



OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
LAMAR UNIVERSITY

LAMAR UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Research

2018-19 GRANT RECIPIENTS



On November 5, 2018, The Office of Undergraduate Research announced the 6th Annual grant proposal contest for students pursuing undergraduate research. Students submitted 47 proposals, and 31 were awarded with a total of 32 students participating in the research. The recipients are Nathan Abshire (Chemical Engineering), Kelli Breaux (Social Work), Kimberly Brooks (Nursing), Marina Cernik (Chemical Engineering), Arthur Davis (Psychology), Madison Demel (Chemical Engineering), Caitlin Eakin (Speech & Hearing Sciences), Amanda Essoh (Chemistry & Bio-Chemistry), Alexis Granados (Finance & Economics), Julianna Haidusek (History), Omar Hamza (Chemistry), Alexis Locke (Mechanical Engineering), Hope Hardin (Speech & Hearing Sciences), Lillian Hill (English), Alek Hutson (Physics), Emily Ingram (Chemistry & Chemical Engineering), Cade Johnson (Biology), Baron Kane (Deaf Studies & Deaf Education), Zoe Lovett (Social Work), Tyler Martin (Mechanical Engineering), Vishal Mundodi (TALH-Liberal Arts), Nguyen Nguyen (Mechanical Engineering), Shadye Nolan-Vaughns (Social Work), Emily Ochoa (Chemical Engineering), Zhen Wei Ooi (Chemical Engineering), Burgandy Perti (Civil Engineering), Daniel Quispe (Mechanical Engineering), Odalys Rentas (Hospitality Administration), Chae Rohrs (Mechanical Engineering), Stacy Towers (Mechanical Engineering), Paityn Warwick (Biology), and Quintin Williams (Mechanical Engineering). The recipients represent all five colleges and 16 departments on campus; 33 faculty will be involved in these research projects.

Each student has been awarded up to \$1,000 for undergraduate research support along with a \$500 stipend. The grant recipients will submit a report detailing their research outcomes and present their findings at the Lamar University Research EXPO on April 30. A special thanks to President Kenneth Evans for his continued support to OUR and to the families and mentors that came out to support the 2018-19 grant recipients.

CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE

DR. KUMER P. DAS
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ASST. DIRECTOR

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6th Annual Texas STEM Conference 2018

The 6th Annual Texas STEM Conference was held Saturday, November 3, 2018 at Archer Physics Building, at Lamar University.

The Conference provided science, technology, engineering and mathematics students the opportunity to share their research in scholarly setting. The conference included oral presentations and poster presentations from 54 presenters from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the University of New Orleans, the University of Texas at Dallas, Harmony Science Academy and Lamar University. OUR awarded 13 best presenters in various categories. Best Oral Presentation- Undergraduate Division: Katelin Catching (1st), Dikshant Singh (2nd), Ashley Borel (3rd), and Daniel Quispe (3rd); Best Poster Presentation- Undergraduate Division: Nathan Abshier (1st), Emily Ingram (2nd), and Madison Neill; Best Oral Presentation- Graduate Division: Pratik Sarker (1st), Asim K. Dey (2nd), and Md Mujibur Rahman Chowdhury (3rd). Best Poster Presentation- Graduate Division: Adarsh Bafana (1st), Jianyuan Ni (2nd), and Babajide Salau (3rd).

Keynote speaker was Mr. Terry Welch, CEO and president of Sinclair Group, Headquartered in Magnolia, Texas



6th Annual Texas STEM Conference, 2018

O.U.R. host 5th Annual Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences & Education Conference 2018

OUR hosted the Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences & Education Conference on Saturday, November 17, 2018 in the Galloway Business Building, at Lamar University. Dr. Lynn Maurer, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences was the plenary speaker for the conference.

The popular all-day event brought together some of the most innovative researchers from all over Texas. The conference included oral presentation and poster presentations from 34 presenters. OUR awarded five best presenters: William Perry (1st- Poster), Kimberly Boase (2nd- Poster), Meagan Cooper (1st – Talk), Shanetta Williams (2nd –Talk), and Ali Hamza (3rd- Talk).

The Center for History and Culture recognized Vanessa Jean, Lindsey Johnson, and Kaitlyn Medley for their excellent research. In addition The Reaud Honors College awarded Jade Parbs, Morgan Martin, Ayokunle Oni, and Maria Villa.

Special thanks to the Center for History and Culture and the Reaud Honors College for sponsoring the awards in this conference.



5th Annual Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences & Education Conference, 2018

SUCCESS STORY

Meet
A
2016-17
OUR
Grant
Recipient



Caitlin McAlister

"The OUR grant helped me in multiple ways. In addition to resulting in my first peer-reviewed publication, it gave me my first experience in archival research. Also, I think it helped strengthen my applications to graduate school, by giving me an opportunity to show both my research abilities and my potential as an academic, which I believe made me a more competitive applicant. "My research has been published in the 2018 issue of *Nota Bene*, the Canadian Undergraduate Journal of Musicology. It is a peer-reviewed online journal that focuses on musicological articles by student authors. My article was entitled *Behind the Bandstand: Jay G. Sims and the Internal Workings of the Sousa Band*, and was based on business documents from John Philip Sousa's personnel manager that I found in the archives at the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin. It was exciting to be published in an academic journal for the first time, especially with an article that I wrote and submitted while I was still an undergrad. I appreciate the grant OUR gave me that made the research possible. I also want to thank Bryan Proksch, my faculty mentor, for overseeing the project and giving me feedback when I was writing the article. "

Caitlin McAlister

BA History with a minor in Music, 2017

Currently, a first-year graduate student pursuing an M.A. in Musicology at Pennsylvania State University.

Upcoming Events

6th Annual Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Expo!

The Undergraduate Research Exposition is designed to celebrate and showcase students' involvement in scholarly research and creative activity produced campus-wide. The EXPO supports LU educational missions, provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to exchange ideas in a professional setting. The 2019 Exposition will be comprised of a symposium for oral presentations and a poster presentation fair.

****Important Information****

April 30, 2019

Setzer Student Center

Abstract Submission Deadline: April 15, 2019

Registration deadline: April 22, 2019

Previous EXPOs at a Glance

Year	Poster Presentation	Oral Presentation	Total
2014	21	14	35
2015	22	18	40
2016	34	24	58
2017	80	40	120
2018	85	33	118

The Conference of Texas Statisticians (COTS) 2019

The Office of Undergraduate Research will be hosting the 2019 Conference of Texas Statisticians (COTS). The COTS meetings afford Texas statisticians the opportunity for social and intellectual exchange on a yearly basis. These meetings also positively impact chapter membership and visibility of the statistical profession in the state of Texas. A highlight of each meeting is the presentation of the annual Don Owen Award for excellence in research, statistical consultation, and service to the statistical community.

****Important Information****

April 5th-6th, 2019

8th Floor, Mary and John Gray Library

Abstract Submission Deadline: March 25, 2019

Registration deadline: March 29, 2019

Announcements

SUMMER UNDERGRADUTE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (SURF) 2019

The program provides support and faculty mentorship to motivate all undergraduate students to explore their field of study in creative activities and research while mentored by at least one LU faculty member. Each student whose project is approved will be awarded a stipend of \$2,000, up to \$1,000 for research support, FREE housing during the summer at Cardinal Village and an opportunity to present at our own STEM and/or HASBSEB Conference.

****Important Information****

Application Deadline: **March 04, 2019**

Spending Window: April, 2019 – August, 2019

2019 OUR Faculty Mentoring Award

The Office of Undergraduate Research is pleased to announce the 2019 Faculty Mentor Award to honor an Undergraduate Research Mentor for her/his success in mentoring undergraduate students in research and creative activities. The winning mentor will be recognized at the 6th Undergraduate Research Expo scheduled on April 30th. We look forward to reading your applications and learning about the experiences and successes undergraduate students are having in undergraduate research.

Submission deadline: March 25