

Dr. John E. Hall was the keynote speaker at the 2017 WV-INBRE Summer Research Symposium

Undergraduate college students, the majority from West Virginia, showcased their summer research projects at Marshall University on July 27th as part of the 16th Annual West Virginia IDeA Network for Biomedical Research (WV-INBRE) Summer Research Symposium. During the 2017 Summer



Program, WV-INBRE supported twenty-eight undergraduate Interns, two Faculty Fellow, and five High School Science Teachers from the West Virginia HSTA program. Seventeen Interns and one Faculty Fellow carried out their research at West Virginia University. Eleven Interns and one Faculty Fellow conducted their research at Marshall University. The High School Science Teachers conducted their research at West Liberty University, Marshall University and Bluefield State College.



The research projects presented at the symposium were conducted under the direction of faculty mentors during an intensive 9-week period. The projects included studies on the treatment of cancer and depression, endometriosis, genetics of obesity and type 2 diabetes, nicotine and opioid addiction, and the pathophysiology and treatment of infectious diseases among others.

WV-INBRE, which is designed to support biomedical research in the state, is funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to Marshall University, in cooperation with West Virginia University and fourteen other colleges and universities in the state. The summer program allows students enrolled in the Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs) in the WV-INBRE network research opportunities in labs at both Marshall University and West Virginia University. In addition to the formal research training they receive, students attend workshops and seminars aimed at helping them

understand the research process and graduate education.

The morning session of the symposium began with oral presentations by:

Amanda Stewart, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, Bethany College; Summer Research Program Fellow.

Jeffery Johnson, High School Science Teacher at Mount View High School in Welch, WV; WV-INBRE/HSTA Summer Research Fellow.

Josiah Bosley, Kristen Haggerty, Kristiana Sklioutovskaya-Lopez, and Grace Montgomery; Summer Research Program Interns.

This year's summer research symposium featured keynote speaker was John E. Hall, PhD, Arthur C. Guyton, Professor & Chair of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, and Director of the Mississippi Center for Obesity Research at The University of Mississippi Medical Center. His presentation was entitled: "Mechanisms of hypertension in obesity/metabolic syndrome: a growing challenge to our health care system (... and a journey from West Virginia to Mississippi)".



Following a luncheon, the symposium continued with poster presentations by students and faculty. There were a total of 82 posters. Participants presenting posters included: summer undergraduate interns and faculty fellows from the Primarily

Undergraduate Institutions who conducted research at West Virginia University and Marshall University during the 9-week summer research program, and students and faculty conducting research at their home institutions. The high school science teachers supported by the WV-INBRE/HSTA initiative also presented posters.