

UGA's Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Names 2010 Promising Scholars

Athens, Ga. – Fifteen Georgia high school seniors were recently honored as 2010 Promising Scholars during the University of Georgia undergraduate research symposium that is sponsored every spring by the Honors Program's Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities.

The Promising Scholars were offered a window into the everyday life of undergraduates who work on multi-semester research projects guided by faculty mentors in their fields of interest.

They attended roundtable and panel discussions with UGA faculty who focused on the academic and research expectations and opportunities available in a collegiate environment.

The students also had the opportunity to interact with current freshmen and sophomores who participate in CURO's Apprentice Program. Divided into groups, the scholars had lunch with the apprentices and were given tours of campus. The apprentices also led question-and-answer sessions about their UGA experiences.

The poster presentation session, where more than 68 UGA undergraduates shared their project results, was an additional highlight for many Promising Scholars such as Sarah Mitchell, who is from Tucker, and Dervin Cunningham Jr., who is from Albany.

"There were students trying to find medical purposes in magnetizing water droplets and other students trying to discover links to cancer," said Cunningham, who is a senior at Westover Comprehensive High School in Albany. "This experience was invaluable and inspiring because the researchers were students just like me."

The 2010 CURO Promising Scholars, their hometown and high school are:

Aditya Aphale / Alpharetta / Alpharetta High School
Garry Baker / Lithonia / Stephenson High School
Emily Bowen / Atlanta / Marist School
Peter Cornick / Avondale Estates / Paideia School
Dervin Cunningham Jr. / Albany / Westover Comprehensive High School
Alexis Garcia / Duluth / Wesleyan School
Diana Guyton / Atlanta / St. Pius X Catholic High School
Janie Janeczko / Marietta / Holy Spirit Preparatory School
Cinthana Kandasamy / Watkinsville / Oconee County High School
Cody Knapp / Thomasville / Thomas County Central High School
Sarah Mitchell / Tucker / St. Pius X Catholic High School
Connor Sweetnam / Suwanee / St. Pius X Catholic High School
Elliott Tanner / Peachtree City / Starr's Mill High School
Chatela Young / Gainesville / Robert W. Johnson High School
Cameron Zahedi / Milton / Milton High School

For more information on the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities, see <http://www.uga.edu/honors> and click on CURO.