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## HBCU-UP Research Scholars Program

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP) Scholars at UVI are talented students that benefit from a wide range of academic and financial support. The HBCU-UP Research Scholars Program is very competitive and open to undergraduate students who major in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). Selected participants are matched with UVI faculty conducting research projects in the territory during the academic year. The program encourages scientific growth and increases the depth of knowledge that prepares the students to excel in graduate school or in the scientific workforce.

### Goal

- Increase persistence and retention of STEM majors by increasing academic support and opportunities for students.
- Strengthen the undergraduate STEM curriculum through the development of interdisciplinary studies and research.

### Activities

- Mentoring with faculty on research projects, which seeks to excite students about the scientific process and place their classroom learning in the context of real applications in the field.
- Communication of scientific knowledge through participation in conferences locally, nationally and sometimes internationally. Students present the results of their research to scientists and other students in a professional setting.
- Service learning through peer tutoring or community activities.
- Attending scientific seminars and enrichment workshops

### Success Stories

- Research Scholars have been accepted into STEM graduate programs at Rutgers University, Purdue University, University of Arizona, and others.
- Research scholar Artisha Hector (*pictured on the left with Dr. Camille McKayle*) went on to complete her engineering degree at Columbia University's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences in New York City.
- Research Scholar, Vanessa Malone, won a national award for outstanding oral presentation in Chemistry at the 2008 HBCU-UP Student Research Conference.

To be eligible, students must be US Citizen or permanent resident with a minimum GPA of 3.0. More information is available online at: <http://ecs.uvi.edu>.

### Emerging Caribbean Scientists (ECS) Program

The HBCU-UP Scholars Program is managed through the Emerging Caribbean Scientists (ECS) Program Steering Committee in the College of Science and Mathematics at the University of the Virgin Islands. The mission of the ECS Program is to increase research training and promote excellence for students at UVI.

For more information about research opportunities and experiences for undergraduates at UVI, visit the ECS website at: <http://ecs.uvi.edu>

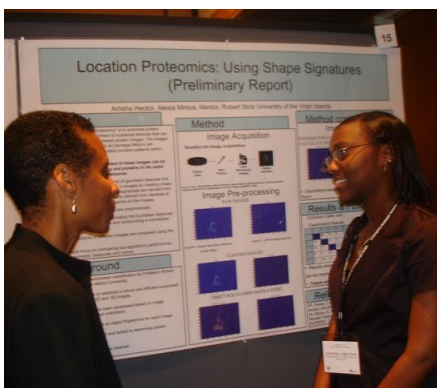
The University of the Virgin Islands' HBCU-UP Research Scholars Program is sponsored by a grant from the National Science Foundation.



### CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Summer Sophomore Research Institute (SSRI)

The **Summer Sophomore Research Institute (SSRI)** is a six week, residential program open to rising sophomores or rising juniors at the University of the Virgin Islands. Undergraduate students majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Engineering, Marine Biology, and Computer Science are encouraged to apply.

Participants in the SSRI program work with faculty on a mini research project to help them gain an introduction the scientific research process. In addition, participants will be exposed to workshops on research methods, performing library research, using computer and internet resources, service learning, and how to present research through poster and oral presentations.

**Each participant will be paid a competitive stipend for their summer work.** All students will be required to present a poster at the UVI Summer Research Symposium. This is a great opportunity to practice their public speaking and presentation skills.



### Goals

- To provide students with an introduction to scientific research methods and procedures
- To build students' confidence in their academic abilities
- To foster skills to work productively and creatively in pursuit of scientific research
- To develop an appreciation for the professional role and the ethical side of being a scientist



### Activities

- Meetings with mentors
- Daily journal entries
- Library and research methods
- Technology integration and computer literacy
- Service learning
- Presentation and public speaking
- Fostering a scientific community by working in groups and living together on campus.

To be eligible, students must be US Citizen or permanent resident with a UVI GPA of 2.0 or above. Additional information and application materials are available online at: <http://ecs.uvi.edu>. Questions? Send an email to [ecs@uvi.edu](mailto:ecs@uvi.edu).

**Note:** Participants are engaged in activities full-time during the six (6) weeks and should not be employed or taking summer classes.

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## Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE)

The **Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE)** is an intensive six to eight week non-residential research program open to UVI students majoring in science, mathematics or engineering. This is an excellent opportunity for students to apply research methods and techniques by working closely with faculty on challenging scientific problems. Participants are selected through a competitive process and matched with faculty members completing research in an area of interest to the student. The length of the research experience varies depending on the level of experience of the student and the needs of the faculty.

**The program sponsors up to 10 students annually every summer and each participant is paid a stipend of \$2,500.** Students will be required to present their work at the UVI Summer Research Symposium at the end of the program.

### Goals

- To encourage students to continue in a STEM major by introducing them to out of classroom experiences in the sciences.
- To create a community of student researchers.
- Increase the number of undergraduate students who are provided interdisciplinary and research experience opportunities

### Activities

- Summer research experience under the supervision of UVI faculty and/or faculty from a partner institution
- Attend scheduled workshops, seminars, and events.
- National Research Conference Attendance—opportunity to attend HBCU-UP National Conference if your research project is selected (all expense paid)

### Accomplishments

Two SURE participants received national research awards at the 2007 HBCU-UP National Conference in Washington, DC.

To be eligible, students must be US Citizen or permanent resident with a UVI GPA of 2.75 or above. Additional information and application materials are available online at: <http://ecs.uvi.edu>.

**Note:** Participants are engaged in activities full-time and should not be employed or taking summer classes.

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