

UCCS: AN EMERGING VERY HIGH RESEARCH INSTITUTION

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

\$13,149,357

in sponsored
program funding*

30.3%

success rate of
submitted proposals*

3.46

peer-reviewed/juried outputs
per tenure/tenure track faculty
each year*

37

Ph.D. and DNP students
graduated each year*

— In 2023, we had nine new faculty inductees into our campus \$1 Million Club for sponsored programs. —

*Three-Year Average

GOAL SETTING

The campus goals are for an annual 10% increase in number of grant submissions, number of faculty-submitted proposals, and number of students engaging in research.

GOAL UPDATES

This past year, we exceeded our 10% goal in most areas with a 16% increase in number of submissions, 7.6% increase in number of faculty submitting, and a 39% increase in students participating in mentored research.

INSPIRING STUDENTS

UCCS plays a unique and pivotal role in exposing students to hands-on research and creative work experience with our faculty experts. Research experience is a high-impact practice that improves retention and graduation and we are proud of the close research apprenticeship model we offer to our UCCS students.

CENTER FOR STUDENT RESEARCH

Established in 2019 as a hub to network, share socially-just resources, and offer activities that build an engaged pathway for diverse student researchers. A robust digital footprint, evidence-based activities, small seed-grants for apprenticeship training, and the annual Mountain Lion Research Day are part of our local strategy. To date, there are 371 student members and 81 faculty affiliates.



URA students are almost
**4X likely to pursue graduate
studies compared to other
UCCS students**



URA students graduate
with a **18% higher GPA (3.81)**
than other undergraduate
UCCS students (3.24)



Students participating in the
URA have a **120% increase in
graduation rates compared to
other UCCS students**

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ACADEMY

The URA was established in 2008 to support student education through research/creative projects directly mentored by faculty. Funds ~15 pairs of students/faculty each year and provides structured summer programming, responsible conduct of research trainings, and community building activities throughout the year. To improve access, there is no GPA requirement to apply, they are awarded on the merits of the project.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT

Kaitlin McAllister, Physics, is an Undergraduate Research Academy member, Goldwater Scholar, and the 2023 Mountain Lion Research Day Top Scholar. Her research, mentored by Dr. Dmytro Bozhko, examines rogue waves and prototyping a magneto-optic magnetometer for use in space. After she graduates in May, Kaitlin will spend the summer working in a magnonics research group at the University of Vienna and then begin a physics Ph.D. program in the fall.



INNOVATIVE FACULTY

UCCS faculty are extraordinary experts in their field who participate in knowledge production and dissemination, and engage in extensive knowledge sharing with students in and outside the classroom. Faculty typically teach 5 courses in the academic year while also maintaining active research programs and engaging in institution building. Our faculty are literally transforming the world with their innovation, discoveries, and creative work.

IMAGINE. WHAT'S NEXT?

The UCCS Office of Research is actively realizing an inclusive research culture, streamlining processes, and reorganizing infrastructure.



EARLY CAREER FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



- Oluwatosin Oluwadare, Computer Science, awarded a highly prestigious National Institutes of Health Maximizing Investigators' Research Award
- Dmytro Bozhko, Physics, awarded a highly prestigious CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation
- Steven Bistricky, Psychology and Lyda Hill Institute for Human Resilience, awarded the prestigious American Psychological Foundation (APF) Walter Katkovsky research grant

FOUR SYNERGISTIC RESEARCH THEMES AT UCCS

Understanding Human Health, Performance, Wellness, and Aging

Cybersecurity, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, and the Space Domain

Diversity, Equity, Just and Inclusive Transformation Research

Understanding the Human Impact on the Environment and Addressing Issues of Economic and Environmental Justice

AN INCLUSIVE RESEARCH CULTURE

The recipient of a prestigious NSF ADVANCE grant, UCCS Project CREST focuses on systemic reform efforts that will change the landscape of UCCS today and for the next generation of scholars with two initiatives:

1. Building a Responsive and Inclusive Research Infrastructure
2. Reshaping Research Policies, Practices, and Evaluation Structures

LOOKING AHEAD

- Adopting evidence-based interventions to enhance sponsored program participation
- Centering the scholarship of engagement through policy, practice, and resources
- Examining research policies to improve inclusion, equity, and transparency
- Launching the newly funded Center for the Study of Evangelicalism

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



- Fall 2023: UCCS hosted artists-in-residency Alessandra Ribeiro and Bianca Lúcia Lopes for their first time in the U.S. celebrating and teaching Jongo, an Afro-Brazilian tradition that involves music, dance and singing
- March 2024: UCCS hosted the GRIT: Resiliency in Action Conference
- April 2024: UCCS hosts the community-wide Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Forum 20th anniversary
- May 2024: UCCS hosts the inaugural Conference for Interdisciplinary Drug and Alcohol Research