

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Georgia Educational Research Association
Conference

2015 GERA Conference (40th Annual
Conference, Oct. 16-17, 2015)

Oct 17th, 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Undergraduate Research in Georgia Classrooms

Courtney Hartman

Georgia Southern University, ch05706@georgiasouthern.edu

Jessica Davis

Georgia Southern University, jd05152@georgiasouthern.edu

Meredith Eby

Georgia Southern University, me01768@georgiasouthern.edu

Meca Williams-Johnson

mecawilliams@georgiasouthern.edu

Yasar Bodur

Georgia Southern University, ybodur@georgiasouthern.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gera>



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](#).

Recommended Citation

Hartman, Courtney; Davis, Jessica; Eby, Meredith; Williams-Johnson, Meca; and Bodur, Yasar, "Undergraduate Research in Georgia Classrooms" (2015). *Georgia Educational Research Association Conference*. 20.

<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gera/2015/2015/20>

This presentation (open access) is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences & Events at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia Educational Research Association Conference by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

Despite considerable research describing the positive outcomes of including undergraduate students in research inquiry and investigations (Desai, Gatson, Stiles, Stewart, Laine, & Quick, 2008; Narayanan, 1999; Russell, Hancock, & McCullough, 2007), very little action is taken to include education majors in research endeavors. While universities are seeking to find ways to include students earlier and more often in research projects, students' perspectives on conducting their own research is overwhelmingly overlooked. The purpose of this symposium is to introduce undergraduate research in education to GERA and to expose these students to conference presentations.

In recent years, the College of Education at Georgia Southern University has increased the number of students participating in research as well as provided them with solid initial classroom preparation and professional support to produce "highly efficacious" teachers. It is compelling to listen as they present their findings and discuss their experiences while completing their research investigations. By exploring their experiences, we could find trends to better assist in organizing possibilities and recreating opportunities for our future undergraduate students to explore their passions through research. Additionally, opportunities such as these may increase retention towards graduation and further graduate research experiences.