



THE PRESIDENT'S ASSOCIATES

RECOGNITION DINNER

Tuesday, April 23, 2024



President's Welcome



Dear President's Associates,

Every April, as our region comes alive with vibrant color, endless sunshine and the fragrance of springtime, CSUB looks ahead with hope and anticipation to commencement and the thousands of Roadrunners who will leave our university to begin lives of discovery and distinction.

And those students who were fortunate enough to experience the transformative opportunity of conducting scholarly research will have you – our most loyal supporters – to thank.

But they are not the only ones who are grateful for your generosity as a President's Associate. In supporting the Student Research Scholar Program, you allow CSUB to compete with other research institutions for the best and brightest students and faculty.

Yet the benefits of the research program that you make possible do not end on our campus. When these students apply for graduate schools and positions in the workforce, they take with them to their Ph.D. programs and new jobs a collection of essential skills that will serve them the rest of their lives. Through the process of scholarly research, students develop critical-thinking skills, innovative practices and, even more significantly, the self-assurance that they are capable of offering solutions through fact-based analysis, discipline and perseverance.

This year, your generosity has allowed 32 Student Research Scholars to work alongside our brilliant faculty members as they unlock discoveries on a variety of critical challenges, from the energy transition to cancer therapies to diversity in local classrooms and more.

Thank you for your belief in our students and the CSUB mission to provide an exceptional education through experiential learning. Your support is producing valuable research to lead our region forward and expanding the minds of an entire generation of leaders.

Sincerely,
Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr.
Interim President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vernon B. Harper, Jr.", positioned to the right of the typed name.

SOCIAL RECEPTION

Appetizers and dinner provided by Chef Lino's Catering

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Interim President, Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr.

STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARS VIDEO

Dean Sandra Bozarth

FREDERICK S. MACOMBER RESEARCH AWARD

Provost, Dr. James Rodriguez

PRESIDENT'S MEDAL PRESENTATION

Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr.

CLOSING

Dean Elizabeth Adams

COFFEE AND CHAMPAGNE SOCIAL

The President's Associates



Support

the most prestigious and longest-standing giving society at California State University, Bakersfield.

High impact

learning experiences for students via one-on-one research with faculty.

Research projects

address regional issues in fields such as medicine, sustainability and mental health.

2024 Sponsorship Opportunities

President's Circle - \$10,000 or more

Supports multiple high-impact, student-faculty research projects.

Mentor - \$5,000

Supports two student-faculty research projects.

Advocate - \$2,500

Supports one student-faculty research project.

Associate - \$1,000

Supports the programming of the President's Associates.



2024 Membership

President's Associates provide philanthropic support from \$1,000 to \$10,000-plus. A full membership listing will be shared at csub.edu/pa on or before June 30, 2024.

President's Circle: \$10,000 and above

Aera Energy, LLC
Bynum, Inc.: Greg and Mary Bynum
Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley
Dahna Stowe

Mentor: \$5,000 - \$9,999

Manuela Albuquerque
Valley Strong Credit Union
Jon and Phillis Van Boening
President Emerita Lynnette and Mr. John Zelezny

Advocate: \$2,500 – \$4,999

Louis and Sheryl Barbich
Jim Burke Companies
Mike and Judy Neal

Associate: \$1,000 – \$2,499

Dr. Elizabeth Adams, Dean, Antelope Valley Campus
Dr. Supratim and Mrs. Shilpi Banerjee
Charlotte and Robert Brandt
Michael and Dona Chertok
Dr. Deborah Cours, Dean, Business and Public Administration
Ellie and Ryan Fergon
Dr. Kim Flachmann
David and Catherine Gay
Geoff and Lisa King
Dr. Patrick and Mrs. Maria Leung
Angelo and Mary Mazzei
Heath and Georgina Niemeyer
Dr. Brian Nowlin
Vincent Oragwam
Dr. John Tarjan and Dr. Janet Tarjan
Dr. Kristen and Ray Watson

Johnny P. Zaninovich
Dr. Zachary Zenko and Ms. Magdalena Mrozik-Zenko

CSUB Management and Marketing Department

CSUB School of Arts and Humanities:
Acting Dean Alicia Rodriguez

CSUB School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering: Dean Jane Dong

CSUB School of Social Sciences and Education:
Interim Dean Luis Vega

CSUB Walter W. Stiern Library:
Dean Sandra Bozarth

NOTE: Gifts received after April 17 will be added to the donor wall on the President's Associates website at csub.edu/pa.

President's Medal



THE
PRESIDENT'S
ASSOCIATES

PAST RECIPIENTS

Millie Ablin*	1997
George Martin	1997
Jimmie Icardo	1998
Milton Younger*	1998
Dr. Kelly Blanton	1999
Bruce Bunker*	1999
Joan Dezember	1999
Gregory Bynum	2000
Virginia Church*	2000
Helen Windes*	2000
Curtis Darling*	2001
Dr. Hans Einstein*	2001
John Giumarra*	2001
Sheryl Barbich	2002
E.L. Skeet Varner*	2002
Gene Voiland	2002
Beverly Dukes*	2003
Fred Dukes*	2003
Judy Fritch	2003
Bill Hatcher	2004
Bob Karpe	2004
Dr. Robert Sheldon*	2004
Morgan Clayton	2005
Dr. George Hibbard*	2005
Dr. Jim George	2005
Dr. Robert Marshall	2005
Vince Rojas	2006
Dr. Ed Sasaki*	2006
Michael Chertok	2007

David H. Murdock	2007
Evangeline Myles*	2007
Dr. Homer Myles*	2007
The Honorable	
William M. Thomas	2007
Audrey Cochran	2008
Warner Williams	2008
Gaurdie Banister	2008
Bruce Johnson	2012
Dr. Girish Patel	2012
Dr. Pragati Patel	2012
Buck Owens*	2013
Dr. Julio Blanco	2013
Greta Lydecker	2014
Mayor Harvey Hall*	2014
Dr. Soraya Coley	2014
Michael Neal	2014
Barbara J.B. Mitchell	2015
Gayle Batey	2015
Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley	2015
Dr. Kim Flachmann	2018
Dolores Huerta	2018
Steve Renock	2018
John Nilon	2019
Barbara Grimm-Marshall	2020
Lavonne Hall	2021
Shelly Carlin	2022
Tom Hardt	2023

*Deceased

Student Research Scholars 2024

ARTS AND HUMANITIES



Gabriel Moore

Faculty Mentor: John Chen
Project: Kern County's Chinese Question



Jessica Price

Faculty Mentor: Joseph Florez
Project: Religious Extremism in the Russian-Ukraine War: The Case of Dagestani Women Militants



Carmen Tomshack

Faculty Mentor: Jonathan Young
Project: Eastern Religion on the West Coast: An Ethnography of Lived Hindu Experience Among Traditional Hare Krishnas in the Modern World

BUSINESS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



Luis Castellanos

Faculty Mentor: Joanne Choi
Project: The Collapse of Silicon Valley Bank



Josue Martinez

Faculty Mentor: Atieh Poushneh
Project: Understanding the Human Fear of AI



Abigail Sanchez

Faculty Mentor: Antje Lauer
Project: Developing a Butterfly Garden at CSUB to Support the Monarch Butterfly and Other Insects

Student Research Scholars 2024

NATURAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING



Sarah Alame

Faculty Mentor: Kane Keller

Project: The Allelopathic Effects of Bracken Fern, *Pteridium Aquilinum*, on Interspecific Interactions



Julnar Al Azzam

Faculty Mentor: Karlo Lopez

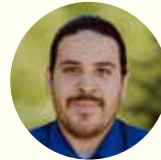
Project: Investigation into Enzymatic Sulfur Reduction in Fossil Fuels



Wefaq Alshami

Faculty Mentor: Amber Stokes

Project: The Effect of the Temperature on Behavioral Defensive Mechanism of Newts



Mitchell Alvarado

Faculty Mentor: Aubrey Kemp

Project: Refining Undergraduate Student Self-Assessment Criteria of Successful Proof Writing



George Boston

Faculty Mentor: Roy LaFever

Project: Exploring the Efficacy of Horehound Extracts to Protect Honeybees from *Varroa destructor* Infestations



Alexandra Brown

Faculty Mentor: Rae McNeish

Project: Microplastic Variation in Estuarine *Crassostrea Gigas* (Pacific Oyster) and Sediments Across Season, Protection Status and Watershed Land Use



Julissa Chavana

Faculty Mentor: Hanoz Santoke

Project: Role of Hydroxyl Radicals in Photolysis in Local River Water Samples



Mason Christian

Faculty Mentor: Rae McNeish

Project: Cattle Grazing Impacts on Stream Ecosystems at Tejon Ranch Conservancy



Kristyn Delamar

Faculty Mentor: Amber Stokes

Project: Investigations on the Consistency of Unken Reflex Behavior in *Taricha Granulosa*



Leslie Diaz

Faculty Mentor: Danielle Solano

Project: Synthesis of Heterocyclic Derivatives of Potential Inhibitors of Lysyl Oxidase



Kenya Espinoza

Faculty Mentor: Danielle Solano

Project: Synthesis of Heterocycles as Potential Inhibitors of Lysyl Oxidase



Karnig Estenssoro

Faculty Mentor: Lucas Hall

Project: Behavioral Changes in the San Joaquin Kit Fox from Exposure to Artificial Light at Night



Chase Gude

Faculty Mentor: Kane Keller

Project: The Effects of Microplastics on the Symbiotic Relationships Between Mycorrhiza and Rhizobia with Alfalfa



Joanne Harraka

Faculty Mentor: Karlo Lopez

Project: Investigation of the Structural Role of Disulfide Linkages in Lysyl Oxidase



Lanie Jackson

Faculty Mentor: Lance Talbert

Project: Characterization and Quantification of Phthalate Esters Along the Kern River



Katherine Kirstein

Faculty Mentor: Amber Stokes

Project: The Effects of Predator Cues on the Unken Reflex in Rough-Skinned Newts

Student Research Scholars 2024

NATURAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING

(continued)



Justin Lo

Faculty Mentor: Antje Lauer

Project: Analysis of Water Allocation at CSUB:
Understanding the Impact of Increasing or
Decreasing Water Availability



Kayla Prince

Faculty Mentor: Mustafah Dhada

Project: The Women's Influence on Media and
Propaganda for the Liberation Struggle in
Guinea Bissau



Jacob Roper

Faculty Mentor: Jesse J. Bergkamp

Project: Synthesis and Investigation of Quinones and
Organo-Metallic Redox Mediators for Solar Energy
Conversion and Storage

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“The Student Research Scholars program has truly been a transformative experience as it has provided me with a platform to delve deeper into my research interests while also making meaningful contributions to the scientific community. The knowledge and skills I have gained are invaluable, and they will undoubtedly shape my academic and research career, laying a solid foundation for all my future endeavors. I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to be a Student Research Scholar, as well as the mentorship that has guided me throughout this journey.”

Sarah Alame

Student Research Scholar, School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering



SOCIAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION



Nora Alammari

Faculty Mentor: Amy Gancarz-Kaush
Project: Effects of Long-Access Sucrose Exposure During the Adolescent Period on Operant Novelty Seeking in Male and Female Rats



Ana Cornejo

Faculty Mentor: BreAnna Evans-Santiago
Project: Elementary Teachers' Experiences with the FAIR Education Act



Stephanie Durra

Faculty Mentor: Zachary Zenko
Project: Senior Exercise Adherence



Manish "Money" Ghimire

Faculty Mentor: Jahyun Kim
Project: The Effects of Chronic Creatine Supplementation on Cardiovascular Function and Lower Body Strength in the Older Population



Brandon Krieg

Faculty Mentor: Amy Gancarz-Kaush
Project: Female Adolescent Sucrose Exposure: Effects on Cocaine Self-Administration



Ainsley Nommensen

Faculty Mentor: Zachary Zenko
Project: The Effects of Music on Fatigue, Affect and Recovery from Exercise



Ashley Sevier

Faculty Mentor: Zachary Zenko
Project: The Effects of Mental Fatigue on Endurance Performance

Why it matters



“Gaining experiential research opportunities is truly valuable for our students at CSUB. This provides them with support and mentoring to continue to explore their curiosity in the world. These experiences allow the students to put their coursework to action by showing how they can meaningfully contribute to our scientific knowledge. The Student Research Scholars program has been incredibly influential for numerous students in my lab, and I really appreciate the President’s Associates for this continued student encouragement.”

Kane R. Keller, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Biology



“I am proud to be both a donor and mentor in the Student Research Scholars program. We provide students with a transformational experience that is difficult to replicate in the normal curriculum. This unique opportunity gives students countless real-world skills that will benefit their careers.”

Zachary Zenko, Ph.D., Graduate Program Director, Kinesiology



“The generosity of The President’s Associates has aided my preparation for future advanced studies in support of my aspiration to become a professor of ecology. My experience as a Student Research Scholar has allowed me to deepen my understanding of my study area and expand my skills as an ecological researcher and science communicator. I extend my sincere gratitude to the donors, faculty and staff who make my participation in this wonderful program possible!”

Alexandra Brown, School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering



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2024