We can report that in the 2017-18 Academic Year, 3,906 students participated in undergraduate research both inside and outside of the classroom.

Events

Participation in EURêCA
Over 800 students presented 626 projects. 99 projects received recognition at the EURêCA Awards night.

Participation in NCUR
UT sent 19 students to present at NCUR 2018 held at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Summer Research Scholars
Undergraduates from 44 national and international institutes took residence as Summer Research Scholars at UT. Over 160 students from 23 different states and three countries make up the diverse class of summer researchers, an increase from 2017’s 142 participants.

Posters at the Capitol
Seven students were selected to represent the University of Tennessee, Knoxville at the 2018 Posters at the Capitol event, February 20, 2018 in Nashville, TN.

Posters on the Hill
Every year, 60 students present their undergraduate research on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. This year, UT junior Taylor Payne will be among them as she presents her research project Neurological Disease Detection Using Laser Technology. Payne is the fourth UT student in the past four years to have a project accepted for Posters on the Hill.
NEW PROGRAMS

UTK Summer International Research Opportunities Program
A research-based internship offered in 1 of eight countries provided students the opportunity to join an on-going research project for a short period of time, helping to clarify academic, career, and personal interests. You will step into existing projects at various stages of the research process and can engage a quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods approach. All research was in English and the program was held for 8-weeks during the summer. 10 UT students participated during the summer of 2018.

Research Day
UT hosted approximately 130 high school students and their parents Saturday, March 24, for a day-long research event. Research Day, co-hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, allowed these students to explore research and creative spaces in the areas of study they expressed an interest in.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Global Undergraduate Awards
The Undergraduate Awards (UA) is the world’s largest international academic awards program, recognizing excellent research and original work across the sciences, humanities, business, and creative arts. The top 10 percent of students in their respective categories are honored as Highly Commended. Regional Winners are then chosen from each of the seven regions in the competition, and a final Global Winner is selected in each category. UT’s winners were Alexandra Brito, a May 2017 graduate, who was named a Global Winner; Sierra Roark, also a May graduate, who was a Regional Winner; and senior Rachel Hunt, who was Highly Commended.

Undergraduate Research Mentors of the Year (College-level)
- College of Arts & Sciences, Humanities division - Dr. Erin Darby
- College of Arts & Sciences, Natural Sciences division - Dr. Eirik Endeve
- College of Arts & Sciences, Social Sciences division - Dr. Gregory Stuart
- College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences - Dr. Spencer Olmstead
- College of Social Work - Dr. Sunha Choi
- Haslam College of Business - Dr. James Chyz
- Tickle College of Engineering - Dr. Jon Hathaway

Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year (Chancellor’s Award)
- Dr. Matthew Cooper

Undergraduate Researcher of the Year (Chancellor’s Award)
- William Dillon Dunn, College of Architecture and Design