The Office of Research and the Perry Honors College are pleased to announce the 2019 awardees of the Program for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (PURS).

PURS is intended to support novel faculty-led pilot projects incorporating authentic research and scholarship experiences for undergraduate students. PURS funds students to work with faculty members part-time during Spring and Fall semesters and full-time in the summer. Mentees will be active participants in a faculty-led team, performing research or scholarship and assisting in preparation of reports and grant proposals. Undergraduate mentees will also present their findings at local, state, and national conferences, and be contributing authors on peer-reviewed publications and/or scholarly exhibitions.

“PURS enhances the undergraduate research opportunities for sophomores and juniors, making them more competitive for external research internships and tracking them for more independent work supported by our undergraduate research grant program,” said David Metzger, Dean of the Perry Honors College.

Awardees include:

- **Dan Barshis** (Assistant Professor - Biological Sciences) *Chasing Carbon: Symbiotic and Non-Symbiotic Carbon Demands in the Northern Star Coral*

- **Allison Page** (Assistant Professor - Communication & Theatre Arts): *The Cultural Life of Policing*

- **Silvina Pagola** (Research Assistant Professor - Chemistry & Biochemistry): *Toward Unraveling the Mechanisms of "Green" Mechanochemical Reactions*

- **Sachin Shetty** (Associate Professor - Modeling, Simulation, & Visualization Engineering): *Detection of Rogue Mobile Devices Based on Radio Frequency Classification*

- **Lisa Wallace** (Associate Professor and J. Robert Stiffler Professor of Botany – Biological Sciences) - *Manipulation of Seed Germination Conditions of an Orchid to Facilitate Common Garden Studies of Wild Populations*

“Invoking undergraduates in research is a key way in which ODU’s research mission enriches its teaching mission, said Morris Foster, Vice President for Research. “At ODU, teaching and research are fully integrated, to the benefit of our students.”
PURS awards are for one calendar year, and include up to $10,000 to support faculty summer salary, student stipend and travel, and supplies/small equipment. Research, tenure-track, and tenured faculty are eligible to apply. Student participants must be enrolled full-time for the project duration, and a minimum GPA of 3.25 is encouraged. Questions about the PURS program can be directed to the Director of Undergraduate Research, HCUndergradResearch@odu.edu.