



THE HENRY BELLMON  
**OFFICE OF SCHOLAR  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
UNDERGRADUATE  
RESEARCH**

We prepare students for the future, whether in competing for prestigious national and international scholarships, being admitted to top graduate schools, securing highly competitive jobs or attaining the skills required to grow as a leader.

Enhance your undergraduate experiences through faculty mentorship, undergraduate research, study abroad courses and highly selective opportunities for awards and honors.



## Undergraduate Research

Our mission is to expand and enhance student-faculty research partnerships across all disciplines. OSU leads the way in supporting undergraduate research in all fields of study. Students who graduate with research experience have taken full advantage of everything a comprehensive research university has to offer. You'll find your experience to be invaluable in choosing a career path and improving your likelihood of success in the workforce and admission to graduate school.

### *Freshman Research Scholars*

Undergraduate research at OSU begins with our award-winning Freshman Research Scholars program, funded by the Robberson Trust and our academic colleges. Approximately 80 incoming freshmen across all five undergraduate colleges extend their education beyond the classroom by engaging in cutting-edge research under the guidance of innovative faculty members. Participating students receive a \$1,000 scholarship to support their first-year research experience and are well prepared to apply for further research funding offered through our office.

### *Wentz Research Scholars*

Our office, in partnership with the Lew Wentz Foundation, provides up to 40 Wentz Research Awards of \$4,500 each to accomplished sophomores, juniors and seniors. These students have written a compelling research proposal under the mentorship of an OSU faculty member.

### *Purdie Research Scholars*

This program honors former chemistry faculty member Dr. Neil Purdie by enabling significant support for undergraduate research in the physical sciences (chemistry, physics and geology). Recipients of these scholarships are known as Neil Purdie Research Scholars and receive one of up to four \$6,500 scholarships for a full academic year of undergraduate research in one of the designated fields.



# SCHOLAR DEVELOPMENT

## Cambridge Scholars

This two-week summer program takes OSU's top students to the University of Cambridge for a special short course taught by OSU faculty. Cambridge serves as home base for the program that involves stimulating class discussion each day while still leaving time to take advantage of the City of Cambridge's many museums, galleries, colleges and cosmopolitan culture. Participants gain a better understanding of British education and Cambridge. Many program alumni have continued to graduate school at the University of Cambridge or another British institution.

## Writers' Workshop

All successful applicants who are awarded an OSU institutional nomination for the Truman, Goldwater and Udall scholarships will receive an invitation to participate in the annual Writers' Workshop at the OSU Doel Reed Center for the Arts in Taos, New Mexico. Significant scholarship support is given to each institutional nominee to participate in the workshop, which is held for four days during the last week of students' winter break (early January). OSU faculty and staff from our office join forces to mentor student nominees and provide feedback on their application materials.

## National Scholarship Recognition

**18** Truman Scholars

**32** Goldwater Scholars

**20** Udall Scholars



Hear from participating students about the undergraduate research experience at OSU:

[okla.st/frs-video](https://okla.st/frs-video)

## Oklahoma State University

The Henry Bellmon Office of Scholar Development and Undergraduate Research

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## 2023 Goldwater Scholar

### GEORGIA EASTHAM

Georgia Eastham, from Davis, California, is a triple major in plant and soil science, biochemistry and chemistry. She has a long track record in research, being selected as a Wentz Research Scholar in both 2021 for phytochemical wheat research and in 2022 for her adaptation of strain loadable alkenes for biological uses, as well as being a McKnight Scholar and Freshman Research Scholar. Eastham plans to pursue a Ph.D. in chemistry and conduct research in chemical biology.



## 2023 Udall Scholar

### KAITLYN PINKERTON

Kaitlyn Pinkerton is a political science pre-law junior from Pryor, Oklahoma. Kaitlyn has served as a student leader in the Center for Sovereign Nations, as president of the Native American Student Association and as Miss American Indian OSU. Kaitlyn was named a Civic Leader Fellow through the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute in 2022, in which she focused on important topics such as food insecurity and economic policy in preparation for a position in civic leadership. Kaitlyn hopes to have a long career in tribal public policy and one day serve as Chief of the Cherokee Nation.



## 2023 Goldwater Scholar

### CHARLIE VERMEIRE

Charlie Vermeire, from Miles City, Montana, is a double major in microbiology/cell and molecular biology and biochemistry, with a minor in chemistry. Vermeire has been a Freshman Research Scholar and a McKnight Scholar, and in March 2022, she was offered both the Wentz Research Scholarship and the Niblack Research Scholarship. She selected the Niblack award and is currently pursuing two research projects investigating the function of extracellular vesicles on host immunity against bacterial infections in humans with Dr. Yong Chang (biochemistry) and Dr. Lin Liu (physiology). She plans to pursue an M.D./Ph.D. with a focus in pathology and cell biology, as she hopes to apply novel approaches to cellular oncology to improve the accuracy of cancer diagnosis and treatment.



## 2022 Udall Scholar

### KATE KOUPLEN

Kate Kouplen is an Honors College student from Jenks, Oklahoma. A member of the Delaware Tribe, she was a Freshman Research Scholar, a LSAMP Scholar and a member of the President's Leadership Council. She serves as an undergraduate research assistant in the Department of Nutritional Sciences and has participated in the Native American Research Center for Health summer program. She is involved in the Native American Student Association and serves as a student leader for OSU's Center for Sovereign Nations. After completing her bachelor's degree in biology, she plans to go to medical school and focus on providing care to underserved communities.

/ScholarDevelopment

@okstatescholars