

# KHC NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of the Kellogg Honors College,  
Cal Poly Pomona



## Celebrating the Class of 2022

BY DR. CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS  
DIRECTOR, KHC

In this issue of our KHC Newsletter, we want to highlight our newest alumni, the graduating class of 2022. The Spring 2022 semester ushered in a number of notable changes. Among them, was our return to campus and in-person programming. In addition, we started new partnerships with the Office of Undergraduate Research to highlight honor student research and continued our work with the Center for Community Engagement providing honors students with over 35 volunteer opportunities.

Our recruitment efforts led to a Fall 2022 cohort of 70 new honors students representing all CPP colleges and a greater diversity of majors, not to mention, a greater representation of our CPP campus community in terms of ethnicity. We continue our efforts to serve CPP and build an inclusive community of scholars within our own program. Along with recruitment efforts, KHC awarded scholarships to 62 students in our program.

The Spring 2022 semester concluded with a national search for a new KHC director. I am honored (pun intended!) to have been chosen to continue to lead this amazing program and look forward to continued excellence in providing our students opportunities for growth, but also bringing new ideas that will hopefully lead to the growth of the program, greater inclusivity, and centering community as some of our important core values among others.

Finally, 2023 will mark the 20th Anniversary of KHC. Stay tuned for how we plan to celebrate this momentous occasion, and how we will pave the way for the next 20.



### The 2022 KHC Team

*Student Assistants:* Raphael Napinas & Osasuyi Osawe  
*Academic Coordinator:* Won Choi  
*KHC Faculty Fellow:* Dr. Marcus Elam  
*KHC Director:* Dr. Claudia Garcia-Des Lauriers  
*AVP, Academic Innovation:* Dr. Olukemi Sawyerr



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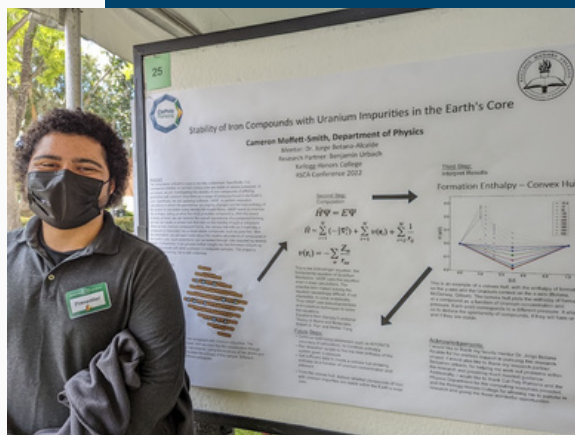


# Research Highlights from the RSCA Capstone Research Symposium

BY CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS  
DIRECTOR, KHC

Every year graduating honors students conduct research with the guidance of faculty mentors. Typically, fall semester is dedicated to gathering data, running experiments, or conducting literature searches, while early spring signals the culmination of data gathering and the writing up and presentation of research posters. In previous years the capstone symposium was celebrated alongside the KHC convocation where graduates were celebrated and received their graduation sashes and pins marking the successful completion of our program.

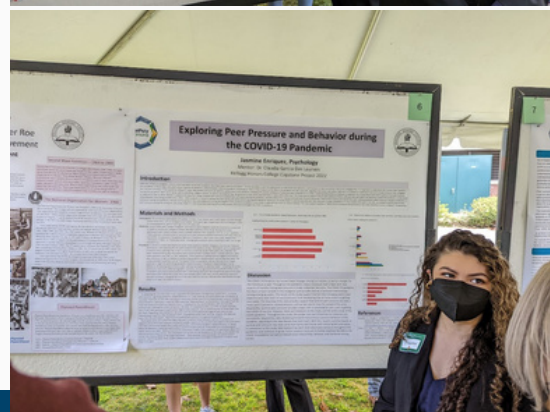
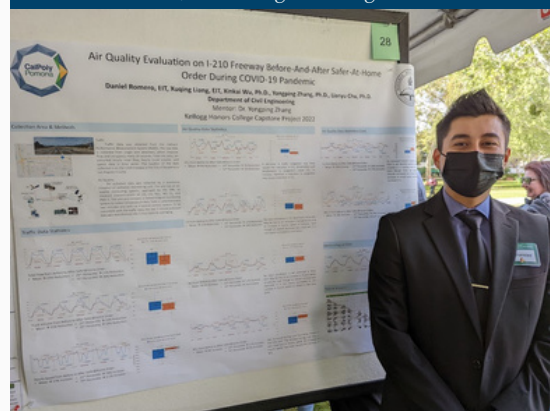
This year we partnered with the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) and held the Honors Capstone Symposium at the spring Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities (RSCA) conference. Dr. Winny Dong, director of OUR, and her staff worked with us to support these efforts with much success. We hope to continue this collaboration in years to come which will give the work of our honors students campus-wide exposure. We also thank all of the faculty mentors whose guidance and support make all of these amazing projects possible. Thanks to everyone's efforts we had forty students present their research at this year's symposium.



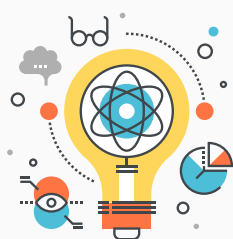
Cameron Moffett-Smith, Physics



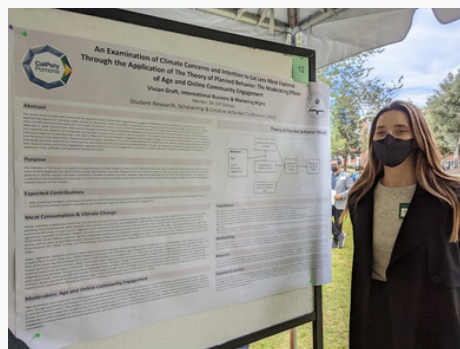
Daniel Romero, Civil Engineering



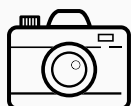
Jasmine Enriquez, Psychology



Vivian Graft,  
International Business & Marketing



Click the Icons Below for More Information & Details



Photos



Poster Abstracts



OUR



KHC Convocation, Graduating Class of 2022

## Convocation and Class of 2022 Achievements

BY DR. CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS  
DIRECTOR, KHC

After two long years of social distancing, 2022 marked the return of in-person events. In particular, it gave us great joy to once again be able to celebrate our graduating class at Kellogg House at our annual convocation celebration. Graduates and their families enjoyed a lovely outdoor reception with delicious food and drinks provided by Cal Poly Pomona catering. The reception was followed by our ceremony which featured

Dr. Jennifer Brown, our new Provost, as guest speaker.

We were truly honored to be one of the first events she attended during the graduation season upon arriving to our campus.

Dr. Marcus Elam, from the department of Nutrition and Food Science and KHC Faculty Fellow, and Won Choi assisted with the festivities. Graduating seniors were presented with a sash and pin to celebrate the completion of our program. This was one of the highlights of the year for us after such a long hiatus.



**Left:** Family members join in the celebration at Kellogg House  
**Bottom Left:** Provost Dr. Jennifer Brown addresses the graduates and their families.

**Bottom Right:** Won Choi, Academic Coordinator, Dr. Claudia Garcia-Des Lauriers, Director, and Dr. Marcus Elam, KHC Faculty Fellow preside over the celebration.



# Class of 2022 Achievements continued...

The KHC Class of 2022 accumulated a great list of important achievements. Among these is a strong grade point average above an A- and averaging 4.1 years to graduation, evidence that our program is contributing to CSU system-wide efforts of student success laid out in the Graduate Initiative 2025. Moreover, 44% of our graduates were accepted to graduate and or credential programs at top institutions. Another 28% already had jobs or internships in industry.

## Highlights Class of 2022



**Andrew Brands**, KHC Graduate, was selected as Julian A. McPhee Scholar for the College of Business Administration, Click Icon above to see him receive his award and address his fellow graduates. He will be starting a job in business consulting at Marshal & Stevens

**Nicolas Hernandez**, KHC Graduate, a double major in Political Science and Communications was accepted into several prestigious doctoral programs and will attend the University of Michigan

**Cameron Moffet-Smith** will be studying for his doctorate in Physics at UC, Irvine

**Noor Naji** will be pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Physical Chemistry at CalTech

**Manyin Qin** will be getting her M.A. in accounting at Notre Dame

**Maya Shattuck** will be pursuing a Masters in Public Health at Columbia University

**Carolina Mata** will be attending Clemson University and pursuing a Ph.D. in Biology and Analytical Chemistry

**Sarah Ragel** will start a job as an engineer at Industrial Tectonics Bearings

**Andrew Alday** secured a position as a Nozzles Structures Engineer at Northrup Grumman in Utah

**Megan Bradley** will start medical school at the California University of Science and Medicine



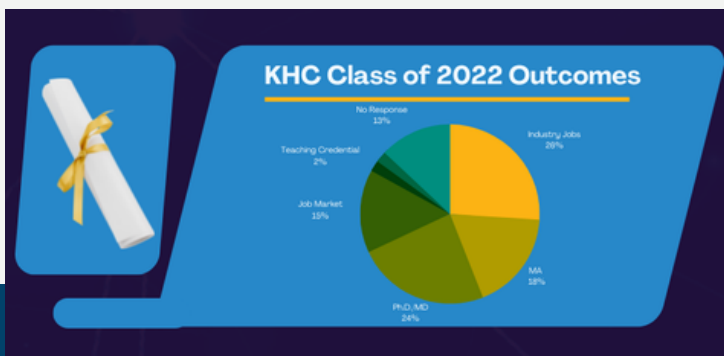
Andrew Brands, 2022 Commencement, Photo by Tom Zasadzinski

**KHC Class of 2022**

3.78 Average GPA  
4.1 Average Years to Graduation

Graduate Programs Recruiting  
KHC Class of 2022

Companies Hiring  
KHC Class of 2022





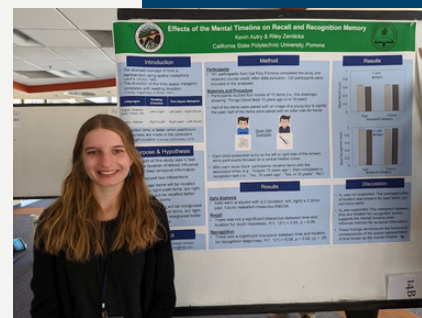
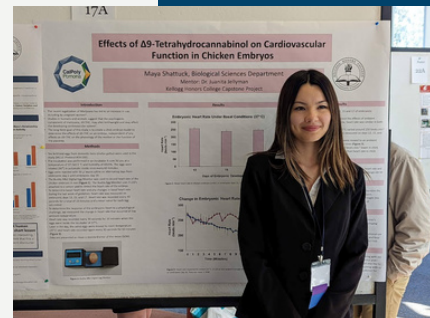
**Left to Right:** Won Choi, Maranda Hernandez, Dr. Claudia Garcia-Des Lauriers, Jose Hernandez-Romero, Andrew Brands, Carolina Mata, Maya Shattuck, Christian Aquino, Jillian Muñoz, Zoe Walker, Riley Zemlicka, Zane Landin

## Honors Students Present Research in New Mexico

BY DR. CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS  
DIRECTOR, KHC

In April of 2022, eleven KHC students attended the Western Regional Honors Conference hosted by the Honors College of the University of New Mexico. Students presented posters and oral presentations of their research and participated in a conference-organized field trip to Meow Wolf, an immersive experience located in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The Western Regional Honors Council is an organization made up of Honors colleges and programs from the western region of the US. Every year they host a conference at different universities in the region, bringing together hundreds of honors students to share their research, build professional networks, attend field trips, and listen to invited guest speakers. This conference provides our students with excellent practice presenting their research to an audience of their peers and honors advisors from other campuses. KHC was well represented and our students, as always, did us proud.



Click the icon to see the  
WRHC 2022 Program &  
Abstracts



## Reflecting on 22 years of Service at CPP

by Won Choi  
KHC Academic Coordinator

November 2022 marks the beginning of my 22nd year at Cal Poly Pomona. To highlight the occasion, I was asked to compose a short reflection on my experience so far. My relationship with CPP started as a student from 1996 to 2001. I was a history major planning to become a high school teacher, but I changed my career focus to advising/counseling after working as a student peer mentor at CPP's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). Six months after graduation I applied for the position as academic advisor position at EOP. I honed my interpersonal skills during the nine years working with the amazing students and staff at EOP.

In 2010, I became the academic coordinator at the Kellogg Honors College (KHC). The KHC is a great community to be part of. I work with students from all majors and backgrounds, who are passionate about learning. I collaborate with faculty, staff, and administrators from across CPP to plan events and initiatives. I work with on-and-off campus partners to plan and attend community service events.

Looking back over the past 21 years I find the high quality of people at CPP has not changed. As a student, I was helped by amazing people. I reciprocate my gratitude by providing the best service I can. What changed dramatically over the years is the physical campus. I witnessed the construction of the Student Services Building, BRIC, Brew Works, two parking structures, residential suites, residential halls/Centerpointe, engineering building 17, and the College of Business buildings. Technology has also greatly changed since my first day at CPP. During my 90's student experience, there were no online tools like BroncoDirect. I registered for classes over a phone call using a print booklet of class offerings. CPP email and wifi didn't exist. I learned my class grades by the report card CPP mailed to my house weeks after finals exams. As 2023 approaches, I am confident the KHC and CPP will continue to provide an outstanding educational experience. I look forward to seeing you around!





# Current Students

BY RAPHAEL NAPINAS  
STUDENT ASSISTANT, KHC

KHC students Aiyana Castanon, Khanh Doan, Jose Ortiz, Emily Quinton, and Brian Rittel are among 16 Cal Poly Pomona President's Scholars for 2022-2023! Below are more of our students' recent successes. Congratulations everyone!

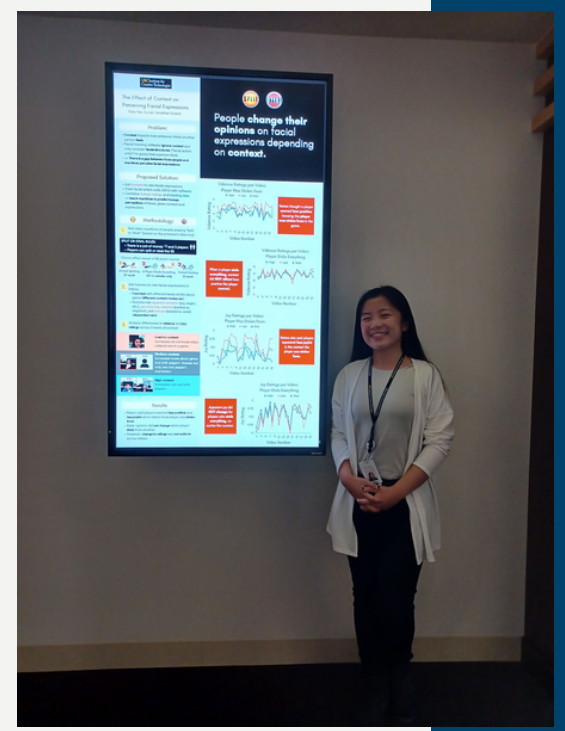
**Name: Briana Rittel**  
**Year: Senior**      **Major: Computer Engineering**

Briana completed a 10 week summer internship at Intel's microprocessor chip facility near Portland, Oregon. The internship included travel, housing, and a stipend. Briana's role of LTD Silicon Fabrication Intern involved making training videos for Intel employees using Microsoft HoloLens. Briana credits earning the internship to her self-taught video editing skills and involvement with the College of Engineering. She applied to over 50 internships through job and company websites, resulting in interviews with five companies. Briana hopes to earn an engineering position at Intel after graduation.



**Name: Cleo Yau**  
**Year: Senior**      **Major: Computer Science**

Cleo completed a 10 week summer research experience for undergraduates (REU) at the University of Southern California's Institute for Creative Technologies, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. The REU included travel, housing, and a stipend. Cleo's research involved coding in python and R for computer recognition of human emotions in facial expressions.



# Current Students continued...

**Name: Federico Parres**

**Year: Senior Major: Aerospace Engineering**

Federico interned at Howmet Engine Systems over the summer. His role was improving workflow for the company's robotic grinding arm. Federico designed a new holding mechanism to increase the robot's applications. Federico credits his personal/hobby research in robotics for getting this internship.

*Federico is pictured second from the left.*



**Name: Megan Shadrick**

**Year: Junior Major: Management and Human Resources**

Megan completed the Summer Institute for Emerging Managers and Leaders (SIEML) at UCLA. She placed second in the case competition and received a scholarship to any UC business school. Megan appreciated the opportunity to network with business professionals and learn about career options.

*Megan is pictured second from the left.*



## New Students Welcomed to KHC!

The KHC welcomed several new sophomore and transfer honors students with a retreat to Yosemite National Park. Over four days, students formed community through several hikes and nature excursions.

In addition, the KHC held a retreat solely for our new freshman cohort in the mountains of Running Springs, CA. They bonded over several games and activities such as high roping and bonfires.

Welcome to some of our newest honors students!





# KHC in the News

Click on the icons to read about some of the newsworthy activities that KHC students participated in Spring 2022.



Communications major and KHC Student Zane Landin was selected to participate in a Mental Health Forum at the White House



Video Coverage of the White House Mental Health Youth Forum, KHC Student Zane Landin participating



Honors class maps our campus accessibility



Model UN wins Outstanding Delegation, Outstanding position paper awarded to KHC student, Melane Olmeda

## Alumni Updates

*Armand Yerjanian, Finance, Real Estate, Law, KHC Class of 2017*

Recently sold his company Illuria Security. Click [here](#) to find out more about Armand's achievements in business, entrepreneurship, and cyber security



## Share your success

Current students and Alumni can stay in touch and share your recent achievements with us. Let us celebrate with you! Click [here](#) to share your success!



2021-2022 Civic Engagment Events

## Connect with Us



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