

FYRES Research Mentors 2020-2021

The FYRES Research Mentors for 2020-2021 are five excellent students in the Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies department.



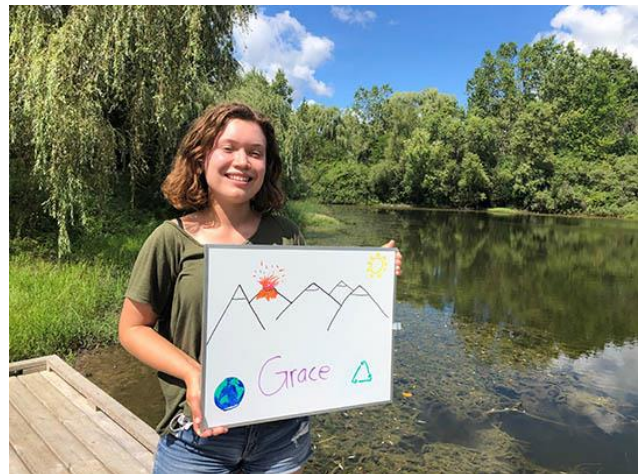
Claire Schotanus

Claire Schotanus is a senior studying Geography with a minor in Accounting. She is most recently from Versailles, Kentucky but loves to call West Michigan home. Claire's research experience includes GIS research projects that studied tornado siren locations in Kent County and tornado path data from 2018. Claire is excited to mentor students and work with them in an outdoor research experience. After graduating, Claire hopes to work in outdoor/environmental education while still exploring other options. When she is not

studying, some of her favorite activities include reading, crocheting, playing ukulele, and water skiing.

Grace Prom

Grace Prom is a sophomore double majoring in Environmental Studies with a political science focus and Spanish with a minor in Geography. She's from Champaign, Illinois and can tell you anything you want to know about corn. Grace was a FYRES student her freshman year during which she studied the effects of sand fences on three West Michigan Dunes. Grace is still determining her career interests, but she is considering working in city planning or for an environmental nonprofit. When not studying or working you will likely find Grace reading, knitting, gardening, or outdoors.





Jill Herlinger

Jill Herlinger is a sophomore from Saukville, Wisconsin (just north of Milwaukee) majoring in Geology with a minor in Geography. She spent this past summer researching factors that contribute to bluff stability using Ground Penetrating Radar. Some of her main interests in Geology include Glaciology and Planetary Geology. Though she spent some time on the dunes this summer, she looks forward to

learning more thoroughly about dunes this semester along with the FYRES students. In her free time, Jill enjoys art, music, video games, hiking, and vegetarian cooking.

Natalie Vredevoogd

Natalie Vredevoogd is a Geography and Film Production double major with a minor in Spanish. She has had two student research positions at Calvin: one of them involved using GIS and extensive database building to work towards creating an online biblical atlas, and the other was creating a series of 2D animated videos that are a part of online lesson modules that teach elementary school kids about GIS and Geography. When Natalie has free time, she enjoys a variety of hobbies including watching classic movies, gardening, hiking, playing harmonica, and reading.



Peter Duimstra



Peter Duimstra is a Senior majoring in Geography and minoring in Environmental Studies. He is native to Appleton Wisconsin and will gladly regale you with tales of his small-town life and world travel. This is Peter's fourth year with the FYRES program. His passion for research has led him to work at the Ecosystem Preserve and to research Michigan dunes with Professor Higley. After graduation, Peter is considering pursuing a higher degree to continue academic work. If that doesn't work out, his dream job is to work for NASA or the Department of the Interior. While not at work, Peter enjoys recreating

outside, photography, reading, gaming, memes, art and flying his drone.