

P O L Y X

S H O W C A S E

Presented by
Office of Undergraduate Research &
Learn Through Discovery Initiative

Spring 2020



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Dr. Olukemi Sawyerr
Interim Assistant VP Academic Innovation

WELCOME

The **PolyX Showcase** is presented by the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) and the Learn Through Discovery (LTD) Initiative to recognize Signature Polytechnic Experiences (PolyX) at Cal Poly Pomona. Students involved in PolyX are learning-by-doing through implementing solutions to real-world needs. This digital magazine highlights students in the LTD Projects Hatchery, those receiving Research Distinction, among other programs. The magazine also celebrates faculty members who have gone above and beyond in mentoring students engaged in PolyX.

The PolyX Showcase has traditionally been a banquet-style event held each Spring. The new format this year reflects the current learning environment imposed due to the pandemic. Although the magazine gives a highlight of the different programs, we hope you will take time to view the intimate student experiences via the links provided. We think that you will be inspired and impressed by the passion that Cal Poly Pomona students bring to their projects and the positive impact they have achieved.

LEARN THROUGH DISCOVERY PROJECTS HATCHERY

Experience from a Projects Hatchery Participant

Rosangela Muniz is a graduate student at Cal Poly Pomona. Her goal is to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Getting her masters is a stepping stone to accomplishing this goal. She became passionate about becoming an RDN during her undergraduate program at Cal State San Bernardino, where she was able to provide free nutrition advice to underserved communities. While pursuing her undergraduate degree, Rosy also joined the United States Air Force Reserves, which has inspired her current thesis project at Cal Poly Pomona. Thanks to Projects Hatchery, staff, and faculty support, she has been able to provide free nutrition advice and services to student veterans on campus.



Projects Hatchery has been one of the most meaningful programs that has influenced my journey to becoming a registered dietitian (RD). As a graduate student, getting my thesis project going has been challenging. The Projects Hatchery program really helped jump-start my project by providing a clear goal and financial support.

Projects Hatchery initiated the start of my thesis project because it prompted me to write a thesis proposal. Writing my thesis proposal was extremely helpful because I learned how to write effectively and concisely. Most importantly, it motivated me to write clear guidelines for my project goals and methodologies. The entire process gave me a quality experience and has positively impacted my professional growth.

Projects Hatchery holds monthly meetings where each group presents any update about their project. The feedback from students and staff members has been invaluable to my project. Their constructive criticism has helped prepare me for my thesis proposal as well as my thesis defense.

The financial support that Projects Hatchery has provided has been crucial to the success of my project. Their financial assistance has helped to provide free nutrition education and bloodwork to approximately 60 veteran students on campus.

Finally, Projects Hatchery has provided motivational support. Carrying out a research project can be both stressful and challenging. Projects Hatchery has become my motivational support group that

understands the struggle, provides feedback, and holds scheduled meetings to allow for updates. This has had positive impacts on both the advancement of my project and my mental health. Projects Hatchery has successfully created a tight-knit networking community that is available to support students in their research endeavors.

Working with Projects Hatchery has provided me with an amazing professional experience that has allowed me to grow personally and professionally. Being a part of this team has also taught me a lot about what goes on in different departments and with other student projects. As a team member, I strongly encourage other students to apply and be a part of this awesome research experience that will be, without a doubt, beneficial in their college and professional careers.

2019-2020 PHASE III TEAMS

BLADE

Balloon Launch Assessment Directive for Engineers
Nathaniel Hebert, Aaron Lowe, Benjamin Narita, Michael Pham, William McKinney, Gustavo Salgado
Mentor: Eduardo Corpuz

CUT THE BIAS

Cut the Bias
Hailey Arzaga, Valerie Marquez, Jay Ramzy, Marmar Tavasol
Mentor: Alex Madva

DOS PALMAS

Using Ground-based Magnetics, VLF, and DC Resistivity to Examine Faulting at the San Andreas Oasis, Dos Palmas Preserve
Raul Contreras, Stacey Petrashek, Nathan Pulver,
Mentor: Jascha Polet

FOOD JUSTICE

Making a community-based farmer's market: the role of critical food systems activism and education
Camryn Hamm, Calista Ho, Melissa Provancha
Mentor: Teresa Lloro

FLU

Differential expression of IFITM3 in the lungs of obese diabetic, obese only, and non-obese non-diabetic mice infected with influenza
Alexis Crayton, Connor Kunihiro, Gift Panavaravath
Mentor: Jill Adler-Moore

GREEN

Constitutive Model of PLG 10-90 For Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction
Jessica Damon, Alba Delgadillo, Tim Ebner, Jaselinne Garcia, Raza Tehreem
Mentor: Mehrdad Haghi

GUARDIAN BUGS

Molecular Engineering of Antibodies
Participants: Nathan Ma
Mentor: Hyung Chul Han

LV BOTTLE

All Access Consumer Products
Participants: Stephen Lin
Partners: Rashon Vermont, Sebastian Vermont
Mentor: Mariappan Jawaharlal

PELLISIER PIRATES

Locating archaeological artifacts in Colton, CA using ground penetrating radar and magnetic gradiometry
Veronica Hernandez, Oscar Prado, Chloe Sutkowski
Mentor: Jascha Polet

POMONA YOUTHS

The Facilitation of Mindfulness - Positive Psychology and Meditation Influence on Education and Well-Being at Continuation Schools
Coria Monserrat, Jesus Navarro, Viviana Piceno, Sergio Maldonado, Kevon Williams
Mentor: Alejandro Morales

REACHING HIGH

Investigating Pain Reduction via Magnitude Manipulation
Participants: Lauren-Taylor Pavlatos
Mentor: Kevin Autry

SUPER EMOTO

Super eMoto
Rachel Hansen, Cristofer Mayers, Owen Wilkening
Mentor: Nolan Tsuchiya

TRICHOMONAS LAB

Using CRISPR gene-editing to study how immune-cells kill the sexually-transmitted parasite Trichomonas vaginalis
Aljona Leka, Jose Moran
Mentor: Frances Mercer

VETERANS NUTRITION

Healthy Vets: Expanding Nutrition Services to Student Veterans
Sommarani Chan, Rosangela Odgers
Mentor: Elke Azpeitia



To view more team bios and information, [CLICK HERE!](#)

ACHIEVE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Experiences from two ASP Participants

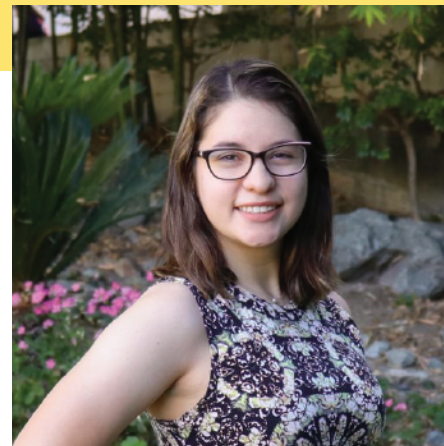
Claire Choquette is a first-generation college student and 4th-year Animal Science major. Claire's research background is in animal nutrition and she loves all things animals! Claire is graduating this semester and will be applying to Veterinary School this cycle.

The Achieve Scholars Program has been an absolutely wonderful experience. With an emphasis on undergraduate research and peer mentoring, it was truly an honor to partake and be involved in a great program!

I am a first-generation college student. When I first came to Cal Poly Pomona, it was overwhelming and pretty terrifying. I had no family member to turn to with questions about college and asking classmates and professors was very intimidating for me. I eventually branched out on campus and quickly became involved.

In my last year of being an undergraduate, I was privileged to be accepted into the Achieve Scholars Program. I really enjoyed the experience and being a Peer Mentor because I directly impacted the lives of other students who felt the same as me when I first started at Cal Poly Pomona. Being a peer mentor lets you help your fellow students get into research and get to know a lot of really great people!

I am so glad I was able to participate in a great program and would highly recommend it to any student or major because it will only positively impact them and really enhance their college experience!



CLAIRE CHOQUETTE
Animal Science

Joaquina Hernandez is a first-generation Latina who transferred to Cal Poly Pomona as an Environmental Biology major. Joaquina's research background is in Botany, specifically floral anatomy and restoring wildlands with natives. She also worked with park rangers and participated in nature interpreting at a botanical garden. Joaquina is graduating this semester and will begin her master's degree in Environmental Management in the fall.



JOAQUINA HERNANDEZ
Environmental Biology

The Achieve Scholars Program is a diverse research community of Broncos created to be a source of strength for one another while in pursuit of their academic goals. Being able to contribute my voice, guide my mentees, and team-building with my cohort peers was a unique experience for me!

Advocating for an education, especially research involvement, transforms me into a passionate person, and I wanted to share my enthusiasm with others in this great program. Embarking on my new role as a peer mentor was scary at first, but my mentees made me feel comfortable quickly. We were all able to come together as a group and support each other through any worry we had about our academics and life. Developing a relationship with my mentees and cohort is a bond I will always hold dear for years to come.

The best part was the safe environment we had to talk about real student issues, and the tasks we were assigned were fun to do. The interviews I organized with Dr. Questad in the Biology department and Dr. Omar in the Computer Engineering department went extremely well. I enjoyed learning what they looked for in potential research assistants, and I was able to provide better advice to my mentees in those fields. Also, our program coordinator, Everardo Barraza, was an amazing leader and created an

inclusive, collaborative atmosphere for all of us. Confidence has been an internal struggle for me, which is why I went out of my comfort zone to join this program. I was heavily involved on campus through my Treasurer and Lead Fundraiser responsibilities, so I wanted to continue to challenge myself by trusting in my ability to help others through this program's goals. The encouragement and support I received from my peers and my own mentors have helped me to believe in myself more.

The whole experience was humbling and worthwhile! Not only did I build amicable relationships with my peers, but I also benefited from all the workshops, discussions, and assignments; the required text was an exceptional read! For anyone that enjoys helping others in their academic aspirations, I would urge you to join the Achieve Scholars community; you will surely see growth in yourself as well as excel in your future career!

2019-2020 SCHOLARS

Julia Abrego Biology	Seth Adams Mechanical Engineering	Kevin Arellano Esquerra Electrical Engineering	Cynthia Arriaga Nutrition	Girisha Bharadwaj Biotechnology
Nicholas Calkins Computer Science	Daisy Campos Biology	Lawon Carney Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology	Alejandro Cerano-Lopez Civil Engineering	Benjamin Chavez Computer Science
Cindy Chenh Biochemistry	Claire Choquette Animal Science	Rachel Christensen Animal Science	Carolina Corona Civil Engineering	Liliana Coronado General Biology
Georgina Corral Biotechnology	Jessica Damon Mechanical Engineering	Nora Elsharhawy Biology	Lindzee Figarola Biotechnology	Jennifer Flores Biology
Mikayla Frial Mechanical Engineering	Rogine Gomez Chemical Engineering	Lauren Harris Psychology	Sarah Hasel Biology	Joaquina Hernandez Environmental Biology
Xinyu Hu Applied Math	Joseph Husli Nutrition, Dietetics	Meghan Jeffus Biology	Madison Jimenez Kinesiology	Carolyn John Computer Science
Benjamin Kong Mechanical Engineering	Haley Lam Food Science and Technology	Kyle Lam Civil Engineering	Hana Lee Food Science and Technology	Jaren Li Aerospace Engineering
Janis Liu Architecture	Joshua Loper Mechanical Engineering	Kassandra Lopez Biology	Jason Martinez Mechanical Engineering	Jacqueline Mendez Animal Health Science
Bamdad Mesri Electrical Engineering	Sharon Muniz Dietetics	Katrina Ngo Computer Science	Sy Nguyen Electrical Engineering	Arvin Ohanian Computer Engineering
Nick Papp Aerospace Engineering	Alessandro Pereyra Chemical Engineering	Bianca Ponciano Sociology	Marcos Rafael Chemistry	Ashley Ramirez Microbiology
Jason Reggie Electronics System Engineering Technology	Gabriela Rodriguez Civil Engineering	Juan Roque Aguayo Animal Science (Pre-Vet)	Francisco Ruiz Animal Health Science	Mais Salloum Mechanical Engineering
Khadija Shafiq Biotechnology	Benjamin Snyder Physics	Jihoon Song Animal Health Science	Waratchakorn Talcangdee Biology	Elvis Tang Computer Engineering
Jailen Trinidad Biology	Montserrat Valdez Animal Health Science	Lafayette Vue Biotechnology	Celene Yang Biology	Gabrielle Yang Environmental Biology
		Cristina Yu Civil Engineering		



To view more information about ASP, [CLICK HERE!](#)



ECRA

Early Career Research Apprenticeship

Experiences from two ECRA Scholars



Valerie De La Rosa's research looked at teacher self-efficacy in teaching dual language learners in different early childhood settings. As a first-year transfer student under the direction of Dr. Giselle Navarro-Cruz, Valerie was able to learn qualitative and quantitative research design methods where she interviewed and administered a survey with educators about how their work environments and educational experiences influence them.

Further, Valerie observed how educators apply different strategies when working with dual language learners. She mentioned that it was a great learning opportunity because she was able to apply frameworks and theoretical models that she learned in her courses associated with multilingual children.

Through this research, she was exposed to different educational settings such as family daycare, head start, mainstream kindergarten, dual immersion kindergarten, and center-based care. This allowed her to recognize how the system works from different perspectives. Her mentor was always available to answer her questions and allowed her to grow as a researcher. After presenting at the CPP Student RSCA Conference, Valerie mentioned she gained more confidence in herself and her research ability.

Grigor Tombulyan is a sophomore majoring in general biology. Under the guidance of faculty mentor Dr. Andrea Bonisoli-Alquati, Grigor worked on the impacts the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill had in exposing the pelagic and coastal marine ecosystems to oil and its main toxic components, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).



His project builds on earlier studies by investigating the cardiotoxicity of PAHs exposure in the seaside sparrow by conducting real-time PCR and measuring the expression of the jun gene in exposed and control birds. Since joining the Dr. Bonisoli-Alquati lab, Grigor was able to immerse himself in his research fully and was given many opportunities to work with graduate and undergraduate peers in the lab and field. These early experiences allowed him to develop an understanding of how to navigate the research process, supported by consistent meetings and conversations with all of the members of the lab and the faculty mentor. After presenting at the CPP Student RSCA Conference, Grigor was able to gain more confidence in himself as an undergraduate researcher because the conference allowed him to display his knowledge and communication skills with peers and other faculty.

2019-2020 SCHOLARS

Ashley Borchert Apparel Merchandising & Management	Destiny Alvarez Applied Language	Ricardo Brito Mechanical Engineering	Valerie De La Rosa Early Childhood Education
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Dana del Ray Urban and Regional Planning	Jennifer Flores Biology	Justin Frettlahr Aerospace Engineering	Carson Gorney Chemistry
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Audriana Gregorio Psychology	Christopher Hernandez Mechanical Engineering	Neha Jayan Computer Science	Eric Ji Urban and Regional Planning
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Saurabh Kansara Mechanical Engineering	Marc Leon Aldape Physics	Oli Loeffler Political Science	Richard Mai Food Science and Technology
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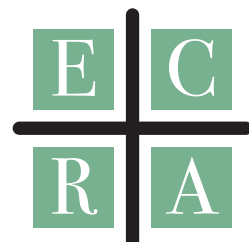
Rodrigo Manzo Plant Science	Bamdad Mesri Computer and Electrical Engineering	Randell Monzon Political Science	Jeanney Munoz Biology
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Daniela Navarro Psychology	Nhan Nguyen Animal Science	Rohith Rajasekaran Computer Engineering	Grigor Tombolyan Biology
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Kelly Tran Marketing Management	Maximum Wilder-Smith Computer Science	Kelly Wong English Literature	Cristina Yu Civil Engineering
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Jeremy Manning Philosophy	Kristen Thorson Civil Engineering	Brianna Melgoza Urban and Regional Planning
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 To view more information about ECRA, [CLICK HERE!](#)



CPP STUDENT DELEGATES

at the CSU Student Research Competition

2020 CSU Student Research Competition Delegates

The California State University (CSU) Statewide Student Research Competition is an annual event that brings together campus delegates from all 23 of the CSU campuses. At Cal Poly Pomona the selection of student delegates takes place during the annual Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA) Conference, hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Research with the support of the Undergraduate Research Faculty Advisory Committee.

This year the CSU Student Research Competition is hosted virtually by the CSU East Bay campus on April 24, 2020. A list of the CSU Student Research Delegation and their project information is listed below. Select the interactive box at the bottom of the page to view the student's video presentations and final results from the competition.

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Title: Populist Discourse In African Politicians' Speeches
Presenters: Randell Monzon, Isaias Martinez, Michelle H. Allende, Alvin Wong
Faculty Mentor: Robert Nyenhius

BIOLOGICAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Title: Effects of Type II Diabetes Mellitus on Pharmacokinetics of Liposomal Amphotericin B in Mice
Presenter: Ielyzaveta Slarve
Faculty Mentor: Jill Adler-Moore

Title: The Effect of Environmental Enrichment on the Number of NADPH-D Positive Interneurons in the Dentate Gyrus of the Dorsal Rat Hippocampus

Presenters: Zuhayr Khan, Waratchakorn Taleangdee, Colin Campell, Sandie Macias, Amrin Vajifdar, Leeland Liu, Kenneth Rangel, Girisha Bharadwaj, Eric Huynh, Jon Provencs, Julie Truong, Romulalda Aquino
Faculty Mentor: Glenn Kageyama

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS, AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Title: Should Business Faculty Encourage Their Undergraduate Students to Participate in Research?
Presenters: Cailin Kuchenbecker, Guillermo Marquez, Mitchell Pickering
Faculty Mentor: Jae Min Jung

ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Title: Solids Analysis of a Uasb-Hrap System in Brazil
Presenter: Lorena Bennett
Faculty Mentors: Monica Palomo, Matthew Verbyla

Title: BANSHE UAV
Presenters: Geoffrey Oetting, Ryan Valdezotto, Korbin Weatherman, Aramzd Melikian, Marc Repollo, Joel Lee, Dawit Assefa, Justin Wells, Bimaya Jayaratne, Jaehyun Kim, Jaime Castro
Faculty Mentors: Steven Dobbs, Zhen Yu


Title: Oxide Scales on Metallic Alloys
Presenters: Jacob Norman, Jaymn Singh, Matt Irwin, Jordyn Park
Faculty Mentor: Vilupanur Ravi

Title: Aluminum Metal Matrix Composites – Processing and Stability
Presenters: David Calderon, Chase Hargrove, Harrison Porter, Lisbeth Pelayo
Faculty Mentor: Vilupanur Ravi

Title: Testing of Thermal Energy Storage Using Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Applications
Presenters: Andrew Wilson, Aaron Narag, Nicole Garcia, Ronell Lim, Benjamin Kong, Ega Herlim, Joseph Kiriakos, Christopher Sal
Faculty Mentor: Reza Lakeh

HUMANITIES AND LETTERS

Title: Factory Farming: A Violation of Human Rights
Presenter: Lauren Ybarra
Faculty Mentor: Katherine Gasdaglis

 To view student delegate presentation videos and competition results, [CLICK HERE!](#)

Experiences from CSU Student Delegate Awardees from Prior Competitions



JANAM DAVE

Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology, Spring 2018
 CPP Student Delegate 2018 and 2019

I would definitely encourage other students to participate in the research conference, whether it is a poster or an oral presentation. I think one of the benefits is getting critiques and insight from others, this can really help develop one's research and communication skills. I have heard a lot of students say that they feel nervous about presenting and worried that they might be under a lot of scrutiny. In general, it was a very nice experience and not something to be nervous about.

PARVEENA SINGH

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and Language, Spring 2018
 CPP Student Delegate 2018



Participating in the CSU Student Research Competition really helped build my public speaking skills and the ability to keep an audience interested in what you're saying. It is so easy to go up to a crowd and speak off a piece of paper or flashcards, but it is different to go up there and speak to try and make a connection with the crowd through not only what you're saying but also through your tone and body language. I believe being a charismatic and efficient public speaker is such an important skill for someone to have and presenting at research conferences can help build that. If you think about it, your research may be interesting to you and you may fully understand it, but being able to talk about it in a way so that other people who are not in your field can understand it, is hard to do but if you're able to do it, is a very valuable skill to have in life.



SARAH CABALLERO

Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology, Spring 2019
 CPP Student Delegate 2019


As an undergraduate researcher don't expect everything to go right, or even to understand everything, when you start. When you watch others presenting, it sounds like everything goes smoothly, but that's never the case. It took me an entire summer just to develop the procedures for my project, which resulted in about 2 slides in my conference presentation. Also, don't be afraid to ask questions and to make mistakes. It took me awhile to be ok with making mistakes, but that's when I went from simply following a protocol to actually researching.

MINNA SMITH

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Winter 2019
 CPP Student Delegate 2019



My research has already led me to a career that I am highly passionate about in the renewable energy sector. The solar industry has seen a lot of growth in the last decade, but as the field is still so new, the opportunity to drive further research and innovation is far from over. Even though I work in an office and not a lab, I use the skills I gained from my research every day, taking published research and adapting it into practical uses for effectively managing solar plants. In addition, I hope to participate in graduate-level research in the future to even further the field of solar energy.

 To view more student delegate insights - [CLICK HERE!](#)

RESEARCH DISTINCTION

Experience from a past awardee



ASHISH HINGLE

Master of Science in Business Administration

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA) are a part of the learning by doing philosophy at Cal Poly Pomona. These activities can be found at every corner of the campus. I mean this in both a figurative and literal way. From the entrepreneurs in the CBA to the north of campus to the designers from Apparel Merchandising and Management to the east, the ethnobotanists at the Biotrek to the west, and the researchers at the Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies to the south, you can find our students working on RSCA throughout our campus. Behind each student is the support of their faculty mentors. RSCA feels like a never-ending process because as the dust settles around one project, we as students often find ourselves asking, "what's next?" As Broncos, we pride ourselves in this urge for creativity, discovery, and innovation.

For five years, the Research Distinction has recognized students throughout Cal Poly Pomona who have nurtured their spirit of discovery towards the world we live in. The idea behind the Research Distinction is to recognize students who have journeyed through the cyclical process of conducting and disseminating one's work. There are three requirements for the Research Distinction. Firstly, students must conduct at least six months of faculty-mentored research. Secondly, students must share the work through the Student RSCA Conference in the winter, the Creative Activities and Research Symposium in the summer, or a professional conference. And finally, students must publish a full paper in Bronco Scholar, which is the Cal Poly Pomona Online Repository, or a Professional journal or publication. On completing all the requirements, students are awarded a certificate of achievement and graduation pin that they can wear at Commencement.

I was awarded the Research Distinction in 2018 for a project that I worked on for almost two years. My research is one of the most memorable experiences of my undergraduate career, bringing together a breadth of knowledge that I would not have been apart of otherwise. The reason I decided to pursue a master's degree and now a doctoral degree is a direct result of my RSCA. Reading about other student's RSCA experiences and reflecting on my own is a humbling experience. No matter what side of campus they spent their time, every student awarded the Research Distinction has taken advantage of these signature polytechnic experiences. I am incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to help establish the Research Distinction to recognize all the fantastic work that our students are doing at CPP. This program is a part of both my odyssey and legacy in the Office of Undergraduate Research and Cal Poly Pomona.

Ashish is a third culture kid with a passion for combining data with innovative design. He graduated in 2017 from Cal Poly Pomona's Computer Information Systems program and is currently completing his Master of Business Administration with an emphasis in Information Security. Ashish will be joining a doctoral program in information science in the fall. As a professional, Ashish works as an Information Systems Analyst at Cal Poly Pomona, analyzing data sets to create infographics and reports for grant writing. Ashish is an avid researcher, with a wide variety of research interests, and he works to explore these interests through exploration and theory-crafting. These research interests include user experience and user interface research, startup design, and lean methodologies in web development.

2019-2020 RECIPIENTS

Seza Atamian

Stephanie Barrow

David Calderon

Ho Lun Chan

Rachel Christensen

Kevin Collins

Beverly Cotter

Joshua Diaz

Kendall Feliciano

Christopher Gonzales

Kenneth Hirscht

Benjamin Hunter

Matt Irwin

Zuhayr Khan

Cailin Kuchenbecker

Jordan Markson

Guillermo Marquez

Valerie Marquez

Derek Miller

Omar Naffaa

Ibrahim Naffaa

Jacob Norman

Jordyn Park

Harrison Porter

Viral Shukla

Jaymn Singh

Amal Suleiman

Marmar Tavasol

Christina Vagenas

Christina Vides

Jaden Yocom

Lauren Ybarra



CAL POLY POMONA
RESEARCH DISTINCTION



To read about the Scholars' research in the annual REACH journal, [CLICK HERE!](#)



FACULTY MENTOR RESEARCH STARS

The Faculty Mentor Research Stars (STARS) recognizes faculty members who have engaged students seeking a Learning-by-Doing experience at Cal Poly Pomona. These faculty members have mentored their students to conduct, present, and publish research; all the requirements for Research Distinction (pages 09-10) for students.

The following faculty are new awardees of the STARS program or have moved to a higher tier in the 2019-2020 year.

★	TIER 1 1-4 Student Mentees	Cory Aragon	Zuoyue Wang	★ ★	TIER 2 5-9 Student Mentees	Cord Brundage
		Omar Mora	Glenn Kageyama			
		Eleonora Rossi	Tamer Omar	★ ★ ★	TIER 3 10-24 Student Mentees	Katherine Gasdaglis Vilupanur Ravi
		Peter Ross				

Each year we highlight the work of some of our STARS mentors. The following STARS Mentors were interviewed about what mentorship means to them.



Dr. Mario Guerrero

Chair, Professor of Political Science
Associate Professor, Political Science

"Mentorship plays a pretty important role in shaping the way people see the world."

Dr. Olive Li

Associate Professor, Nutrition & Food Science
Director, Research and Graduate Studies

"I mentor students to provide guidance, but I also learn from my students... it's a collaborative process."



Dr. Keith Forward

Faculty Director, Undergraduate Studies and General Education
Associate Professor, Chemical & Materials Engineering

"I really enjoy working with our students at Cal Poly Pomona; there is this grit that I just haven't really seen anywhere else."



