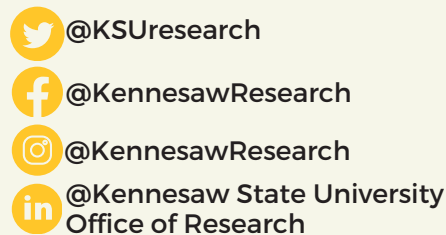


OUR SCOOP

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Contact Us!

Email: our@kennesaw.edu
Office: 5500 Academic Learning Center (ALC)



Funding Opportunities

Event Calendar

OUR Updates

Student Spotlight

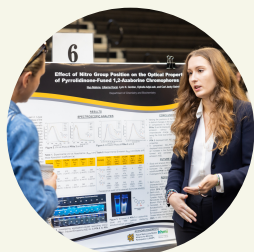
Standout researcher traces research career back to KSU

A Kennesaw State University alumna recently received a National Institute of Health's Director's New Innovator Award for 2023, an award designed to support exceptionally creative scientists with highly innovative research that includes a \$1.3 million grant.

Elizabeth Draganova is an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry at the Emory University School of Medicine. Draganova earned her doctorate degree at Georgia State University and completed her postdoctoral training at Tufts University. Today, she runs her own laboratory at Emory University and is a mother of two children.

Prior to any of that, she was an undergraduate student at KSU.

<https://research.kennesaw.edu/roc/stories/standout-researcher-traces-research-career-KSU.php>



The **Spring Symposium of Student Scholars** dates are set. More details here:

<https://research.kennesaw.edu/our/symposium-student-scholars/spring-edition.php>

Upcoming Deadlines

January 22, 2024: [Undergraduate Research Club](#) General Meeting

February 8, 2024: [Peer Mentor Workshop](#): How to Write an Abstract (Kennesaw Campus & Virtual)

February 14, 2024: [Peer Mentor Workshop](#): Insightful Numbers (Marietta Campus)

February 16, 2024: [Peer Mentor Workshop](#): Insightful Numbers (Kennesaw Campus & Virtual)

February 16, 2024: [First-Year Scholars Program](#): Check-in Session (Kennesaw Campus)

February 19, 2024: [Undergraduate Research Club](#) General Meeting

February 21, 2024: [First-Year Scholars Program](#): Check-in Session (Marietta Campus)

February 23, 2024: [Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award](#) applications due

February 28, 2024: [Peer Mentor Workshop](#): How to Write an Abstract (Marietta Campus)

Student Spotlight

KSU student wins 2024 Computing Research Association's Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award

Tahsin Kazi, a computer science major, recently received the 2024 Computing Research Association's Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award. Each year, CRA celebrates and recognizes undergraduates who demonstrate outstanding potential in an area of computing research through the Undergraduate Research Awards.

Kazi currently works with Dr. Maria Valero as a [First-Year Scholar](#) to gain insights into the influence of physical human factors, like skin color, on AI models for non-invasive IoT devices.

Do you know a student who deserves recognition? [Click here](#) to tell us more!

Talon'ted Undergraduate Researcher

Brenda Villa is an undergraduate student at KSU with a major in elementary education. She hopes to be an elementary teacher following her graduation in 2024.

Villa is currently working with Dr. Paula Guerra, an associate professor of mathematics education, and Betsy Barron, a fellow undergraduate student with the same major, on ways to include culturally relevant lessons in math.

Click here to read more: <https://research.kennesaw.edu/roc/stories/brenda-villa-talonted.php>



Get Involved

Here are some quick ways to get started through the Office of Undergraduate Research:

- **[First-Year Scholars Program](#):** Designed to pair first-year students with faculty mentors who will guide them on research in their disciplines.
- **[Undergraduate Research Club](#):** Any student can join and conduct research as part of an interdisciplinary team.
- **[Current Research Projects](#):** Listing of projects to help undergraduates find faculty who are looking for assistance on their research activities.
- **[Vertically Integrated Projects \(VIP\) Program](#):** Any student can complete a student application to work on a large-scale research project with faculty and other students.

You do not need to have a specific idea in mind when approaching a faculty member to do research. Many students work with faculty members on their research, especially at first. Undergraduate research opportunities are often competitive, so be sure to engage in behaviors that make you stand out from the crowd.

Undergraduate Research Club

The [Undergraduate Research Club \(URC\)](#) is a Registered Student Organization dedicated to promoting undergraduate research and creative activity at KSU.

Here are just a few things you can do as a member of URC:

- Learn more about how to get started in undergraduate research, how to find a mentor, how to publish and present your results, and how to get funding for your project.
- Help sponsor the Symposium of Student Scholars each year.
- Conduct research as part of an interdisciplinary team.

