

2023 STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS LUNCH EON

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023
12:00 P.M.

DISCOVERY HALL
USF RESEARCH PARK
TAMPA, FLORIDA



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
Research & Innovation

PROGRAM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Sylvia Thomas

Interim Vice President, USF Research & Innovation

Prasant Mohapatra

Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs

Reginald Lucien

Assistant Dean for Student Success,
Judy Genshaft Honors College

Recognition of the Student Research Award Recipients

Florida High Tech Corridor Student Researchers

Sylvia Thomas

Interim Vice President, USF Research & Innovation

Elizabeth Nelson

Program Director, Florida High Tech Corridor

Sigma Xi Inductees

Aurelie Germa

Associate Professor, School of Geosciences
President, USF Sigma Xi Chapter

Yogi Goswami

Distinguished University Professor of
Chemical, Biological, and Materials Engineering
President-Elect, USF Sigma Xi Chapter

Madeleine Hershberger

Faculty Services Administrator

Undergraduate Research Awards

Allison Crume

Dean, Undergraduate Studies
& Associate Vice President, Student Success

Melissa Irvin

Assistant Dean, Academic Outreach & Support
Office of Undergraduate Studies

Joy Harris

Director for High-impact Practices
and Undergraduate Research

Judy Genshaft Honors College Awards

Charles Adams

Judy Genshaft Endowed Dean

Lindy Davidson

Associate Dean for Curriculum & Instruction
Associate Professor of Instruction

Graduate Student Research Symposium Awards

Ruth Bahr

Dean, Office of Graduate Studies

Gary Oliver

Assistant Director, Graduate Student Services,
Office of Graduate Studies

USF Sarasota Manatee campus Trailblazer Graduate Student Research Scholarship Program

Sandra Stone

Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies

Sandra Justice

Associate Director for Research and Innovation

Postdoctoral Research Symposium

Tracy Costello

Director, Postdoctoral Affairs,
Office of Postdoctoral Studies

2023 STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS

Florida High Tech Corridor Student Researchers

Ebin Abraham	Gavin Lockard
Omar Ads	Steven Long
Adam Alayli	Julizette Lugo-Melgar
Sophia Alonso	Komal Matai
Yasamian Alsayed	Chris Milligan
Indira Alur	Rajat Mittal
Ryan 'Collin' Asson	Molly Monsour
Wayne Ayers-Creech	Muhammad Naeem
Cassidy Bale	Amin Nasr
Lorena Basulto	Karina Noboa
Jude Bayyat	Yuto Ohigashi
Alexis Belcher	Alex Otten
Alexandria Brady-Mine	Demi Padilla
Jacob Broeckel	Arielle Parks
Beverly Brooks	Colby Parris
Emilia Buitrago	Zachary Perdomo
Justin Cho	Kara Phillips
Ana Comanche	Jesse Popover
Reanna Cowan	Sheik Rauf Ali
Rashed Daher	Aishwarya Reddy
Alejandro De La Paz Gomez	Julianne Rice
Quentin Dorsey	Alexis Rickman
Jose Dos Santos	Truman Roland
Lucas Douridas	Sara Sadat Eslami
Lauren Dyer	Malena Sellen
Michael Edgemon	Gretchen Shelton
Enzo Franze Cohelo	Hanzhong Shi
Spencer Fritz	Mridula Singh
Camilo Garcia Gonzalez	Kavya Sivakumar
Kate Hamann	John Solis
Amjud Hamden	Drake Stimpson
Andrew Heath	Mohammadmahdi Tavoli
Drake Herr	Ryan Utt
Robert Hogan	Payal Varandani
Holly Johnson	Eric Velazquez
Roukiah Khalil	Sri Venkata Venu Gopal Guddati
Anna Kharitanova	Aaron Wang
Christopher Kilroy	Maya Wedgworth
Kayla King	Mehmet Yazgan
Chinar Kokaje	Longhui Ye
Aishwarya Kulkarni	Hye-seon Yi
Kworweinski Lafontant	David Young
Will Lawless	Rongqing Zhang
Abigail Leake	



Thank you to the University of South Florida students who have invested time and talent to unleash our region's **ex**potential through our **Matching Grants Research Program**.

Over the last 25 years, the program has generated more than \$1 billion in downstream economic impact and resulted in high-tech careers for students at Florida-based companies.



Learn more about the techscape you've helped create:

FloridaHighTech.com



USF Sigma Xi Chapter

Undergraduate Sigma Xi Inductees

Alphy Maria Antony
Caitlyn Coleman
Cole Gibson
Sarah Jason-Vikram
Ruchi Korde
Makayla Long
Kobe Phillips

Abigail Reed
Amanda Reyes
Lalith Roopesh
Samay Shah
Isabella St. Pierre-Charles
Haley Vantoorenburg
Audrey Wood

Graduate Sigma Xi Inductees

Christine Bergmann
Eesha Bhattacharjee
Tyelyn Brigino
Guy Dayhoff
Franco A. Garin
John Henson

Mahnoor Kamal
Sunhye Kim
Cassandra Lyman
Eva Muir
Tarek Zieneldien

Sigma Xi Student Grant Program

The Sigma Xi USF Chapter announced its first Student Grant Program to support research for both undergraduate and graduate students in Fall 2022.

Undergraduate Recipient

Lauren Trumbull, B.S. Integrative Animal Biology
Research mentor: Dr. Mark Margres

Award was used for RP-HPLC runs at USF core facility for 61 venom samples

Graduate Recipients

Niveditha Nerlakanti, Cancer biology PhD program, Dept. of Cell Biology, Microbiology and Molecular Biology (CMMB)
Research mentor: Dr. Conor Lynch

Award was used to travel to the Metastasis Research Society Conference

Laura Calabro, Master in Geology, School of Geosciences
Research mentor: Dr. Bogdan Onac

Award was used to cover the expenses for radiocarbon dating at the Beta Analytic radiocarbon dating lab in Miami

Undergraduate Research Awards

OneUSF General Disciplinary Awards

Aisha Bazlamatci, Interdisciplinary
Samuel Camilli, Health Science
Presley Camp, Social Science
Jacob Hensley, Engineering
Anna Beatriz Cortes Machado, Physical Science
Ebu Ojogwu, Health Science
Abigail Reed, Interdisciplinary
Karly Underwood, Social Science
Haley Vantoorenburg, Physical Science
Gabrielle Whyte, Humanities

OneUSF General Disciplinary Awards Honorable Mention

Nidhi Bangalore, Interdisciplinary Research
Lina Elessawy, Physical Science
Anagha Hesaraghatta, Health Science
Misha Mathur, Health Science
Coleman O'Toole, Social Science
Kira Ruiz-Houston, Physical Science
Isabella St. Pierre-Charles, Engineering
Kaitlyn Serafin, Interdisciplinary Research

Audience Choice Award Winner

Trisha Pitchala

Audience Choice Award Honorable Mention

Isaac Diaz Becdach

Undergraduate Research Scholar Award

Magdalena Alvarez
Yuri Lizardo
Breanna Zurita

Judy Genshaft Honors College Awards

Freshman Thesis Award

Thanvi Narapareddygari
Fletcher Haltom

Capstone Research Group Award

Sophia Alonso
Lauren Bailey
Madison Blankenship
Caitlyn Luitjens
Neelam Patel

Honors Thesis Award

Tia Moriarty
Abigail Reed

2022 Grand Challenge Group Award

Anna Alieva
Wynter Dean
Kinsley McMillian
Ashley Safransky

Research Catalyst Award

Christopher Felegy

Graduate Student Research Symposium Award Recipients

Research Poster Awards

Arts & Humanities

Kylie Dillinger, History
Mark-Elliott Finley, English

Health & Life Sciences

Ranjini Bhattacharya, Cancer Biology
Sushantti Rupesh, Medical Sciences

Physical Sciences & Engineering

Mahnoor Kamal, Geosciences
Carlyn Scott, Marine Science

Social & Behavioral Sciences (Including Education)

Elizabeth Sykes, Psychology
Roger Young, Psychology

2022 Graduate Research People's Choice Winners

Arts & Humanities

Ryan Hom, History

Health & Life Sciences

Eva Muir, Integrative Biology

Physical Sciences & Engineering

Tara Pedersen, Integrative Biology

Social & Behavioral Sciences (Including Education)

Emma Stevenson, Social Work

3MT[®] Awards

First Place: Kanchana Karunaratne, Physics

Runner-up: Efrain Gonzalez, Mathematics & Statistics

People's Choice: Shelby Kell, Chemistry

USF Sarasota Manatee campus Trailblazer Graduate Student Research Scholars

Leah Burger, mentored by Lindsay Persohn and Jenifer Schneider in Education

Madison Dowdy, mentored by Michelle Arnold,
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Taylor Fisher, mentored by Roberta O'Malley, Criminology

Emily Walker, mentored by Fawn Ngo, Criminology and
Dasha Rhodes, Social Work

2023 Postdoctoral Research Symposium Winners

Best Poster Award (two awards, \$500 each)

Pierre Kawak, Department of Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering, "Exploring mechanisms of enhanced dissipation in nanoparticle-filled rubber using molecular dynamics"

Claire Smith, School of Aging Studies, "Sleep well by design: Designing modern jobs to support and sustain sleep health"

Runners-Up (two awards, \$300 each)

Everette Coffman, Child and Family Studies, "The Attachment Adaptation Process Model: Developing Attachment Security After Experiencing Addiction in the Family"

Halime Gulle, School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation, "Outcome Predictors for Plantar Heel Pain: Feasibility for a Cohort Study"



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