

California State University, San Bernardino
Office of Student Research

Spring 2020



NEWSLETTER

Issue 04

Office of Student Research

NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME



Dear Campus Community,

As we conclude the 2019-2020 academic year, the Office of Student Research (OSR) would like to congratulate all of the students, faculty, and staff at CSUSB on another productive and successful year. We are grateful for your support of our office, and the students and faculty we serve. This has been an exceptional year and time for our campus, community, and country. However, the stories that are forever impressed upon me are those that exhibit resilience, strength, courage, and community. Over the last year, we were able to award over 120 grants to support the research and creative

activities of our undergraduate and graduate students, and more than 200 students presented their work at our virtual 9th annual 'Meeting of the Minds' Student Research Symposium. To me, this speaks to the level of dedication and commitment that you all have to your work, your peers and mentors, and this campus

In this issue of the OSR newsletter, I am excited to share with you just a few of the many recent accomplishments of our student researchers. Our newsletter highlights three exceptional students who have been active in research activities and are graduating this Spring: Elizabeth Rahmani (p.2), Ginny Park (p.3), and Ciera Hammond (p.7). In addition, this past year twelve students represented our campus at the system-wide CSU Student Research Competition at California State University, East Bay (p.9), an event which promotes excellence in scholarly research and creative activity and outstanding student accomplishments. You will also find the names of this year's grant recipients (p.13), the Undergraduate Summer Research Program participants (p. 16), as well as our graduating 'Yotes who were accepted to doctoral programs (p. 14). Congratulations to all!

In closing, I would like to thank you for your enthusiastic support of the OSR, particularly during these trying times—our success would not be possible without the exceptional students and faculty here at CSUSB. Please be on the lookout for next year's funding opportunities, programs, and events, and if you are not familiar with our services, I invite you to visit our webpage. I hope you have a restful and productive summer. We look forward to continuing to support your educational and professional goals.

Sincerely,
Dr. Christina Hassija
Director, Office of Student Research

Office of Student Research

Outstanding Graduate Student Researcher Award

Each year, the OSR recognizes undergraduate and graduate students who have shown exemplary scholastic and research achievements in their field. Faculty from each college nominate their top students, and the OSR Awards Committee select the award winners.

This year, the OSR acknowledged the outstanding undergraduate and graduate student during our annual "Research Week." Each student was awarded \$500 and also given the opportunity to present their research during the "Meeting of the Minds" and the Faculty Mentors and Student Researchers Recognition Luncheon.



Elizabeth Rahmani, a graduate student in the Masters in Clinical/Counseling Psychology (MSCC) program, with an interest in the underlying neurological causes of mental illness, was recognized as this year's Outstanding Graduate Student Research Awardee. She received her BA in psychology from California State University, Long Beach and immediately started in the MSCC program at CSUSB in Fall 2018.

Elizabeth has conducted research with her mentor, Dr. Jacob Jones, on Parkinson's Disease, mood disorders, and cognitive impairment, and she has co-authored and published two articles on cognitive functioning in individuals with Parkinson's Disease. One of these articles describes findings from an investigation that examined how depressive symptoms precede cognitive impairment, and the other describes a study that focused on understanding how gastrointestinal symptoms predict trajectories of cognitive functioning. She has also presented research that focused on physical activity, cognition, and mood symptoms in individuals with Parkinson's Disease at the CSUSB and CSU Student Research Competitions and this year's Meeting of the Minds.

Elizabeth is currently working on her thesis with Dr. Jacob Jones, titled *The Mediating Role of Physical Activity on the Relationship between Depressive Symptoms and Cognitive Functioning in Individuals with Parkinson's Disease*. In addition, after graduation, she will work as a marriage and family therapist while applying to PhD programs in Clinical Psychology. Her long term goals are to become a Clinical Psychologist and conduct research while also working as a clinician to provide mental health services to the populations she hopes to study, gain a first-hand understanding of what might be improved in the mental health field through research, and to become a professor of psychology.



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Outstanding Undergraduate Student Researcher Award

Ginny Park, a graduating undergraduate student in the Psychology department, was selected as this year's Outstanding Undergraduate Student Research Awardee. Ginny is a first generation, Korean-American transfer student and a member of Dr. Sanders McDougall's Psychopharmacology, and Dr. Cynthia Crawford's Neuropsychopharmacology, laboratories.

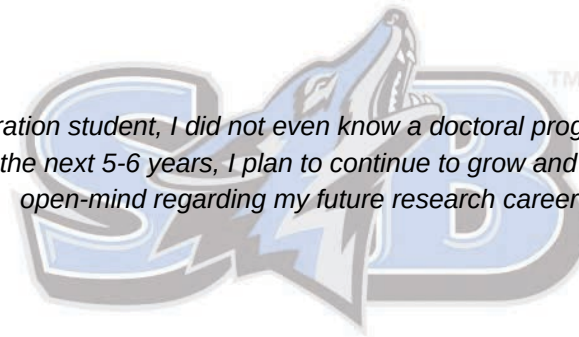


In Dr. McDougall's laboratory, Ginny investigated the behavioral effects of ketamine between sexes and across ontogeny, and the half-life of ketamine. In Dr. Crawford's laboratory, she investigated fentanyl, and the behavioral effects after neonatal exposure to fentanyl.

Ginny has co-authored four articles in peer-reviewed journals, completed a competitive summer research internship, and was selected to be an Amgen Scholar. She was a student in the NIH-MARC program (now known as the U-Rise Program) and was part of the 2019-2020 Psychology Honors Program. Ginny has presented at national and local conferences, such as Society for Neuroscience and the CSUSB and CSU Student Research Competitions. She was part of the first cohort of Coyote Research Ambassadors (CRAs), the President of the Coyote Scholars Club, and a supplemental Peer Leader for five quarters

Ginny has been accepted to Washington State University, where she will pursue a Ph.D. in Neuroscience and continue her research in the field of addiction in Fall 2020.

"As a first-generation student, I did not even know a doctoral program was an option for me. In the next 5-6 years, I plan to continue to grow and learn with an open-mind regarding my future research career."



Office of Student Research

Research Week, "Meeting of the Minds"

Meeting of the Minds is an annual event meant to showcase and celebrate the results of our students' hard work, and highlight the outstanding research and creative activities taking place on our campus. This event is an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the innovation and creativity that undergraduate and graduate students bring to their research, and a place to share their discoveries with others.

Due to the exceptional circumstances of this year, the symposium was converted into a virtual format. Students and faculty mentors had to rapidly adapt to a constantly changing academic environment and world in order to continue on with their research, scholarly, and creative activities. Many students had to modify their projects and presentations, analyze their data and meet with their mentor virtually, and make other adaptations to ensure their participation in this event. A total 217 students presented their research and projects from across all disciplines and 30 awards were presented for the best oral and poster presentations.

The staff of the OSR would like to extend its sincere gratitude to the faculty mentors and volunteers who consistently support their students and the activities of our office. Our continued growth and success would not be possible without your passion, generosity, and commitment to the students of CSUSB.

Best Poster Presenters

Graduate

Brandon Oliver
Christopher NeVille
Lakhvir Kaur
Shane Burrell

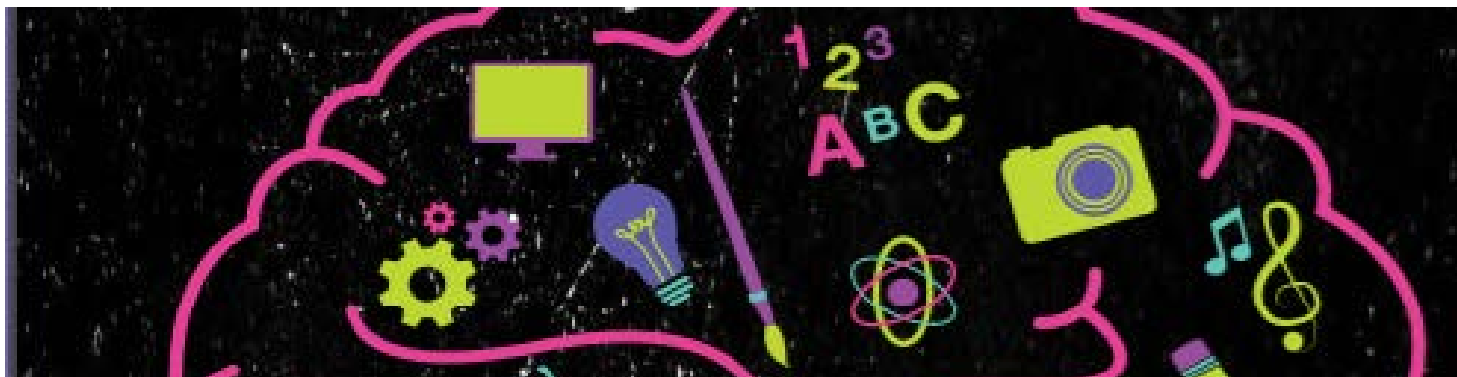
Undergraduate

Abhilasha Chavaly
Brandon Dominguez
Emmet Pompa
McKenna Burdette

Best Oral Presenters

Aaron Keniston
Adriel Chavez-Sherman
Amber Olson
Angelica Ambrossi
Ashley Bennett
Charles Kinzel
Elsy Cruz
Emily-Anne del Rosario
Hector Pimienta
Jasmine Colorado
Joezer Nolasco

Mellisa Duchesne
Nicolas Elia
Nikolay Maslov
Nolan Mackey
Patricia Rivera
Prince Siraj
Rachel Reyes
Stephanie Nunez-Rivera
Teanna Keith-Fink
Victoria Cornish
Yesenia Casas



Office of Student Research

Coyote Research Ambassadors



Left to right: Karina Torres, Sophia Josemoan, Nzaret Montejano, Lakhvir Kaur, Ginny Park, Melody Robinson, and Ciera Hammond.

At the beginning of the academic year the OSR initiated the Coyote Research Ambassadors Program (CRA). The CRA program is made up of a diverse group of 7 exceptional students with experience in research and creative activities. Ambassadors work to inspire broader engagement in research and creative activity by educating and serving the CSUSB campus community. Since its launch, CRAs have reached over 1000 students and faculty across all colleges through their attendance of campus-wide events, such as the New Student Orientation and the CSUSB Student Research Competition, advising of students looking to get involved in research, class presentations about their research journey, and development and participation in OSR workshops.

We would like to recognize and thank the first cohort of CRAs: Ciera, Ginny, Karina, Lakhvir, Melody, Nazaret, and Sophia for their work and efforts to make this program a success, and congratulate Ciera and Ginny on their acceptance into prestigious Ph.D. programs. As we prepare to enter into the second year of the program, we are excited to welcome our new and returning CRAs!

Graduating CRAs

Student Name: Ciera Hammond
Institution: University of Michigan

Student Name: Ginny Park
Institution: Washington State University

New CRAs

Student Name: Constance Greenwood
College: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Student Name: Holly Timblin
College: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Student Name: Michael Pierce
College: Natural Sciences

Student Name: Miles Valencia
College: Natural Sciences

Student Name: Sean Bonilla
College: Natural Sciences

Returning CRAs

Student Name: Lakhvir Kaur
College: Education

Student Name: Nazaret Montejano
College: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Student Name: Karina Torres
College: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Student Name: Sophia Josemoan
College: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Request a CRA Presentation

Available for class/Zoom presentations, workshops, etc. We offer a variety of topics, including steps to getting involved in research, finding a faculty mentor, and more.

Email us today!
osr@csusb.edu

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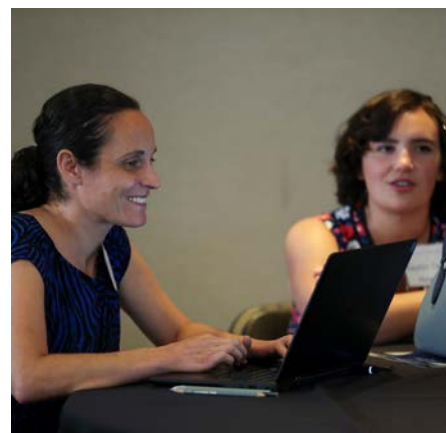
Faculty Mentors

CSUSB faculty have continuously shown their commitment to their students in numerous ways. Thank you to the mentors who have continued to guide their students' curiosity throughout these trying times.

Dr. Ahlam Muhtaseb
Dr. Amanda Rymal
Dr. Amy Van Schagen
Dr. Andreas Beyersdorf
Dr. Angela Horner
Dr. Angela Penaredondo
Dr. Becky Talyn
Dr. Benjamin Becerra
Dr. Brett Stanley
Dr. Britt Leatham
Dr. Chad Luck
Dr. Christina Hassija
Dr. Codi Lazar
Dr. Cynthia Crawford
Dr. Daniel Nickerson
Dr. David Chavez
Dr. David Marshall
Dr. David Rhoads
Dr. Deirdre Lanesskog
Dr. Dennis Amodeo
Dr. Donna Garcia
Dr. Edwin Hernandez
Dr. Erik Melchiorre
Dr. Eugene Wong
Dr. Fadi Muheidat
Dr. Herbert Shon
Dr. Hideya Koshino
Dr. Isabel Alonso
Dr. Ismael Diaz
Dr. Jacob Jones
Dr. James Ferrari
Dr. James Noblet
Dr. Janet Kottke
Dr. Jason Burke
Dr. Jason Reimer
Dr. Jeremy Mallari
Dr. Joan Fryxell

Dr. John Clapper
Dr. Jose Munoz
Dr. Julie Taylor
Dr. Cassandra Harding
Dr. Kate Liszka
Dr. Kathleen Nadeau
Dr. Kelly Campbell
Dr. Kerry Cato
Dr. Kevin Grisham
Dr. Kimberley Cousins
Dr. Krystal Rawls
Dr. Laura Newcomb
Dr. Leslie Amodeo
Dr. Liliana Conlisk-Gallegos
Dr. Manijeh Badiie
Dr. Marc Fudge
Dr. Maria Santos
Dr. Mark Agars
Dr. Matthew Poole
Dr. Meredith Conroy
Dr. Michael Lewin
Dr. Mihaela Popescu
Dr. Min-Lin Lo
Dr. Monideepa Becerra
Dr. Nancy Acevedo-Gil
Dr. Neal Malik
Dr. Nicole Bournias-Vardiabasis
Dr. Nicole Dabbs
Dr. Paloma Villegas
Dr. Paul Orwin
Dr. R. Brett Nelson
Dr. Richard Addante
Dr. Rod Metts
Dr. Roderick O'handley
Dr. Ryan Keating
Dr. Salome Mshigeni

Dr. Sanders McDougall
Dr. Sang Ouk Wee
Dr. Sara Callori
Dr. Stacy Forcino
Dr. Timothy Usher
Dr. Tomasz Owerkowicz
Dr. Vipin Gupta
Dr. Wagner Do Prado
Dr. Wesley Niewoehner
Dr. William Stevenson
Dr. Winifred Scott
Dr. Zhaojing Chen



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Coyote Spotlight: Ciera Hammond



1 Tell us about yourself! Where did you grow up? What influenced you to pursue your field of study?

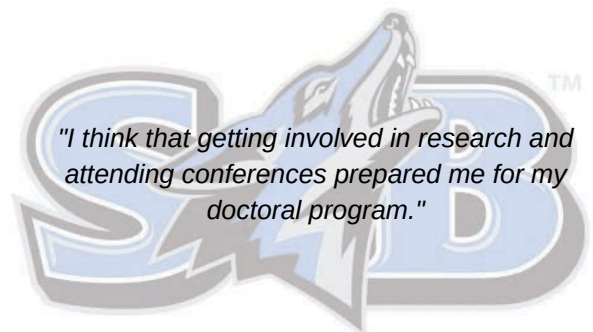
Growing up in a family of teachers, education was always a priority in my family. From a young age I was taught to be curious, and investigate the world around me. Every night when we sat down for dinner, my parents would ask my sister and I what we learned at school that day. My dad was a political science major in college, and our conversations at the dinner table always seemed to gravitate towards topics related to history and government. I remember begging my parents to let me stay up and watch the presidential debates back in 2008. When applying to college it seemed natural to declare my major as political science.

2 Tell us about your research interests & involvement in research at CSUSB.

My research interests in political science are centered around attitude formation and motivation, especially in the context of mass behavior, and their effects on the electoral process. Whether it be in my undergraduate coursework or research with my professors, I am drawn to concepts and theories in political psychology and political communication to understand these political phenomena. As I began working on my own research, my interest in political psychology and political

communication grew, and I started asking questions pertaining to attitudinal formation and elections: How are attitudes formed, how do these attitudes affect behavior, and how do individual-level responses to political stimuli, like media and information, affect mass behavior that ultimately influences the electoral process?

I am very involved in research at CSUSB. I have two of my own projects that I am currently working on. I presented my work on gender personality and support for progressive policies at Ohio State's Graduate Immersion Conference in September 2019. I presented my work on political efficacy and youth voter turnout at the University of Michigan's Emerging Scholars Conference in October of 2018. In 2018 I was a recipient of the National Collegiate Honors Council's Portz Interdisciplinary Fellowship Award, which funded my research on political efficacy and youth voter turnout for 18 months. I have also worked as a research assistant on many projects with my advisor, Dr. Meredith Conroy. Additionally, I have presented at the CSUSB Research Competition, the CSU Research Competition, and Meeting of the Minds Research Symposium.



Office of Student Research

Coyote Spotlight: Ciera Hammond

3 What do you think best prepared you to apply & be admitted to a doctoral program?

I think that getting involved in research and attending conferences prepared me for my doctoral program. Understanding how to be curious in an intellectual sense is very important, as is understanding how to conduct research. Furthermore, attending conferences allows you to connect with current graduate students and faculty who can provide insight as to what to expect in graduate school. Essentially, it gives you a glimpse into what the next five or six years of your life could look like.

4 Where will you be pursuing your Ph.D.? Tell us about your future plans in your doctoral program.

I will be pursuing my Ph.D. in political science at University of Michigan, beginning in the fall. I am very excited to embark on my graduate school journey, as I know that CSUSB has prepared me for this next step in my academic career.

5 What do you plan to do after you obtain your Ph.D.?

After obtaining my Ph.D., I plan to become a professor of Political Science.

6 What advice do you have for students who are interested in pursuing doctoral studies?

I would tell any students who are interested in pursuing doctoral studies to get involved in research as soon as possible! I know that it can be intimidating at first, but it is so important. Know that you will never be absolutely ready to get involved in research, and that's okay! The Office of Student Research and your faculty mentor are there to support you along the way.



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Student Research Competition

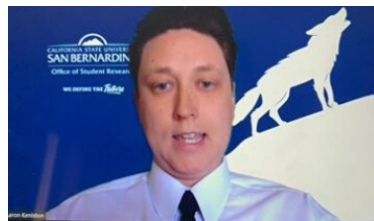
Congratulations to the eleven delegates who represented CSUSB virtually at the 34th Annual CSU Student Research Competition hosted by California State University, East Bay in April 2020!

The OSR would like to acknowledge the efforts of these impressive students and their faculty mentors who represented our University in an outstanding manner, particularly given the exceptional circumstances cast upon them due to COVID-19 disruptions. The competition took place virtually and delegates were asked to submit a video recording of their presentation and participate in a live 5 minute Q&A with judges from a variety of disciplines.

CSUSB had 9 teams, comprised of eleven delegates, and three delegates won in their categories. Way to go, Yotes!

CSUSB Team Delegates

Aaron Keniston
Edward Zakher
Elizabeth Rahmani
Fernando Sanchez
Holly Timblin
Joanna Moreno
Matthew Atherton
Melissa Taha
Natassja Martin
Nikolay Maslov
Shane Burrell
Sonia Perez-Gamboa



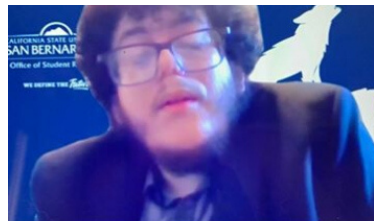
A. Keniston



N. Maslov



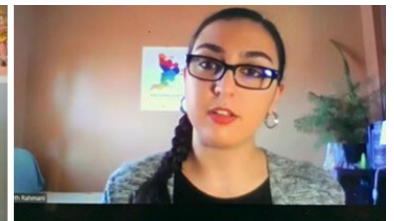
M. Taha



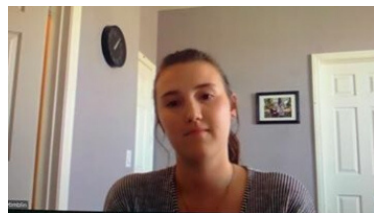
E. Zakher



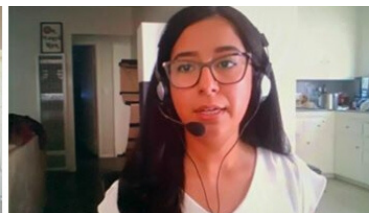
F. Sanchez



E. Rahmani



H. Timblin



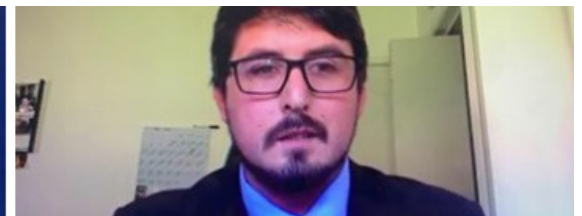
J. Moreno



N. Martin



M. Atherton



S. Burrell

Office of Student Research

Student Research Competition Winners

Congratulations to the three delegates who won 2nd place in their categories at the 34th Annual CSU Student Research Competition hosted by California State University, East Bay in April!



Name(s): Edward Zakher
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Rishabh Kumar
Major: Political Economy
Project Title: *A Reason to Move; a State-Wide Story*
Level: Undergraduate
Category: Business, Economics, and Public Administration

Towards the end of this past summer, I took a leap of faith and asked Dr. Rishabh Kumar if he could oversee a research project that I had begun to imagine. Now, when he said yes, I was overjoyed. But, there was a catch. I had to enter the CSUSB Student Research Competition. That meant I had approximately one quarter to formulate an entire research project and Dr. Kumar put me on an incredibly tight schedule. Finding out what I wanted to research, creating the data set, running regressions, and forming conclusions, was very intense, but at the same time it was some of the most fun I have ever had at CSUSB. I am incredibly happy I took a change and asked Dr. Kumar to support my research project.

1. Tell us about yourself! Where did you grow up? What influenced you to pursue your field of study?

My name is Edward Zakher, an Economics student at Cal State San Bernardino. I was born and raised in Southern California as the son of two Egyptian immigrants. The influences that pertained to my pursuit in economics came from philosophy. I was an avid reader growing, but I cared more about investigating why certain aspects of life were the way that they were. In high school, after taking AP economics, I was able to bridge many of the same concepts and learned of a field called political economics, which I believe could answer the questions I yearned for.

2. Tell about your research interests and involvement in research at CSUSB?

Introverted as I am, my involvement with CSUSB to conduct research is actually rather recent. I never quite felt I truly experienced what it meant to be a scholar and craved the idea of finding a project that I could nurture for years to come.

3. Tell us about your experience serving as a delegate and participating in the CSU Student Research Competition.

Serving as a delegate was not how I imagined it would be, because I was expecting many more in person activities. Sadly, because of the COVID crisis, it had to be moved online. Thankfully, I still got the main take away I probably needed the most- how to properly address research without boring a crowd. For that, I thank Dr. Ryan Keating for his service in giving me pointers for the final round. To be honest, I had a lot of fun going into a type of exciting character when I presented and though I was nervous during the Q and A session of the competition, the other delegates were incredibly kind and supportive. I was so used to talking about research and just getting glazed eyes from friends and family due to a

Office of Student Research

Student Research Competition Winners

difference of interests in fields, but in between the sessions all of us delegates were just talking about what we want to, what led to our pursuits in the field, etc., and to me, getting put into that type of nurturing environment meant a lot, and I would highly recommend that students compete to represent CSUSB as delegate just for that experience.

4. What advice do you have for students who plan to compete in next year's competition?

I advise students to start early and to never feel discouraged. If I proved anything, it is that even one quarter of research can get you far, but it takes a lot of hard work, and dedication and, sometimes, hours of what can seem the most tedious of work. But it is all worthwhile! Sometimes, when you see how long other competitors have worked on their research, it can feel discouraging. But, my recommendation is to not worry about it, even if someone has worked on their research for many years. This competition is more about your potential, what new ideas you bring to the table, and your ability to present the information you have obtained thus far. Sometimes you may even have doubts if you should even go up on stage, but, as Wayne Gretzky once said, "you miss 100% of the shots you never take." If the human experience involves being the best you that you can be, then even if you think your ideas will not be considered, your research is not enough, or that a faculty will not sponsor you, always give it a shot! You owe it yourself to pursue new experiences and I can ensure you that the CSUSB faculty and students will be very supportive, even if you are competing against them.



Name(s): Nikolay Maslov

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jeremy Mallari

Major: Biochemistry

Project Title: *Understanding the Binding Mode of Falcilysin, an Essential Metalloprotease*

Level: Undergraduate

Category: Physical & Mathematical Sciences

1. Tell us about yourself! Where did you grow up? What influenced you to pursue your field of study?

I grew up in Moscow, Russia, but moved to America during the middle school. Both my parents are involved with STEM careers and used to buy me a lot of different books and toys that were related to scientific topics. As a result, I ended up becoming a biochemistry and mathematics major. Following, that, I joined a laboratory in the middle of my second year at CSUSB and have remained as a part of the group since.

2. Tell about your research interests and involvement in research at CSUSB?

I have completed research in medicinal chemistry under the supervision of Dr. Jeremy Mallari for over three years. As far as research interests go, I believe that I could get engaged in any sort of project, as my academic interests were broad.

Office of Student Research

Student Research Competition Winners

3. Tell us about your experience serving as a delegate and participating in the CSU Student Research Competition.

Communication is the key aspect of being able to make big accomplishments in your research projects. Starting from explaining your findings and ideas to your collaborators and ending with explaining the value of your research to the masses—at every step of a scientific career, it is impossible to advance without communicating your ideas. This competition is a fantastic opportunity to not only put your own skills to the test, but also to learn new techniques for discussing your project. Additionally, watching presentations from the fields other than my own gave me perspectives on how scientists approach different problems and projects.

4. What advice do you have for students who plan to compete in next year's competition?

Be confident in yourself and your project—no one knows it better than you do. Ultimately, it is very important to clearly communicate a few big ideas than many small ones. However, the finer details are very important, as they often give context to the acquired data. As such, it is necessary to understand the finer technical intricacies of your work. You may even get a question about them!



Name(s): Aaron Keniston

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jeremy Mallari

Major: Biochemistry

Project Title: *Understanding the Binding Mode of Falcilysin, an Essential Metalloprotease*

Level: Undergraduate

Category: Physical & Mathematical Sciences

Hello, my name is Aaron Keniston. I grew up in Riverside, California. I want to start off by saying I haven't always been the best student. In fact, I spent five years at Riverside Community College figuring out how to study, and that is perfectly okay. No one comes out of the womb being good at math or science. Yes, some catch on faster than others, but there is one thing that can guarantee success, and this is hard work. Don't take no for an answer. I am still not always the smartest student in my classes, but I can promise I work hard and put in the hours. I am a biology major who once sat through 8 a.m. O-chem lectures with Dr. Mallari just like most biology students in hopes to make my way to dental school. I knew that I didn't have the strongest academic background so I had to do everything I could to make myself stand out, and for me that was joining Dr. Mallari's chemistry/biochemistry lab. Research is hard and takes a lot of time but the rewards far outweigh any of this. In our lab, I develop chemical inhibitors for a malarial protease that is expressed during the intraerythrocytic life cycle within the human host. My experience during the research competition has been amazing. I want to thank Dr. Mallari, Dr. Hassija, the Office of Student Research, and all the CSUSB faculty for their constant guidance. I couldn't have done it without them.

Office of Student Research

Grant Recipients

The OSR is proud to provide funding and support for the innovative research and creative projects of CSUSB students and their faculty mentors. Congratulations to all who were awarded an OSR grant during the 2019-2020 academic year!

Student Research & Travel

Adriana Verduzco
Alejandra Moreno Ramirez
Alison Loreg
Alma Pahua
Andrew Rivera
Angela Ayres-Hudson
Anneke Fischle
Anthony Sierra
Avery Robinson
Brandon Oliver
Christopher Mendez
Daniel Caro Arambula
Eloy Garcia
Francisco Rodriguez
Han Vu
Jasmine Bonsel
Jennifer Garcia
Jessica Bezenah
Kathryn VonSydow
Kelsey Meyer
Kimberly Morales
Kyle Mobly
Laura Contreras
Luis Esparza
Mary Ascueta
Miles Valencia
Monica Aguilar Avalos
Monique Quinn
Nazaret Montejano
Raeven Jones
Ramon Canizales
Rebecca Tambunan

Sean Alexander
Shane Burrell
Skyler King
Stephen Ware
Vaidehiba Rana

SSI Graduate Student Culminating Project Grant

Acacia Lovett
Adriana Verduzco
Ana Quintana
Andy Acosta
Bryan Seymour
Caitlin Shaw
Carmen Covarrubias
Danahly Reyes
Eman Alzoghbieh
Giovanna Lopez
Isaac Diaz
Jessica Martinez
Jessica Razo
Kaela Bonafede
Keyln Leeker
Lakhvir Kaur
Magally Villarreal
Melody Robinson
Miranda Rubio
Rebecca Waring-Crane
Shane Burrell
Stephen Burwell
Victoria Valenzuela
Zuleima Carrillo

Undergraduate Student Grants

Ana Builes
Brianna Schmidt
Erika Kelley
Fernando Sanchez
Haley Miguel
Hector Pimienta
Mary Grace Ascueta
Mikayla Kissel
Monica Aguilar Avalos
Rosario Garcia
Santiago Melchor
Sean Christopher Bonilla
Sergio Espericueta
Sydney Gerald

Faculty/Student Grants

Abhilasha Chavalay
Alison Conner
Christopher NeVille
Ciara Sanders
Constance Greenwood
Emmett Pompa
Esther Gomez
Jessica Bezenah
John Gomez
Joseph Bunch
Julissa Perez-Marron
Kaela Bonafede
Kendall Grant
Keyla Torres
Lakhvir Kaur
Neal Malik

Nimrat Brar
Ricardo Hernandez

Faculty Mentor Award

Dr. Kimberly Collins
Dr. Lynne Diaz-Rico
Dr. Manijeh Badiie
Dr. Nicole Dabbs
Dr. Ahlam Muhtaseb

Faculty Assigned Time

Dr. Eric Bayruns García
Dr. Jane Chin Davidson
Dr. Kathleen Nadeau
Dr. Melika Kordrostami
Dr. Monideepa Becerra
Dr. Qingquan Sun
Dr. Sang Ouk Wee

STEM en Familia

Dr. Min-Lin Lo
Dr. Lynn Scow
Dr. Dionsio Amodeo
Dr. Maria Santos
Dr. YunFei Hou
Dr. Tomasz Owerkowicz
Dr. Daniel Nickerson
Dr. Fadi Muheidat
Dr. David Rhoads
Dr. Paul Orwin

Office of Student Research

Students Accepted into Ph.D. Programs

Congratulations to the following students on their acceptance into Ph.D. and other advanced graduate programs!
We wish you the best of luck on this next step of your educational journey.

Student Name: Anibal Serrano
Mentor Name: Dr. Steven Childs
Institution: University of California, Irvine
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: National Security Studies

Student Name: Benjamin Shultz
Mentor Name: Dr. Thomas Long
Institution: University of Texas
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Social Science & Globalization

Student Name: Bryan Orozco
Mentor Name: Dr. Paul Dixon
Institution: Ohio State University
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Physics

Student Name: Caitlin Shaw
Mentor Name: Dr. Donna Garcia
Institution: University of Mississippi
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Psychology

Student Name: Chau Vuong
Mentor Name: Dr. Daniel Nickerson
Institution: University of Washington
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Biochemistry

Student Name: Ciera Hammond
Mentor Name: Dr. Meredith Conroy
Institution: University of Michigan
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Political Science

Student Name: Dana Morris
Mentor Name: Dr. James Noblet
Institution: Western University
Type of Program: Pharm. D.
Field of Study: Chemistry & Biochemistry

Student Name: Emmanuel Brito
Mentor Name: Dr. Nicole Bournias
Institution: University of California, Riverside
Type of Program: M.D.
Field of Study: Biology

Student Name: Francisco Guzman
Mentor Name: Dr. Sara Callori
Institution: University of California, Irvine
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Physics

Student Name: Gerardo Lorenzo
Mentor Name: Dr. Edwin Hernandez
Institution: University of San Diego
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling

Student Name: Ginny Park
Mentor Name: Dr. Sanders McDougall
Institution: Washington State University
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Psychology

Student Name: Hannah Fejzic
Mentor Name: Dr. Carol Hood
Institution: University of Chicago
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Physics & Chemistry

Student Name: Jasmine Rios
Mentor Name: Dr. Sanders McDougall
Institution: University of Mississippi
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Psychology

Student Name: Joseph Madrid
Mentor Name: Dr. Nicole Bournias
Institution: Kansas City University
Type of Program: M.D.
Field of Study: Biology

Student Name: Karanvir Singh
Mentor Name: --
Institution: Western University
Type of Program: Pharm. D.
Field of Study: Chemistry & Biochemistry

Student Name: Luis Esparza
Mentor Name: Dr. Liliana Conlisk-Gallegos
Institution: University of New Mexico
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Communication Studies

Student Name: Manuel Bravo-Rangel
Mentor Name: Dr. Nicole Bournias
Institution: Loma Linda University
Type of Program: Pharm. D.
Field of Study: Biology

Student Name: Marmar Zakher
Mentor Name: Dr. Kate Liszka
Institution: University of California, Davis
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: History

Student Name: Murphy Nguyen
Mentor Name: Dr. Andreas Beyersdorf
Institution: Loma Linda University
Type of Program: Pharm. D.
Field of Study: Chemistry & Biochemistry

Student Name: Nelson Membreno
Mentor Name: Dr. Tomasz Owerkowicz
Institution: St. Louis University
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Biology

Student Name: Samantha Cheeks
Mentor Name: Dr. Nicole Bournias
Institution: University of California, Irvine
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Biology

Student Name: Sarah Handy
Mentor Name: Dr. Tomasz Owerkowicz
Institution: Arizona State University
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Biology

Student Name: Tiffany Sill
Mentor Name: Dr. James Noblet & Dr. Doug Smith
Institution: Texas A & M University
Type of Program: Ph.D.
Field of Study: Chemistry & Biochemistry

Office of Student Research

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program (MMUF) is a two-year program that provides financial support, research mentorship, and assistance with graduate school preparation. The fundamental objective of MMUF is to address the problem of under-representation of minority faculty members in higher education. The MMUF program is designed to encourage fellows to enter PhD programs in the humanities and prepare for an academic career.

Congratulations to the newest Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows! We look forward to seeing your hard work and research contributions within your fields. And, congratulations to the graduating fellows - we wish you success in your future endeavors!

Graduating Fellows



Marmar Zaakhar
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kate Liszka
Major: History and Arabic Language and Literature
Institution: University of California, Davis



Natassja Martin
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ryan Keating
Major: History
Institution: California State University, San Bernardino



New Fellows

Student Name: Xavier Resendez
Mentor Name: Dr. Ryan Keating
Prospective Project Title(s): *Race and Racism in the Post-Civil War American West*

Student Name: Isabella Cantu
Mentor Name: Dr. Jose Munoz
Prospective Project Title(s): *Sociological Challenges Resulting from the COVID-19 Crisis Among Minority Students and Faculty*

Student Name: Stephanie Alfonso
Mentor Name: Dr. Julie Taylor
Prospective Project Title(s): *How Silence Shapes the Identity of a Pimp: A look into the Hidden Organization of America's Sex Industry*

Student Name: Johnathan Solomon
Mentor Name: Dr. Kevin Grisham
Prospective Project Title(s): *The Sociocultural Impacts of Art and its Relevance to Climate Change; Translating Native American Culture into Modern Environmental Policy; Comparative Study on the Efficacy of Social Entrepreneurship to Alternative Entities in Areas of Climate Action*

Office of Student Research

Undergraduate Summer Research Program

Congratulations to all of this year's Undergraduate Summer Research Program, who in spite of the impacts of COVID-19, were able to successfully convert their summer programs into an online virtual format!

College of Business & Public Administration

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Marc Fudge

Students: Aylin Alvarez & Mikayla Kissel

Project Title: *The Future of Infrastructure Finance Using A Hedonic Pricing Model*

College of Education

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nancy Acevedo-Gil

Students: Julissa Barragan & Yesenia Casas

Project Title: *Latina/o/x Students Pursuing STEM Degrees: Transitioning from the Community College to a Four-Year Hispanic Serving Institution*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Edwin Hernandez

Students: Andres Sandoval, & Ana Villanueva

Project Title: *Supporting the Educational Aspirations of Males of Color in Continuation High Schools*

College of Natural Sciences

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nicole Dabbs

Students: Sean Bonilla & Kara Zorzoli

Project Title: *Relationship between Strength and Balance in Collegiate Athletes*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Timothy Usher

Students: Cesar de la Torre Castaneda & Gonzalo Perez Maldonado

Project Title: *Materials Science Aspirations*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cassandra Harding

Students: Crystal Rios & Jessica Romero

Project Title: *Applications of the Health Action Process Approach (HAPA) Model and Social Network Analysis to Explore Responsive Parenting and Feeding Practices among Mothers in the Inland Empire*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Rhoads

Students: John Alvarez, Sesedzayi Peresuh, & Leslie Navarro-Tamaura

Project Title: *Heat Stress Effects On Transgenic Plants With Increased Mitochondrial Chaperones*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Fadi Muheidat

Students: Justin Waterman & Hyeongjun Yang

Project Title: *AWS IoT and the Interconnected World – Aging in Place*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Daniel Nickerson

Students: Danielle Zamora, Sean Connolly, & Jenna Maddox

Project Title: *Using Yeast Genetics To Identify Cellular Transport Pathways Regulated By The Rab GAP Gyp8*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Tomasz Owerkowicz

Students: Aaron Manansala & Breanna Ramirez

Project Title: *Can Alligators Gallop?*

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Dionisio Amodeo

Students: Bryan Alvarez & Cheyenne Morales

Project Title: *Effects Of Serotonin 6 Receptor Blockade On The Expression Of Repetitive Behaviors In Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kate Liszka

Students: Erika Kelley, Abrianna Newton, & Cindy Moreno

Project Title: *From Archives to Augmented Reality: An Egyptian Archaeological Site Comes to Life Virtually*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jose Munoz

Students: Rebecca Harder, Maria Romero, & Catherine Perez

Project Title: *"Getting Above Your Raisin": First-Generation and Working Class Persons Experiences in the Academia.*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ryan Keating

Students: Joe Mendoza & Xavier Resendez

Project Title: *The Silent Service: War Widows, Orphans, and Dependent Mothers in the Civil War Era*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Leslie Amodeo

Students: Alexandra Tejada & Briana Vasquez

Project Title: *Impact of Adolescent Alcohol on Maladaptive Behaviors*

Office of Student Research

2020-2021 Academic Calendar

The OSR staff is available for classroom presentations, workshops, and student club presentations. Requests should be placed online through the department's website (csusb.edu/student-research).

Workshops

Getting Involved in Research

Date: September 8, 2020, November 3, 2020, January 19, 2021, May 4, 2021

Applying for Student Research and Travel Grants

Date: September 15, 2020, January 26, 2021

Grant Proposal Writing

Date: September 22, 2020

Evaluating Resources

Date: October 6, 2020

How to Write a Research Proposal

Date: October 13, 2020

Creating a Personal Statement and CV

Date: October 20, 2020, November 17, 2020, April 13, 2021

Applying to Graduate Programs

Date: October 27, 2020, April 6, 2021

Introduction to the Mellon Mays Program

Date: November 11, 2020, February 23, 2021

Orientation to the CSUSB and CSU Research Competition

Date: December 1, 2020

Applying to the Summer Research Program

Date: December 8, 2020

Presenting a Poster or Oral Presentation

Date: February 2, 2021, March 9, 2021, March 23, 2021

Maximizing Your Conference Experience

Date: February 9, 2021

Research Ethics and Integrity

Date: February 16, 2021

Introduction to the U-RISE Program

Date: March 16, 2021

Panel with Students Accepted to Ph.D. Programs

Date: April 20, 2021

Events

Taste of Research (Palm Desert Campus)

Date: October 23, 2020

CSUSB Student Research Competition

Date: February 12, 2021

Academic Research Week

Date: April 12-16, 2021

"Meeting of the Minds" Student Research Symposium

Date: April 15, 2021

Faculty Mentors and Student Researchers Recognition Luncheon

Date: April 16, 2021

Deadlines

August 20, 2020 (Deadlines on the 20th of each month)

- Student Research & Travel
Note* Not offered August 20, 2020, December 20, 2020, May 20, 2021

November 9, 2020

- Peer Lab and Peer Research Consultant Programs (Spring)

November 1, 2020

- Faculty/Student Grants
- Undergraduate Student Grants
- SSI Grant Student Culminating Project fund

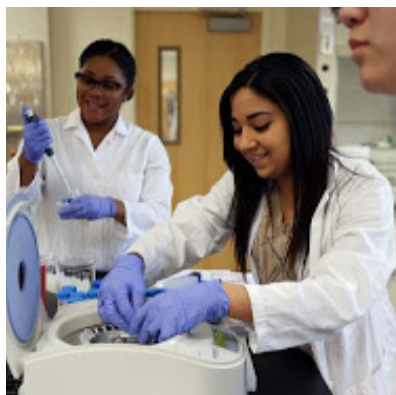
December 15, 2020

- CSUSB Student Research Competition

February 16, 2021

- Undergraduate Summer Research Program
- STEM en Familia
- "Meeting of the Minds" Student Research Symposium
- RSCA Faculty Mentor Award
- Outstanding Student Research Award (Undergraduate & Graduate)
- RSCA Faculty Assigned Time Grant

Should additional funding become available, Spring application dates will be announced.



California State University, San Bernardino Office of Student Research



Dr. Dorota Huizinga
Associate Provost for Research,
Dean of Graduate Studies



Dr. Christina Hassija
Associate Professor of Psychology,
Director, Office of Student Research



Danielle White, MA
Program Coordinator



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