Annual Report 2022

Hopkins

Office for

Undergraduate

Research

HOUR's Mission:

Research has been at the heart of Johns Hopkins University since its establishment in 1876 as America's first research university. Today, over 80% of our undergraduates participate in a research experience outside of class during their time at Hopkins.

The **HOUR (Hopkins Office for Undergraduate Research) vision is to make equitable access to impactful co-curricular research opportunities the norm for all Hopkins undergraduates.**

Who We Serve:

Undergraduate Students: HOUR's resources are available to all undergraduates in the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, the Peabody Institute, and the Whiting School of Engineering, across all disciplines, from STEM to the Arts & Humanities. AY22 population: 6064

Mentors: To accomplish our mission, HOUR works with any Hopkins faculty, postdocs, graduate students and key staff in any division, department or center who wish to engage JHU undergraduates in their ongoing research efforts.

What We Provide:

HOUR offers a wide range of resources to students and research mentors across a range of platforms and styles and in multiple modalities. Recourses and services include:

- Tips and training on finding and presenting research (workshops, recordings, web and print)
- Databases and search tools for finding opportunities and funding
- Award programs (funding and mentoring)
- Presentation events and platforms
- Consultation with staff via email, virtual meetings or in person
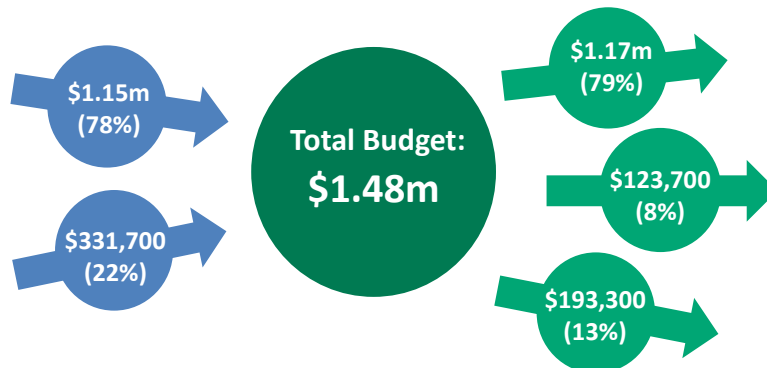
HOUR's AY22 Funding

Funding Sources:

Sponsor/Directed
- **Hodson Trust**
- **DAR Fund**
- **APL CIRCUIT Program**

JHU Administration
- **Provost Discretionary**
- **USS**
- **Sellinger**

$1.15m (78%)

$331,700 (22%)

Total Budget: $1.48m

$1.17m (79%)

$123,700 (8%)

$193,300 (13%)

Distribution:

Directly to Students
- **Research salaries**
- **Program Awards**

Student Expenses
- **Transportation**
- **Events**
- **Engagement Platforms**

HOUR Administration
- **Staff salaries**
- **Office, Other**

Contact

Imagine Center, 113 W. University Pkwy, Baltimore MD 21210

Staff

Tracy Smith, Director of Undergraduate Research
Deborah Buffalin, Research Program Coordinator

From the Director

I'm pleased to provide this overview of the work of the Hopkins Office for Undergraduate Research (HOUR), and our outcomes for students for AY22. This year, addition to continuing to meet our core mission of providing increased and improved resources to JHU undergraduates seeking research opportunities and funding, HOUR had two primary objectives:

1. **Capitalize on Covid-era changes in the university research arena, including types of opportunities available and new expectations for undergraduate engagement:**
   - Counter to many concerns at the start of Covid, pivoting to virtual meetings and research opportunities (such as computational, modeling, literature searches and data analysis) increased both the number and kinds of research opportunities and experiences available to undergraduates.

   - By adapting to Covid-era restrictions, HOUR experienced both increased usage and student satisfaction by offering virtual options and multiple modalities for all resources and services.

2. **Reduce disparities in the rates at which underserved populations take advantage of HOUR's resources and participate in research experiences.** Based on our engagement data, HOUR finds that underserved populations among JHU undergraduates, including FLI, Pell-eligible and URM students, face two key challenges to accessing and benefiting from research experiences:

   1. **Lack of equitable compensation for their time:** Often students must forgo uncompensated research opportunities in order to meet their financial obligations through paid employment.

   2. **Lower participation rates in HOUR's programs and services:** In AY21, URM, FLI and Pell-eligible populations made disproportionately less use of HOUR's resources and programming, and as a result were less likely to access beneficial research opportunities and funding.

These two goals, expanding access and reducing disparities, were considerations in all of our operations, and formed the basis for a number of HOUR initiatives for AY22, including:

- Ensuring that HOUR programs and resources had **both virtual and in-person options** if feasible.
- Increasing **outreach to departments and faculty whose majors are underrepresented** in undergraduate research opportunities.
- Assisting faculty with **pivoting to virtual research opportunities** and with **onboarding undergraduates** onto their teams and projects.
- Implementing **targeted and sustained outreach to URM, FLI and Pell-eligible students** through the JHU offices, programs and student groups dedicated to serving them.
- Ensuring **diverse representation in HOUR's marketing materials** and across social media.

As a result of these concerted efforts we had a 12% increase in resource utilization and participation in HOUR events and programming, and we saw the disparity of program utilization by underserved students drop by more than half from AY21. This report highlights our progress and provides specific outcomes for various engagements and programs.

Tracy Smith
Director of Undergraduate Research

AY22 Engagement Snapshot

In AY22, nearly 70% of KSAS and WSE undergraduate students engaged with HOUR in some way, whether seeking advice via email or meeting with staff, attending a workshop, presenting at an event, using our online collaboration tools, or seeking funding or competitive positions. Below, charts on the right show the percentage representation by target groups at HOUR events and resources, compared with their proportion of the entire undergraduate population.

1123

1123 members of HOUR on HopkinsGroups
- Communication portal for HOUR
- Repository for news and information
- Provides a peer-to-peer support network

Representation of Target Groups in HOUR on CampusGroups

3164

3164 registered undergrad users on ForagerOne engagement platform:
702 engaged faculty
508 actively recruiting
1765 messages sent

Representation of Target Groups among active users of ForagerOne

1000 +

Over 1,000 JHU undergrads attended events hosted or staffed by HOUR, including:
- Orientation and 'getting started' sessions
- JUMP/Hop-in events; LDL Workshops
- Student Involvement and other campus fairs
- Award Info Sessions; Success Coach panels

Representation of Target Groups at events where HOUR is Presenting

162

162 unique students dropped into office hours for specific assistance or general information (many several times, and several many times).

Representation of Target Groups at Office Hours

270

DREAMS Fall 2021 and Spring 2022:
270 JHU undergraduate student presenters
830 visitors (non-presenters) made **6,500** visits
**2.1** hours engaged visitor time on average at each presentation wall

Representation of Target Groups at Presentation Events

134

**134 One-to-One meetings with students**
- Available virtually or in-person
- Meet with Tracy or Deborah
- Scheduled at student's convenience

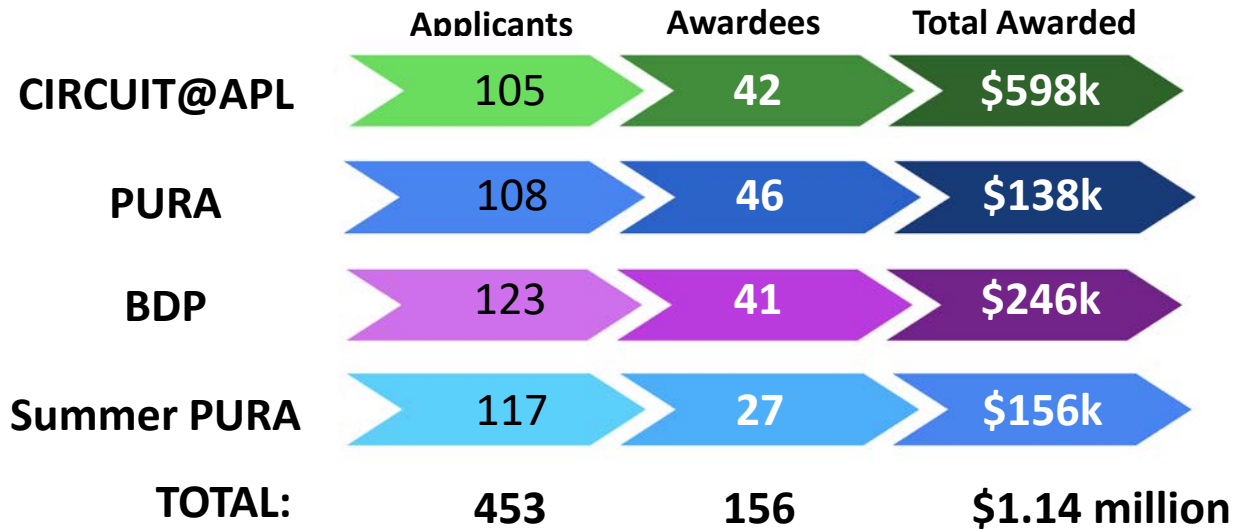Representation of Target Groups in One-to-One Meetings

480

HOUR staff fielded 480 email exchanges
Ranging from 'getting started' to navigating difficult workplaces, or personal problems affecting student well-being and requiring referrals to other campus resources.

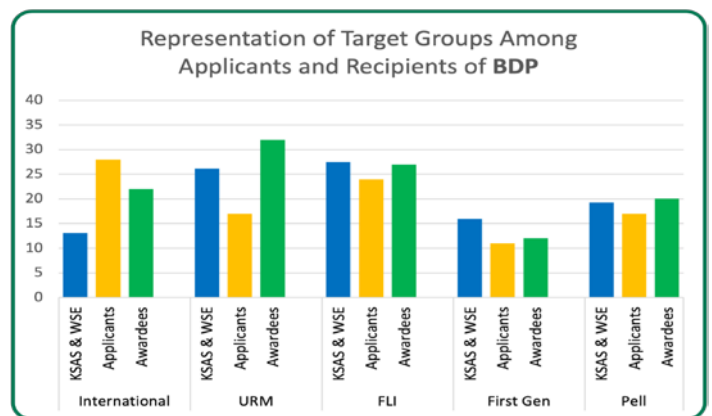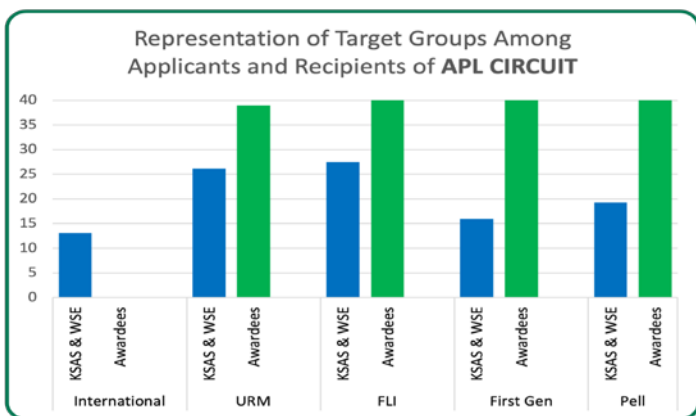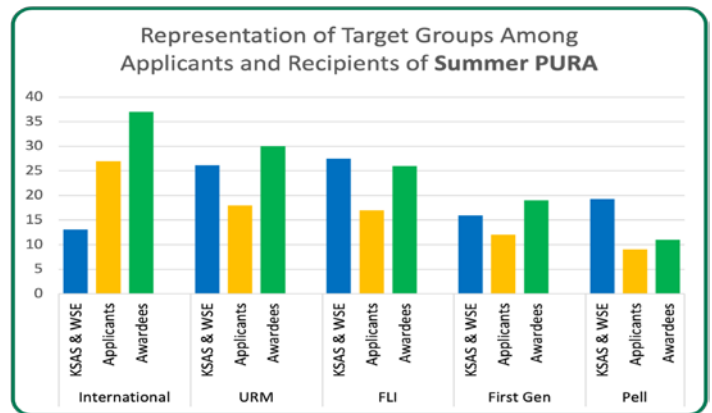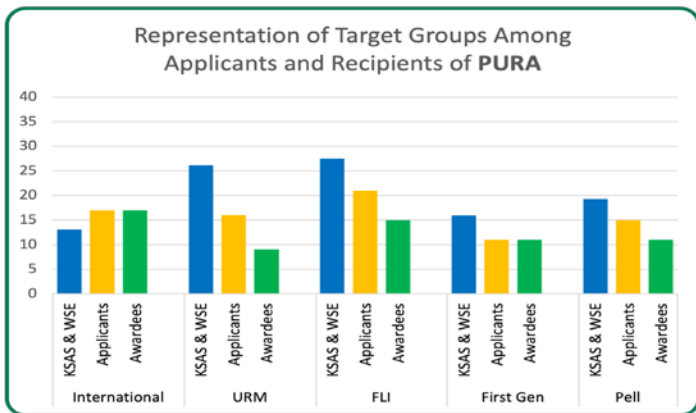Representation of Target Groups in Email Exchanges
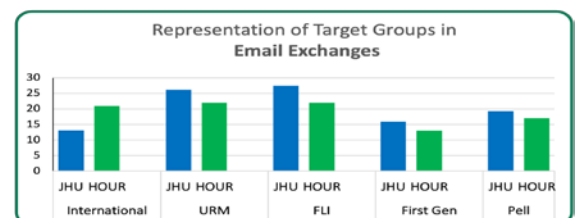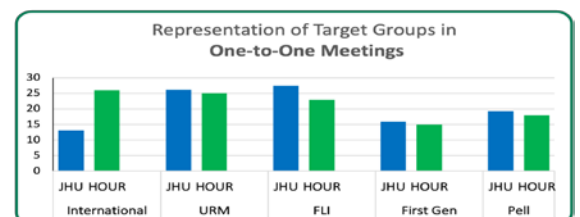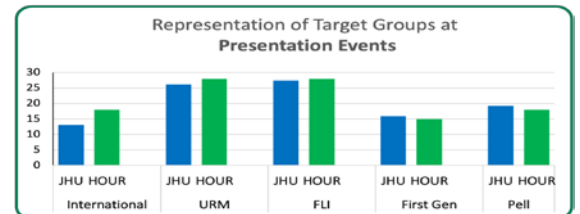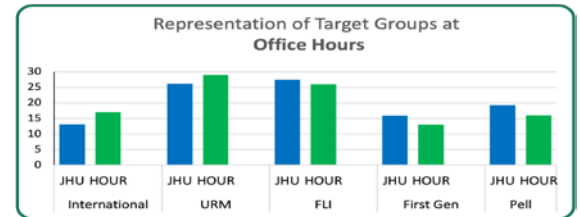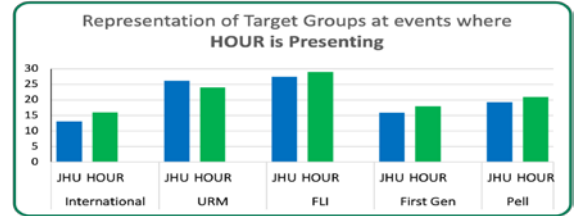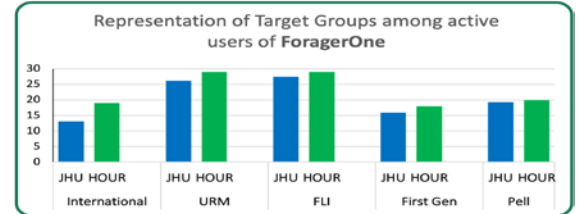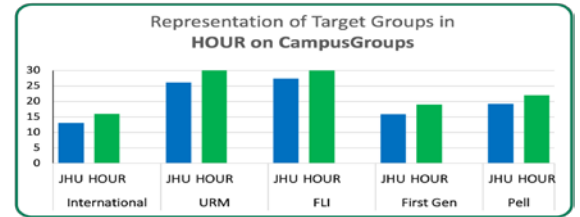
Research Funding and Placements

HOUR administers four annual programs that provide financial awards/stipends (PURA and Summer PURA) and salaried research placements (BDP and CIRCUIT@APL). AY22 program participation increased this year by 45% while funding increased by 90%, due in large part to a new program with our partners at the JHU Applied Physics Lab.

|	Applicants	Awardees	Total Awarded
CIRCUIT@APL	105	42	$598k
PURA	108	46	$138k
BDP	123	41	$246k
Summer PURA	117	27	$156k
TOTAL:	**453**	**156**	**$1.14 million**

Ensuring Equitable Access to Funding

Effective outreach and mentoring of applicants ensured that target underserved populations were more proportionately represented among awardees of research funding and opportunities through HOUR's funded programs than in past years:

Representation of Target Groups Among Applicants and Recipients of **PURA**

Representation of Target Groups Among Applicants and Recipients of **Summer PURA**

Representation of Target Groups Among Applicants and Recipients of **APL CIRCUIT**

Representation of Target Groups Among Applicants and Recipients of **BDP**

AY22 Outcomes and AY23 Goals

Major accomplishments in AY22

1. **Increased engagement with target groups (URM, FLI, and Pell-eligible students) while maintaining parity for divisional and gender representation among undergraduates across KSAS and WSE. For AY22, target group representation across all HOUR resources and programming increased over 50% compared to AY21.**
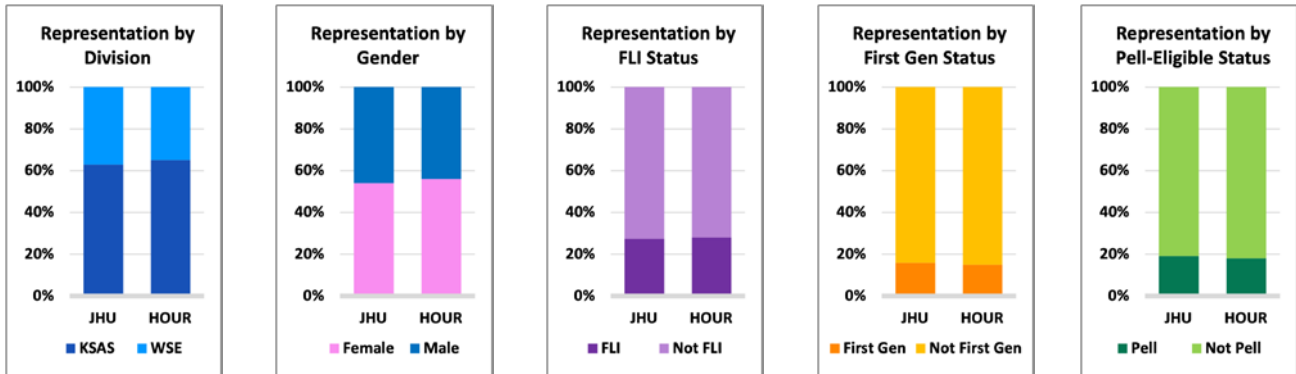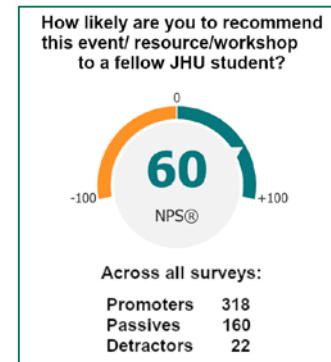

2. **Students consistently report high level of benefit from and satisfaction with HOUR's resources, programming and interactions with staff.**

Students self report gained knowledge and confidence after workshops:

Students report high satisfaction in aggregate:

3. **Equitable funding and award distribution: Working with our campus partners, we pioneered and codified the use of a 'fellowship' wage type to disburse funding to undergraduate researchers that ensures:**
   - Universal workflow for all recipients
   - Nearly identical (equitable) funding results for recipients
   - Minimal tax burden for students
   - Conforms with university best practices in JHU Payroll, Accounts Payable, Comptroller and Tax offices

Goals for AY23

Based on our findings from AY22, HOUR will focus on two key areas for AY23:
1. Update (or replace) our key search platform, ForagerOne, to ensure information is current and accurate, and;
2. Develop and promote a set of resources and programming for mentors, to improve the mentor experience.