12th Annual O.U.R. Fall Conference Award Winners

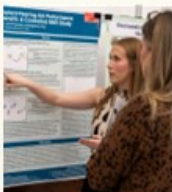**Winner for Oral Presentation**
Undergraduate HASBSEB category
Advanced Research Level
Winners: Mackenzie Howell and Ashlyn Junot
Mentor: Dr. Yan Yan
Department of Curriculum & Instruction, Lamar University
"Elementary Children's Screen Time Effects on Sociometric Status."

Winner for Poster Presentation
Graduate HASBSEB category
Advanced Research Level
Winner: Abigail Proctor
Mentor: Dr. Priyanka Jaisinghani
Department of Speech & Hearing, Lamar University
"The Role of Cochlear Implant-Hearing Aid Performance Disparity in Bimodal Benefit: A Controlled SNR Study."

Winner for Oral Presentation
Graduate STEM category
Advanced Research Level
Winner: Muhammad Luqman Haider
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, University of Texas at Dallas
Mentor: Dr. Jeong-Bong (JB) Lee
School of Engineering and Computer Science, Baylor University
"Wireless Micropump and Pressure Monitoring System for Inducing Bone Formation Through Intramedullary Pressure Modulation."

Runner-up for Oral Presentation
Graduate STEM category
Advanced Research Level
Winner: James Clemson
Mentor: Dr. Charles Durfee
Department of Physics, Colorado School of Mines
"UV Triggered Two Color Interferometric Measurement of Electrostatic Discharge ."

Winner for Poster Presentation
Undergraduate STEM category
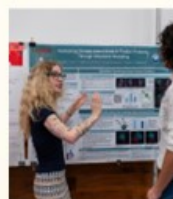**Advanced Research Level**
Winner: Ryan Servantes
Mentor: Dr. James Armacost
Department of Biology, Lamar University
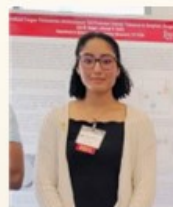*"Correlation Between Human Foot Traffic and Angel Wing Syndrome in Ducks, in Southeast Texas."*

First Place for Poster Presentation
Undergraduate STEM category
Early-Phase and In-progress Research Levels
Winner: Maggie Fuller
Mentor: Dr. Gregory Morrison
Department of Physics, University of Houston
"Assessing Domain Interactions in Fusion Proteins Through Structural Modeling ."

Second Place for Poster Presentation
Undergraduate STEM category
Early-Phase and In-progress Research Levels
Winner: Zoe Hagar
Mentor: Dr. Ahmad Kabir
Department of Biology, Lamar University
"Beneficial Fungus Trichoderma afroharzianum T22 Promotes Salinity Tolerance in Sorghum (Sorghum bicolor)."

Third Place for Poster Presentation
Undergraduate STEM category
Early-Phase and In-progress Research Levels
Winner: Peggy Bryan
Mentor: Dr. Matt Hoch
Department of Biology, Lamar University
"Controls of Methane Emissions in the Coastal Marshes of the Texas Chenier Plain Experiencing Subsidence and Restored by Dredging Material Placement ."

Winner for Poster Presentation
Graduate STEM category
In-progress Research Level
Winner: Chukwudike Eric Enem
Mentor: Dr. Thuy Minh Nguyen
Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Lamar University
"Effect of TiO2 Nanoparticles on the Sterol Biosynthetic Pathway of Candida parapsilosis."

Runner-up for Poster Presentation
Graduate STEM category
In-progress Research Level
Winner: Mahesh Babu Polineni
Mentor: Dr. Rakibul Islam
Department of Computer Science, Lamar University
"Instant Answers, Lasting Impact: Transforming Academic Advising through AI."

Winner for Oral Presentation
Undergraduate STEM category
Advanced Research Level
Winner: Jason Withers
Mentor: Dr. Cristian Bahrim
Department of Physics, Lamar University
"Can Changes in the Environmental Temperature Modify the Optical Characteristic of a Medium? ."

Winner for Oral Presentation
Graduate STEM category
Early-Phase and In-progress Research Levels
Winner: Sergio Mendez
Mentor: Dr. Ashwini Kucknoor
Department of Biology, Lamar University
"Arbovirus detection in mosquitoes of Jefferson County, Texas."

Winner for Oral Presentation
Undergraduate HASBSEB category
Early-Phase and In-progress Research Levels
Winner: Kamaile Hernandez-Linkee
Department of Computer Science and Department of Mathematics
Lamar University
Mentor: Dr. Raymond Doe
Department of Psychology, Lamar University
"The Psychological Benefits of Playing Chess."

Winner for Oral Presentation
Graduate STEM category
In-progress Research Level
Winner: Akbar Ali
Mentor: Dr. Jason Slinker
Department of Physics, University of Texas at Dallas
"Color-Tunable Perovskite Light-Emitting Electrochemical Cells."

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Winner for Oral Presentation
Graduate STEM category
In-progress Research Level
Winner: Kayode Adeoye
Mentor: Dr. Paul Bernazzani
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Lamar University
"Investigating the Potential of an Amylose / Pectin Composite for Organic Contaminants Remediation."

First Place for Oral Presentation
Best Summer Undergraduate Research category
Winner: Mohamed Irhabi
Mentors: Dr. Ioannis Petropolous
Division of Research in Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine–Qatar
and Dr. Ashwini Kucknoor
Department of Biology, Lamar University
"The Eye as a Window to the Brain: Advancing Neurovascular Disease Detection through Retinal and Corneal Imaging ."

Second Place for Oral Presentation
Best Summer Undergraduate Research category
Winner: Layali Abusaleh
Mentor: Dr. Sylvestre Twagirayezu
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Lamar University
"Investigation of Thermally Energized Petroleum Mixtures Using Molecular Rotational Resonance (MRR)."

Third Place for Oral Presentation
Best Summer Undergraduate Research category
Winner: Priya Rathore and Ayna Arif
Department of Biology, Lamar University (Priya)
Department of Physics, Lamar University (Priya)
Department of Psychology, Lamar University (Ayna)
Mentor: Dr. Thinesh Selvaratnam
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Lamar University
"Bioremediation of Industrial Mine Wastewaters Using Galdieria sulphuraria."

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