Lovett & Banta Receive Research Grants

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity (URSA) has awarded research grants in the amount of $400 each to Renn Lovett and Michael Banta. These grants are intended to support undergraduate students conducting research by aiding in the acquisition of necessary equipment and supplies in order to complete their project.

Lovett is a sophomore nursing major in the School of Nursing and Health Professions. His project is entitled, “The Role of Testosterone Propionate and Estradiol on the Development and Inhibition of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia in Rats.” His project analyzes changes at a cellular level in rat prostates that have hormonal induced hyperplasia. This will be conducted via histology techniques, which will entail waxing, sectioning and staining tissues. Lovett is a native of Germantown, Tennessee.

Banta is a junior accounting major in the Arthur J. Bauernfeind College of Business. His project is entitled, “Morphology Change of Sprague Dawley Outbred Rats Undergoing BPH.” The project involves morphology changes of nature cells only. He will use a hemocytometer to compare the experimental group to the control group in regards to hyperplasia. Banta is a native of Crestwood, Kentucky.

Both Lovett & Banta plan to present their findings at Murray State University’s Scholar’s Week, which will be held April 13-17, 2015. They also anticipate submitting the results of their research to a scientific journal to be considered for publication.

Suguru Nakamura, associate professor in the Jesse D. Jones College of Science, Engineering and Technology, is serving as the faculty mentor for both projects.

More information about the URSA program can be found online at http://campus.murraystate.edu/services/ursa/ or by calling (270) 809-3192.