UNDERGRADUATE

Research Opportunities

PROGRAM

www.urop.gatech.edu

Georgia Tech

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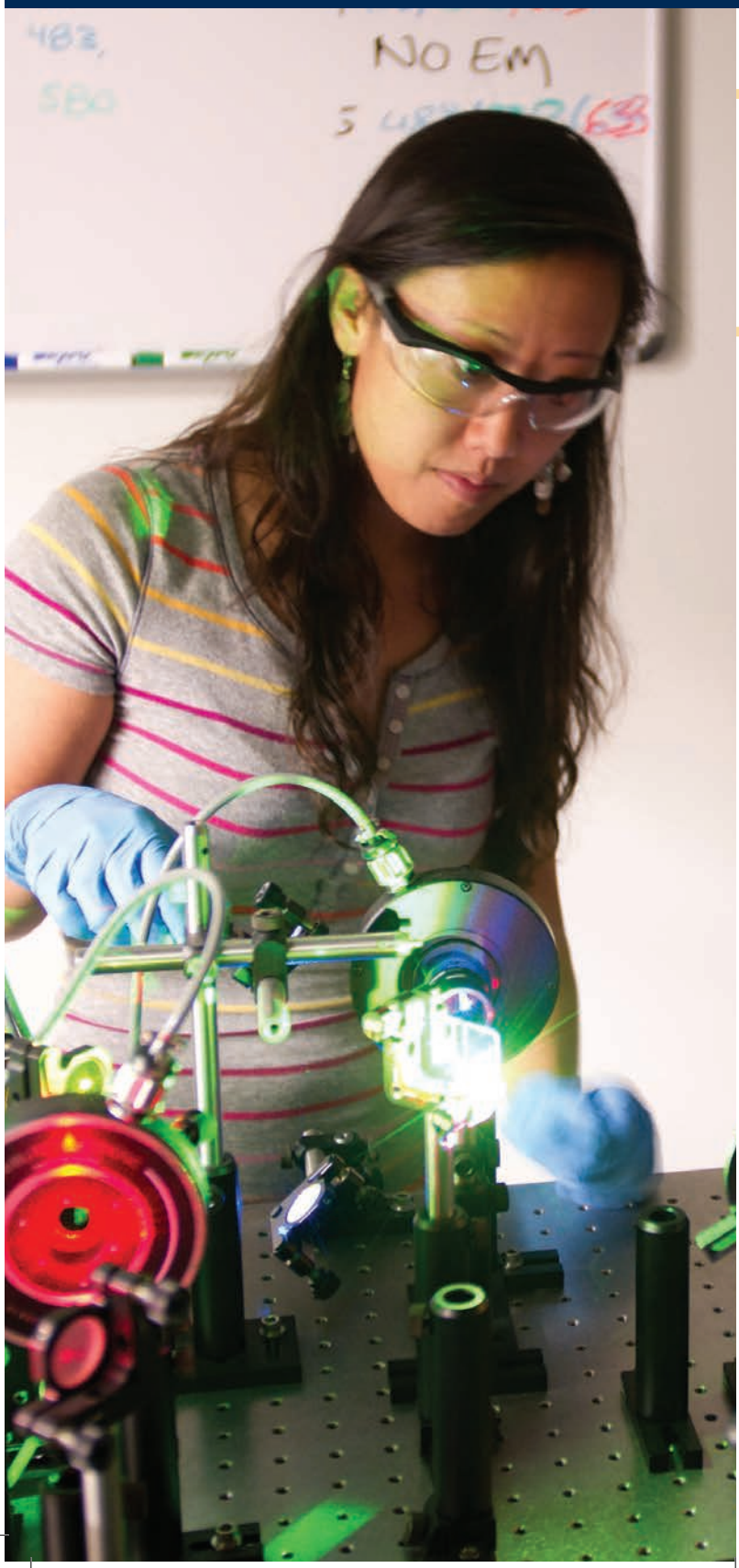
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As an undergraduate student at Georgia Tech, you are building a foundation for your future – a future in which there won't always be a "right answer," but rather, problems looking for solutions and ideas looking for opportunities. It will be up to you – as an innovator, inventor, or entrepreneur – to help find them.

That's why there's no better preparation for your future than research.

At Georgia Tech, the **Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)** – a Center for Academic Enrichment program – makes it possible for you to begin participating in research now, *regardless of your major.*

UROP offers the **structure**, **resources**, **incentives**, and **encouragement** you need to work hands-on with faculty, industry partners, and fellow students to explore the big challenges and questions. The projects you work on may change the world, and they will definitely change you, making you more appealing to employers or grad schools and better prepared for opportunities that await – or that you create.

To Get Started …

The best way to get started is to start talking to faculty, your undergraduate coordinator or advisor, graduate student TAs, and other undergraduate students who are or who have been involved in research at Tech. Also, visit **www.urop.gatech.edu**.

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The Many Benefits of Undergraduate Research

Undergraduate research empowers students to better the world through discovery and invention by providing:

- Hands-on learning and real-world experience
- Exposure to “hot topics” in your field
- Faculty mentorship
- An edge for graduate school
- Possibilities for publication and presentation
- Resume building
- Prizes and awards
- Travel opportunities to conferences
- Pay or class credit

UROP Resources and Events

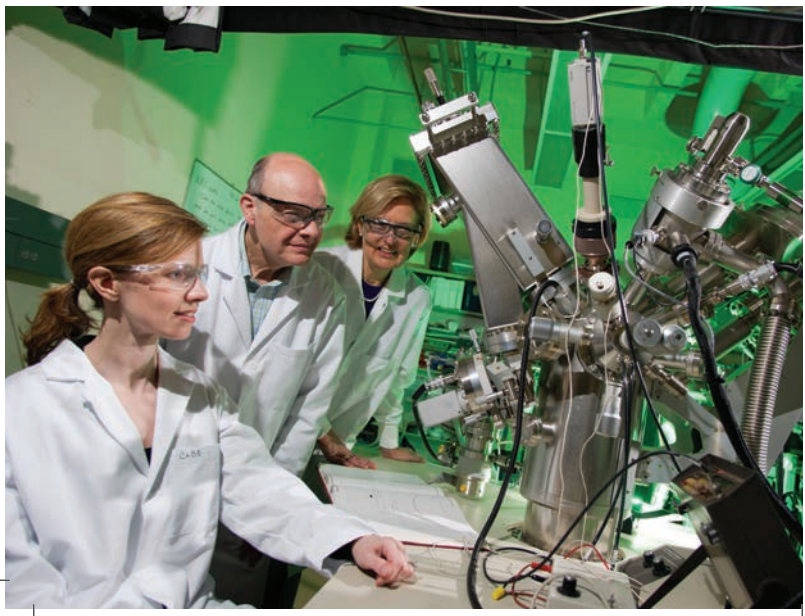
UROP offers a wealth of resources, opportunities, and incentives to support your efforts as an undergraduate researcher, including:

Spring Symposium

This is your opportunity to share your research and gain valuable presentation experience. Prizes are awarded to the best poster and oral presentations from each college.

Workshops

These include topics such as research abstracts, poster design and presentation, and oral presentations.



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Student Activities Board for Undergraduate Research (SABUR)
SABUR gives participating students a voice in advising the UROP program and helping to develop programs and resources for undergraduate researchers. **www.sabur.gtorg.gatech.edu**

The Tower Undergraduate Research Journal
This interdisciplinary undergraduate research journal is designed and produced completely by Georgia Tech students. The goals of the publication are to:

- Showcase undergraduate achievements in research.
- Inspire academic inquiry.
- Promote Georgia Tech's commitment to undergraduate research endeavors.

www.gttower.org

Course Credit
Classes are available in all majors for course credit and can be applied as either free or technical electives. You will sign up with a faculty mentor as the instructor of record.

President's Undergraduate Research Awards (PURA)
PURA offers $1,500 salary awards to undergraduate researchers and travel grants of up to $1,000 for students to present research at national and international conferences. PURA offers between 200-300 competitive awards per year.

GT 1000 Research and Student Innovation Course
The GT 1000 course on Research and Student Innovation introduces first-year students to campus and how research activities and opportunities fit into the Georgia Tech culture right from the start. Students learn they can be the inventors of their own future through research, discovery, and development.

Research opportunities are available on and off campus in all six colleges, at the Georgia Tech Research Institute, and in partnerships with business and industry.

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Entrepreneurial Incentives and Support

UROP strives to promote an entrepreneurial spirit by supporting students with big ideas with potential for commercialization. Some of our activities and resources include:

The InVenture Prize

The InVenture Prize is an interdisciplinary innovation competition open to all undergraduate students and recent graduates of Georgia Tech. It offers incentives, resources, and structure to encourage undergraduate student innovation, and the competition culminates in a fun, high-profile event with generous prizes and subsequent support for commercialization. The InVenture Prize has been described as "American Idol for Nerds."
www.inventureprize.gatech.edu

Startup Exchange

Startup Exchange (sX) is a student-run collaboration space that gives like-minded developers, designers, and ideators a place to build an entrepreneurial community and learn from one another as well as mentors and guests.
www.startupexchange.gatech.edu

"I valued the interdisciplinary collaboration that occurred at sX. Students were ideating, creatively processing, improvising. Through their resourcefulness, they took control of their own decisions."

- Sameera Omar, Psychology

For added research rigor... The Research Option

If you are looking for even more research experience to broaden your career prospects or gain an edge in graduate school applications, you may want to take advantage of UROP's Research Option (RO).

RO allows you to work one-on-one with a faculty mentor and can be completed as part of the standard four-year curriculum. Successful completion of the program will result in a Research Option designation on your transcript.

RO requirements vary by school but generally include:

- Nine units of supervised research over a period of at least two terms. Research may be for academic credit or compensation, and at least six credit hours must be on the same research project.
- Two one-hour courses in research proposal and thesis writing (LMC 4701 and LMC 4702) offered by the School of Literature, Media, and Communication.
- A written research proposal to be completed and approved before your final term of research.
- A thesis or report equivalent in format to a journal publication documenting the results of your research.

For full details on the Research Option, visit **www.urop.gatech.edu/research-option**.

The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program is coordinated by the Georgia Tech Center for Academic Enrichment

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