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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — June 6, 2022**

**Simon's Rock Student Awarded Massachusetts Space Grant Fellowship**

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA — Senior Tyler Farnsworth was awarded a [Massachusetts Space Grant Fellowship](#) to conduct research with [Assistant Professor in Biology Amy Smith](#) this summer at Simon's Rock, which puts Simon's Rock on the roster of the Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium (MASGC), an affiliate of NASA and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), along with 18 fellow Massachusetts institutions including Harvard University, Northeastern University, Williams College, Boston University, Tufts University, UMASS Amherst, and more. Simon's Rock is the first early college to be included on the roster.

Student researcher Tyler Farnsworth will partner with Smith remotely from his hometown of Stow, MA on developing a project and analyzing their findings throughout the summer. The program Farnsworth and Smith will be using to analyze their data is computer-based and completely online. The grant will support Farnsworth for 30 hours a week for 10 weeks to conduct this research along with Smith. Although they are in the beginning stages of developing their project, Farnsworth has already completed his first semester of senior thesis, which is focused on the origin of eukaryotic life and cell biology. He anticipates that this summer's research will further support his thesis next year at Simon's Rock.

At the conclusion of the summer's research, Smith and Farnsworth will submit a final report of their research findings to NASA.

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