i>	Dr. Blake Billmyre
	Anika Saxena	TLC-Based Detection of Phosphate-Linked Lipid Intermediates in Mutant <i>Escherichia coli</i>	Dr. Maor Bar-Peled

Oral Session 7, 11:35 a.m. to 12:55p.m., *Athena Breakout Rooms*

Room B	Samarth Mohan	Comparative Biology of Antimicrobial Resistance in Animals	Dr. Andrew Park
	Kade Stewart	Prey-Choice and Range-Expansion of a Non-Native Fiddler Crab	Dr. Jeb Byers
	Haven Hardy	Sediment-Controlled Partitioning of Nutrients and Emerging Contaminants During Freshwater Filtration	Dr. Krista Capps
	Madeline Shell	Composition of Microbial Eukaryotic Communities Surrounding Containerized Waste Barrels in Deep-Sea Basin	Dr. Holly Bik
Room C	Phong Nguyen	Integrating Smartphone-Based 3D Photography and Reflected Satellite Signals on a UAV Platform for Accurate Soil Moisture Sensing	Dr. Mehmet Kurum
	Sloka Sudhin	d ϵ -QPSO: A Global Optimization Technique for Identifying Efficient Designs	Dr. Abhyuday Mandal
	Deeya Datta	Bayesian Ranking of Entities for Infectious Disease	Dr. Abhyuday Mandal
	Owen Parker	Modeling Stellar Rotation Signals to Constrain Inclination from High-Resolution Spectra	Dr. Inseok Song
Room D	Kailee Jordy	This Is, and Is Not, Britain: Political Allegory and the Homeric in Shakespeare's <i>Troilus and Cressida</i>	Dr. Miriam Jacobson
	Dharshine Jay	Slain as an Italian, Revived as a "Turco": How One Diaspora Inspired a Global Literary Movement	Dr. Elizabeth Wright
	Casen Stiber	Documenting Plurality in Salvadoran Nawat	Dr. Pilar Chamorro
	Will Tritto	Speedos: From Casual Coastal Europe to the Queer U.S.—A Study of Queer Ecology, Place and Belonging	Dr. Sha'Mira Covington

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Room G	Kendal Grattan, Sophie Gotschall	Assessing Group Response to Predation Under Thermal Stress: Using <i>Pimephales promelas</i> as a Model Species	<i>Dr. Craig Osenberg</i>
	Lily Meyers	Open-Source Artificial Intelligence for Standardizing Equine Endometrial Biopsy Grading	<i>Dr. Lillian Oliveira</i>
	Katherine Bouma, Sydney Apraku	Testing Accuracy of AI Apps on Identifying Tick Species	<i>Dr. Ania Majewska</i>
	Hailey Kshonz	Optimization of <i>P. yoelii</i> infections of <i>An. stephensii</i>	<i>Dr. Ashutosh Pathak</i>
	Simona Brenneman	Resistance to Antimalarials and Malaria Transmission	<i>Dr. Douglas Paton</i>

Oral Session 8, 1:15-2:35 p.m., Athena Breakout Rooms

Room B	Vivian Austin	Religion and Identity in Howard Finster's Self Portrait (1989)	<i>Alexis Gorby</i>
	Nicholas Lennon	Exhibiting the Public Unconscious: The Vienna Secession in the Age of Freud	<i>Dr. Nell Andrew</i>
	Emma Mineva	The Aftermath of War and Conflict as Seen Through Artwork	<i>Alexis Gorby</i>
	Jocelyn Kirchen	Weaving Propaganda: Eighteenth-Century French Tapestry and the Role of Material and Production in the Glorification of the French State	<i>Dr. Elizabeth Saari Browne</i>
Room C	Ella Cho	The Role of Synaptotagmins and Synaptobrevins in Regeneration and Behavior in <i>Schmidtea mediterranea</i>	<i>Dr. Rachel Roberts-Galbraith</i>
	Genevieve Gardes	Biochemical Characterization of Novel O-GlcNAc Transferase Variants S399C and T932I Causal for Intellectual Disability	<i>Dr. Lance Wells</i>
	Deacon Maynard	Investigating the Role of Isoprenylation in Ydj1 Function and Toxicity	<i>Dr. Walter Schmidt</i>
	Edsiah Nelson	The Role of VTS1, STP22 and VPS34 in the Ded1-Mediated Cellular Stress Response	<i>Dr. Timothy Bolger</i>
	Daniel Gerguis, Nicholas Harper, Mason Alleyne	VIPR: Zeltner Lab Internal Core Facility	<i>Dr. Nadja Zeltner</i>
Room D	Naimisha Kodali	Variation of Malarial Infections in Different Strains of <i>Plasmodium berghei</i>	<i>Dr. Ashutosh Pathak</i>
	Max Petropoulos, Vishal Porthuraju	Glioblastoma Spheroids Impair Vasculogenesis in a 3D Tumor-on-a-Chip Model	<i>Dr. Lohitash Karumbaiah</i>
	Brayden Riley, Sam Devakumar	Evaluation of Microtubes for Cancer Cell Separation and Early Detection	<i>Dr. Karen Burg</i>
	Juan (Alex) Subiry	Loss of PINK1 Causes Age-Dependent Mitochondrial Trafficking Deficits in Nigrostriatal Dopaminergic Neurons Through Aberrant Activation of p38 MAPK	<i>Dr. Hui Zhang</i>

Room G	Drew Patton	From Success in Chemistry to Supporting Peers: Motivations for Becoming a Chemistry Learning Assistant	<i>Dr. Brandon Yik</i>
	Ethan Goldstein	Through the Student Lens: Redefining Success in General Chemistry	<i>Dr. Brandon Yik</i>
	Tori Vega	Multicultural Research Labs: A Space for Change and Collective Impact	<i>Dr. Edward Delgado-Romero</i>
	Adam Buckler	VIPR: Solving the Data Puzzle: Quantifying the Trade-Off Between Labor-Intensive Qualitative Content Analysis and Data Lost through Reduction Techniques	<i>Dr. Erin Dolan</i>
Room H	Trevor Frank	3D Printing of Bio-Based Polyurethane Foams	<i>Dr. Kenan Song</i>
	Samantha Lewis	Speciation Measurements from Combustion Reactions	<i>Dr. Brandon Rotavera</i>
	Daniel Portillo, Ryan Varghese	VIPR: Developing an Autonomous Navigation System for a Weed-Pulling Robot in Cotton Fields	<i>Dr. Md Sultan Mahmud</i>

Oral Session 9, 2:55-4:15 p.m., Athena Breakout Rooms

Room B	Jacob Griner	A Lavish Pot to Piss In: Chamber Pot Politics from the Decorative to Duchamp	<i>Dr. Elizabeth Saari Browne</i>
	Guinever James	Clockwork Empire: Animals, Exoticism, and Imperial Time in Philippe and Jacques Caffieri's Table Clock, c. 1745	<i>Dr. Elizabeth Saari Browne</i>
	Santiago Pollitzer	Pleasurable Prostheses: Disembodied Sex in Eighteenth-Century French Art and Material Culture	<i>Dr. Elizabeth Saari Browne</i>
	Audrey Westray	Moravian Marketing: Gottfried Aust's Shop Sign and the State of 18th Century Advertising	<i>Dr. Elizabeth Saari Browne</i>
Room C	Max Whitford	Strategic Compliance with State-Level Age Verification Laws for Adult Content	<i>Dr. David Mustard</i>
	Sana Raheja	Trading Behavior Around Major Bitcoin Price Movements	<i>Dr. Daniel Rettl</i>
	Waylon Shapowal	Modernizing the Separation of Banking and Commerce in the Age of Big Tech	<i>Prof. Lindsay Sain Jones</i>
	Linrou Liu	Assessing Competency in Older Adult Defendants: A Review of Geriatric Forensic Evaluations and Telehealth Standards in the Criminal Justice System	<i>Dr. George Mois</i>

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Room D	Spencer Katzman	Ranked Choice Voting with Different Elimination Procedures	<i>Dr. Keith Dougherty</i>
	Alyssa Huffman	From Recidivism to Desistance: Reframing the Evaluation of Prison Vocational Training Programs	<i>Dr. Dan Silk</i>
	Ettesaf Rayan	In Defense of Incentivized Organ Donation for the Incarcerated	<i>Dr. Jeremy Davis</i>
	Eliza Fausset	Gentrification, Redevelopment, and Changing Place Identity in Southeast Atlanta	<i>Dr. Steven Holloway</i>
	Madeline Gross	The Relationship Between Socialist Realism and Ivan Babenko's Waiting: 1945 Seen Through Demobilization Photography	<i>Alexis Gorby</i>
Room G	Kai Ramlochan, Fawad Hasib, Yutika Parhate	Experience, Timing, and Teaching Behavior: A Contextual Analysis of GTA Laboratory Instruction	<i>Dr. Craig C. Wiegert</i>
	Creed Barrett	Implementation of Generative AI into the General Chemistry Classroom	<i>Dr. Brandon Yik</i>
	Lily Chen	Temperature and Relative Humidity Effects on Water Absorption and Dissolution of Urea Fertilizer	<i>Dr. Miguel Cabrera</i>
	Anna-Sophia Mehta	Detection and Characterization of Ionospheric Transients in EDGES Radio Spectra: Micrometeorite Events and Sporadic E-Layer Activity	<i>Dr. Cassandra Hall</i>
	Valor Lekas	VIPR: Organizing a Campus-Wide Sustainability Initiative to Reduce Avian-Window Collisions at UGA	<i>Dr. Richard Hall</i>
Room H	Alexandra Agesen, Ella Glorioso	High Crystalline Nano-HA Potential in Inhibiting Breast Cancer Cell Adhesion and Proliferation	<i>Dr. Karen Burg</i>
	Sireen Faraz, Emma Kate Godin	Evaluation of Nano-Hydroxyapatite Printed Platforms in the MSC Differentiation Process	<i>Dr. Karen Burg</i>
	Asuagbor Asuagbor	Optimizing a Bioreactor System for Conditioning Three-Dimensional Bone Scaffolds	<i>Dr. Cheryl Gomillion</i>
	Rohan Patlolla	Immunophenotyping Canine Myofibers by Immunohistochemistry	<i>Dr. Elizabeth Howerth</i>
Room I	Tanishqa Natarajan, Ruhi Iyer	Parent-Child Physiological Alignment During Tasks With Different Regulatory Demands	<i>Dr. Niyantri Ravindran</i>
	Olivia Kachappilly	Isolating the Non-Phosphocreatine Component of Muscle-Specific Post-Exercise Oxygen Consumption Using Near-Infrared Spectroscopy	<i>Dr. Kevin McCully</i>
	Aashka Vaidya	Variability in the Measure of Fasting Blood Lipids	<i>Dr. Jamie A. Cooper</i>

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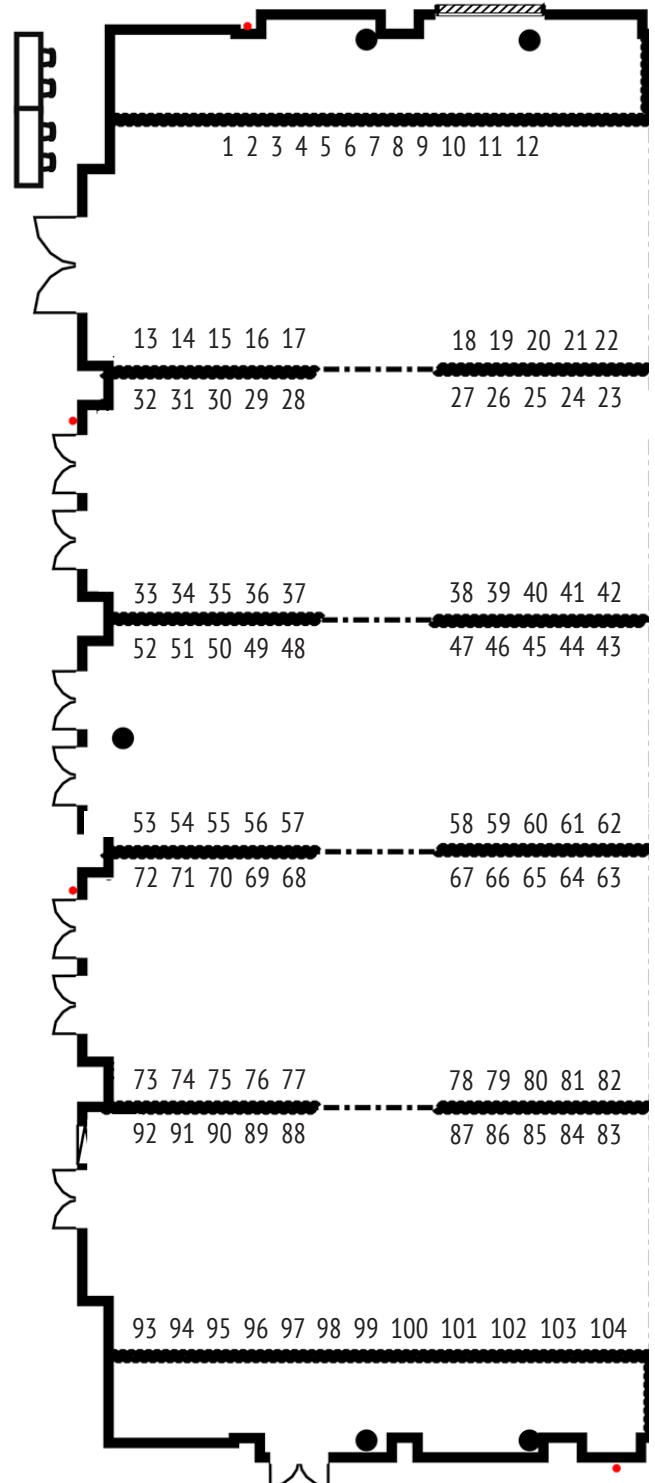
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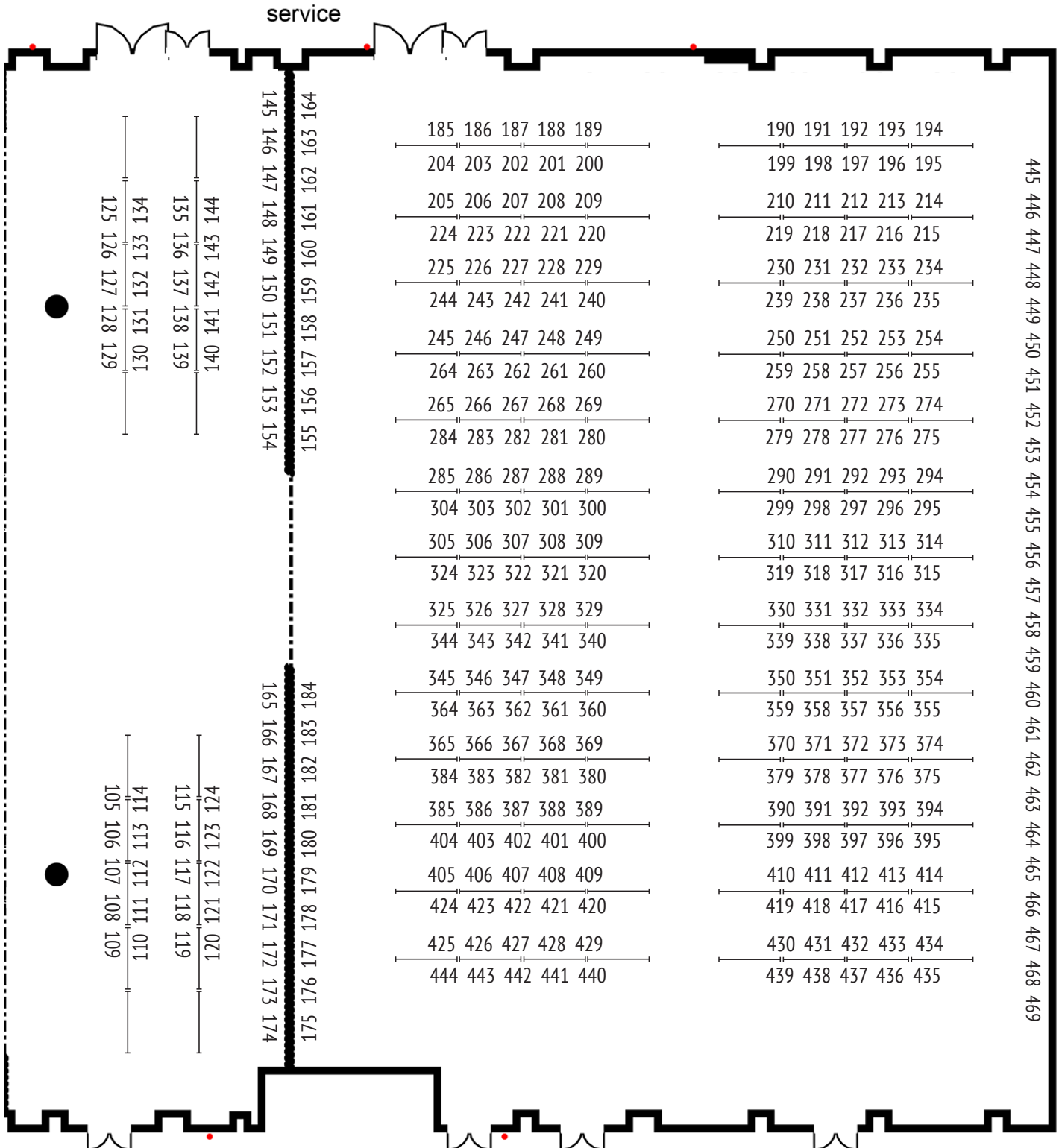
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