



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Farney Receives \$325 Undergraduate Research Grant**

Michelle Farney was recently awarded a \$325 grant from the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity (URSA) for her proposal entitled "Mock Juror Simulation."

Farney, a senior psychology major from Evansville, Ind., is researching the effect victim impact statements have on the sentences jurors hand down in capital murder cases.

Dr. Paula Waddill, Professor of Psychology, will serve as Farney's faculty mentor on the project. "Michelle is a well-organized and motivated student with a strong interest in the topic of her research project. I have every confidence in her ability to successfully carry out her project," Waddill said of Farney.

Farney plans to present her findings at MSU's *Scholars Week*, which will take place April 20-24, 2009 and several professional conferences. In addition, Farney plans to seek publication in *Psi Chi*, which is published by the national psychology honorary association, or *Chrysalis: The Murray State University Journal of Undergraduate Research*.

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