25th Annual FRONTIERS

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH POSTER EXHIBITION

April 8, 2022

2:00-3:30 p.m. • 4:00-5:30 p.m.

April 9, 2022

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Schedule of Events

Poster Exhibition

Friday, April 8, 2022
Session 1: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Session 2: 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 2022
Session 3: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Session 4: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Student and Faculty Reception Friday, April 8, 2022
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Reception Program

Welcome and Introductions

Caroline McGuire
Executive Director, Enrichment Programs and Director, Office of Undergraduate Research

Keynote Speaker

Carl Lejuez
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Connecticut

Presentation of the Mentorship Excellence Awards

Faculty Awards

Jason Oliver Chang
Associate Professor, History & Asian American Studies

Presented by **Karen Lau '25** (CLAS)

Sarah Knutie
Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Presented by **Mahima Mehta '22** (CLAS)

Graduate Student Award

Mia Kawaida
Ph.D. Student, Animal Science

Nominated by **Vianna Bassani '23** (CAHNR)

Closing Remarks

Jennifer Lease Butts
Associate Vice Provost, Enrichment Programs and Director, Honors Program

About Frontiers in Undergraduate Research

The Frontiers Poster Exhibition is a multidisciplinary research forum showcasing undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative projects at the University of Connecticut. Frontiers 2022 is the twenty-fifth annual Frontiers event sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR). This year's exhibition includes 171 students presenting posters for 163 research and creative projects at the Storrs in-person exhibition. 11 students will present 8 research and creative projects at the Stamford in-person exhibition on April 12, 2022. 58 projects by 65 students can be viewed in the online exhibition at ugradresearch.uconn.edu/frontiers2022. 19 of those students will also share their projects during four live, online presentation sessions from April 11-14, 2022.

Students' projects span the disciplines and include both independent research and work pursued in collaboration with other undergraduates. The projects presented reflect the invaluable contributions of research mentors, including graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, staff, and faculty members. We hope you enjoy meeting our wonderful students and learning about their innovative projects.

About the Office of Undergraduate Research

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) is a resource for students interested in enriching their undergraduate experience through participation in research, scholarship, and creative activity. OUR provides information and advising to assist students in identifying relevant opportunities, as well as several funding programs to support the students and their faculty mentors.

Many of the Frontiers presenters have received financial support for their projects from the OUR, which awarded over $630,000 in 2020-21 in support of students' research and creative endeavors. These awards are funded by the Office of Undergraduate Research, with generous support from the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice President for Research, the deans of the schools and colleges, and private donations from alumni, parents, and other friends of UConn and undergraduate research.

Sequential Listing of Poster Presentations

This listing of projects includes the undergraduate student authors and their faculty mentors. Please note that this is not a comprehensive listing of mentors: many projects also reflect the contributions and mentorship of dedicated graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and research staff members.

SESSION 1 PRESENTATIONS

1. No Home Since: A Look at Hartford's Hidden Voices
Joseph Vazquez, Urban and Community Studies & Human Rights
Advisor: Stacy Maddern, Assistant Professor In Residence, Urban and Community Studies

2. Impact of Coffee Preparation on Total Phenolic Content in Brewed Coffee Extracts and their Contribution to the Body's Antioxidant Status
Briana Nosal, Nutritional Sciences
Advisor: Ock Chun, Professor, Nutritional Sciences

3. How Kangaroo Care Influences Neurobehavioral Outcomes in Neonates
Jessica Daley, Nursing
Advisor: Xiaomei Cong, Professor, Nursing

4. Assessing Knowledge of HPV and the Vaccine in Underrepresented Populations
Maria Baratau, Human Development and Family Sciences & Individualized Major: Global Health
Advisor: Jessica Beaudet, Assistant Professor in Residence, Allied Health Sciences

5. Predictors of Vaccine Hesitancy Among Unvaccinated Adults in the United States
Sarah Ibrahim, Allied Health Sciences
Advisor: Jeanne McCaffery, Associate Professor, Allied Health Sciences

6. An Islamic Perspective on Refusal of Treatment Using Casuistry and Principlism
Fatima Abu Bakr, Individualized Major: Medical Ethics and Genetics
Advisor: Thomas Bontly, Associate Professor, Philosophy

7. European Nationalism and its Impact on Foreign Investment – Examining Europe's Top Five Football Leagues
Richard Goyne III, Political Science & History
Advisor: Oksan Bayulgen, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

8. NFL Attendance: Anthem Protests and Police Shootings
Griffin O'Neill, Economics & Geographic Information Science
Advisor: Oskar Harmon, Associate Professor, Economics

9. Exploring Affective Polarization in the UConn Student Body
Musa Hussain, Political Science & Sociology
Advisor: Michael Morrell, Associate Professor, Political Science

10. The Stamford Experience in the Twenty-First Century: Analyzing Urban Development Conflict at the Neighborhood Level
Michael Hernández, Political Science & Economics
Advisor: Mary Donegan, Assistant Professor in-Residence, Urban and Community Studies
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

11. Dissecting Discontent: How Stocks and Flows of County-Level Economic and Social Factors Affect the Vote Shares of Populist Candidates
Thomas Dowd, Political Science & Economics
Advisor: Jeffrey Ladewig, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

12. The Tale of Two Cities
Aaliyah Kerr, Political Science & Individualized Major: Law and Urban Development
Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

13. Relating Auditory Threat Reactivity to Trauma-Related Symptoms in Children Exposed to Violent Environments
Emily Mohler, Biological Sciences & English
Advisor: Margaret Briggs-Gowan, Associate Professor, Psychiatry

14. Salud de la Mujer: Language Barriers and Accessibility in Health Communication
Kaitlyn Van Dame, Physiology and Neurobiology & Spanish
Advisor: John Redden, Associate Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

15. The Effects of Toxic Stress on the Physiological and Neural Development of Children
Alyssa Alford, Physiology and Neurobiology & Human Development and Family Sciences
Advisor: Andrew Moiseff, Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

16. A Mixed Method Study of Health Diet Challenges in Children Affected by PANS (Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome)
Kynza Khimani, Physiology and Neurobiology & Individualized Major: Global Health
Advisor: Cesar Abadia, Associate Professor, Anthropology
Advisor: Maria LaRusso, Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

17. Social Behavior in Rats: Studying the Underlying Processes Present in Observational Learning
Mandira Gowda, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor, Psychological Sciences

18. Auditory Processing in People who Stutter
Matthew Phillips, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences & Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Emily Myers, Professor, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences & Psychological Sciences

19. Developmental Outcomes of *Foxp1* Cerebellar-Specific Knockout Mice Using Pup Vocalizations
Aubrey Surian, Molecular and Cell Biology & Psychological Sciences
Advisor: R. Holly Fitch, Professor, Psychological Sciences

20. Does Anodal tDCS Over the Left Prefrontal Cortex Using the C3-RSO Montage Improve Cognitive Control?
Jhoan Rodriguez, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Eiling Yee, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Jeffrey Divino, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

21. Effects of the JNK Pathway on Mmp2 Expression During *Drosophila* Ovulation
Cindy Li, Physiology and Neurobiology & Chinese
Advisor: Jianjun Sun, Associate Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

22. The Role of dilp8 in *Drosophila* Ovulation and Oogenesis
Katarina Yacuk, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Jianjun Sun, Associate Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

23. Exploring Long Term Culture of Limulus polyphemus Blood Cells In Vitro
Paul Isaac, Molecular and Cell Biology & Diagnostic Genetic Sciences
Advisor: Rachel O'Neill, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

24. Analyzing Inhibitors of the SARS-CoV-2 Endoribonuclease nsp15
MaryKate Staunton, Biological Sciences
Advisor: James Cole, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

25. Chromosomal Rearrangement of CCND1 on the Development of Parathyroid Tumors and Hyperparathyroidism
Varsha Irvathraya, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Jessica Costa, Assistant Research Professor, Molecular Oncology

26. Monitoring the Activity of Purified Adenine Nucleotide Translocase (hANT1) Reconstituted in an Isolated Liposome Environment
Muhammad Hamdan, Molecular and Cell Biology & Chemistry
Advisor: Nathan Alder, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

27. Isolation and Culture of Hair Follicle Stem Cells for Use in Tissue Regeneration
Alyssa Peterson, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Lakshmi Nair, Associate Professor, Orthopedic Surgery

28. Investigating Microbial Metabolism of *Garcinia mangostana* in the Human Gut by *Clostridium sporogenes*
Anna Liu, Pharmacy
Advisor: Marcy J. Balunas, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

29. Effect of Cerium on Secondary Metabolite Production by Bacterial Symbionts of Euprymna scolopes
Shekar Sunderesh, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Marcy Balunas, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

30. Evaluating the Endosomal Escape of Nucleic Acid Nanocapsules Using a Gold Nanoparticle Based Approach
Patrick Corrigan, Chemistry & Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Jessica Rouge, Associate Professor, Chemistry

31. The Mutagenic Effects of 8-oxoguanine
Stephen Stanio, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Ashis Basu, Professor, Chemistry

32. Investigating Secondary Metabolite Production of Hawaiian Bobtail Squid Associated Bacteria Via Co-culture with *Vibrio fischeri*
Mariam Zedan, Pharmacy Studies
Advisor: Marcy Balunas, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

33. Identification of Translesion Synthesis Inhibitors that Target Rev7/Rev3 Protein-Protein Interactions
Seema Patel, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Kyle Hadden, Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

34. Computational Investigation into Mutational Allosteric Effects on Tau Protein-Antibody Binding
Katherine Lee, Structural Biology and Biophysics
Advisor: Eric May, Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

35. Surrogate Modeling of Chemical Processes using Optimal Neural Network Structures
Bradley Stutzman, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Advisor: Burcu Beykal, Assistant Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

36. Multimessenger Gravitational Wave Signals From Strongly Lensed Supermassive Black Hole Binaries
Nicole Khusid, Physics & Computer Science
Advisor: Chiara Mingarelli, Assistant Professor, Physics

37. Developmental Stages of Overwintering Floral Buds in the Woody Genera Cornus and Magnolia
Lindsey Kollmer, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology & Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Pamela Diggle, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

38. Comparing *Trebouxia* Diversity in Lichen genera Sympatric with *Niebla* and *Vermilicinia*
Anthony Perugini, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Louise Lewis, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

39. COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on Mammalian Carnivore Activity in the Eastern United States
Joan Tremblay, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology & English
Advisor: Miranda Davis, Associate Professor in Residence, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Robert Bagchi, Associate Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

40. The Effects of Poor Maternal Nutrition during Gestation in Sheep on the Reproductive Efficiency of the Offspring
Morgan Dougherty, Animal Science
Advisor: Steven Zinn, Professor, Animal Science

41. Reach For The Stars
Kaley Luk, Mechanical Engineering
Advisor: Cody Ryan, Program Administrator, First Year Programs & Learning Communities

42. RiSE: Refugees in STEM
Saumya Vodapally, Molecular and Cell Biology & Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Advisor: Saran Stewart, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership

SESSION 2 PRESENTATIONS

1. Forgotten Immigrant Voices: West Indian Immigrant Experiences and Attitudes Towards Contemporary Immigration
Danielle Cross, Political Science & Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Shareen Hertel, Professor, Political Science

2. Implementing WholeSchool Mindfulness: Input from Mindfulness Directors and Managerial Stakeholders
Savannah Ngo, Physiology and Neurobiology & Psychological Sciences
Saniya Lakhiani, Physiology and Neurobiology
Julia Ozimek, Psychological Sciences & Marketing
Advisor: Rebecca Acabchuk, Senior Scientist, RoundGlass

3. Jazz Improvisation for the Trumpet: A Deeper Understanding of Pedagogy and Practice
Brian Oliveira, Music Education & Jazz Studies
Advisor: Earl MacDonald, Professor, Music

4. The Effects of Whole Body Movement-Based Interventions on Movement Form and Muscle Strength in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder
Mackenzie Stahl, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Sudha Srinivasan, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology

5. Is Telehealth a Feasible Mode of Intervention Delivery to Improve Social Communication Skills in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder? Results from a Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial
Ashlie Delskey, Nursing
Pari Patel, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Sudha Srinivasan, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology

7. Monetary Fungibility and Political Context: Gathering Catholic Statements about Abortion
Nicholas Xenophontos, Sociology & Mathematics
Advisor: Ruth Braunstein, Associate Professor, Sociology

8. Confined in Connecticut: Criminal Justice Policy Recommendations Based on Best Practices in a Neighboring State
Riona Casey, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Kimberly Bergendahl, Associate Professor in Residence, Political Science

9. *New York Times v. Sullivan*: "Still an Occassion for Dancing in the Streets?"
Margaret McGuire, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: David Yalof, Professor, Political Science

10. The Medicaid Blockade: Analyzing the Impact of Gubernatorial and State Legislature Partisanship in the Ballot Initiative Process for PPACA Medicaid Expansion
Samuel Dorman, Political Science
Advisor: Yusun Kim, Assistant Professor, Public Policy
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

11. As Seen on Screen: American Ambivalence Shown through Death Penalty and Vigilante Films
Lisette Donewald, Political Science & Human Rights
Advisor: Jeffrey Dudas, Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

12. The Role of State Vaccine Policies and Mandates on the Awareness and Prevalence of Human Papillomavirus in the US
Ariana Buterbaugh, Individualized Major: Global Health
Advisor: Jessica Beaudet, Assistant Professor in Residence, Allied Health Sciences

13. How is Coping with Breastfeeding Pain Different than Coping with Other Types of Pain?
Megan Russell, Nursing & Statistics
Advisor: Ruth Lucas, Assistant Professor, Nursing

14. Associations Between Extracurriculars and Mental Health Among Sexual and Gender Diverse Young Adults
Malcolm Patel, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Ryan Watson, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Sciences

16. Outcomes of Febrile Neutropenic Patients with Oncologic Conditions
Nechelle Dias, Molecular and Cell Biology & Human Rights
Advisor: Sharon Smith, Professor, Pediatrics
Advisor: Joerg Graf, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

17. Feasibility of Universal HIV Risk Screening in a Pediatric Emergency Department
Drew Bidmead, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Sharon Smith, Professor, Pediatrics

18. Weighing in on Weigh-in Posts
Cindy Pan, Molecular and Cell Biology & Philosophy
Advisor: Sherry Pagoto, Professor, Allied Health Sciences

19. Plant-Based Diets and Metabolic Syndrome: Evaluating the Influence of Diet Quality
Lydia McGrath, Nutritional Sciences
Advisor: Maria-Luz Fernandez, Professor, Nutritional Sciences

20. Effects of a Plant-Based Diet with Eggs on the Parameters of Metabolic Syndrome, Insulin Resistance, and Dietary Choline and Carotenoids
Lindsey Huang, Nutritional Sciences
Advisor: Maria-Luz Fernandez, Professor, Nutritional Sciences

21. Investigating COVID-19 Vaccine Messages to Combat Vaccine Hesitancy
Andrew Tsao, Psychological Sciences & Economics
Advisor: Natalie Shook, Professor, Nursing

22. Discovering the Relationship Between Different Acoustic Stimuli and Evoked Potentials in Subjects With and Without Tinnitus
Anusha Gopinath, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Douglas Oliver, Professor, Neuroscience

23. Dietary Frankincense Alters the Gut Microbiome and Blood Metabolites in Experimental Models
Lauren Daddi, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Yanjiao Zhou, Assistant Professor, Medicine

24. Brain Wave Synchrony as a Function of Behavioral State with Rat Models
Kiara Gambuzza, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: James Chrobak, Professor, Psychological Sciences

25. Studying the Effects of DREADDs on Spatial Navigation with the Morris Water Maze
Ali Guy, Physiology and Neurobiology & Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor, Psychological Sciences

26. Behavioral Response to Changing Emotional Environment: Effects of Dorsal Hippocamsus Inactivation
Sucika Perumalla, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor, Psychological Sciences

27. Celiac Disease: A Review of the Immunological Mechanism of Pathogenesis and Clinical Trials Studying Potential Pharmacological Treatments
Alex Breinan, Molecular and Cell Biology & Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Charles Giardina, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

28. Regulation of the Expansion of the Cerebellar Cortex by MAPK Signaling
Fatima Abu Bakr, Individualized Major: Medical Ethics and Genetics
Advisor: James Li, Professor, Genetics and Genome Sciences

29. Determination of the Timing of Post-Mitotic Read-Through Transcription by RNA Polymerase II
Julia Quinn, Biological Sciences
Advisor: Leighton Core, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

30. Quantitative Determination of Selected Urolithin Metabolites in Human Urine by Simple Sample Preparation and UPLC-MS/MS Analysis
Tracy Ann Lacson, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Anthony Provatas, Assistant Research Professor, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering
Advisor: James Stuart, Professor Emeritus & Senior Research Scientist, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering

31. Identifying Regions of Non-B DNA Using Hidden Markov Models
Venkata Patchigolla, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Derek Aguiar, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering

32. Evaluating the Pharmacological Activity of a Protein-Based Artificial Retina
Mehak Sharma, Chemistry
Advisor: Jordan Greco, Chief Scientific Officer, LambdaVision
Advisor: Nicholas Leadbeater, Associate Professor, Chemistry
Advisor: Caroline Dealy, Associate Professor, Craniofacial Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, Orthopedic Surgery & Cell Biology
Advisor: Christian Brückner, Professor, Chemistry

33. Make it Green, Make it Simple: A New Synthetic Route for Making Molecules
William Brydon, Chemistry
Advisor: Nicholas Leadbeater, Associate Professor, Chemistry
Advisor: Mark Peczuh, Professor, Chemistry
Advisor; Rachel O'Neill, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

34. Asymmetric Patchy Gold Nanoparticles: Controllable Growth and Self-Assembly
Janet Wang, Chemistry
Advisor: Jie He, Associate Professor, Chemistry

35. Micro-Chemical Control for Tuning Elimination of Recalcitrant Plastic via the Fenton Process
Christine Sharabun, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Advisor: Leslie Shor, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

36. The Next Generation of Conservation: A Short Documentary Film and Still Photography Exhibition
Lauren Pawlowski, Environmental Studies & Economics
Skyler Kim, Environmental Studies & Art
Sarah Oxner, Digital Media and Design
Duy Le, Digital Media and Design
Advisor: Heather Cassano, Assistant Professor, Digital Media and Design
Advisor: Mark Urban, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

37. Testing the Efficacy of the 'Corsi-Rosenthal' Box Fan Filter in an Active Classroom Environment
William Gasparrini, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Advisor: Kristina Wagstrom, Associate Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

38. Promiscuous Poeciliids: Copulatory Behavior of Poeciliid Males
Liam Ford, Natural Resources
Advisor: Eric Schultz, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

39. A Simulation Study to Assess How Genomic Selection Can Improve Disease Resistance in Pacific White Shrimp
Julian Kobayashi, Animal Science
Advisor: Breno Fragomeni, Assistant Professor, Animal Science

40. Determining the Insulative Contribution of the Stiff Portion of Body Feathers
Maxwell Fenner, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Margaret Rubega, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

41. What Are We Missing? Undescribed Variation in Feather Microstructure
Jamie Kurowski, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Margaret Rubega, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

42. Exploring the Effects of Nest Temperature on Eastern Bluebirds
Mahima Mehta, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Sarah Knutie, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

SESSION 3 PRESENTATIONS

1. Textiles and the Portrayal of Power: Figuring European-Ottoman Relations, 16th-17th Centuries
Kathryn Krocheski, Art History
Advisor: Kathryn Moore, Assistant Professor, Art and Art History
Advisor: Kenneth Gouwens, Professor, History
Advisor: Michael Orwicz, Art and Art History

2. Enhancing Mathematics Education for Students with Learning Disabilities
Erica Deskus, Mathematics-Statistics
Advisor: Fabiana Cardetti, Professor, Mathematics

3. The Effects of the Patient-Provider Relationship on Black Women's Satisfaction in Maternity Care
Angel Ojide, Nursing
Advisor: Thomas L. Long, Professor in Residence, Nursing
Advisor: Sandra Chafouleas, Distinguished Professor, Educational Psychology

4. Promoting Depression Screening Aimed at Serving Spanish-Speaking LatinX Patients in Community Pharmacy
Isabella Hernandez, Pharmacy
Advisor: Nathaniel Rickles, Associate Professor, Pharmacy

5. An Update on the Relationship Between Food Insecurity and Negative Health Outcomes in the United States Using NHANES Data from 2013-2018
Gabrielle Caron, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Sharon Smith, Professor, Pediatrics
Advisor: Mary-Kate Nowobilski, Research Coordinator, Connecticut Children’s

7. Blood Stain on the American Quilt
Ellie Fitzgerald, Arts Administration & Art History
Advisor: Alexis Boylan, Professor, Art and Art History & Africana Studies Institute

8. Dorm Room POP!: Songs Inspired by UConn
Elizabeth He, Molecular and Cell Biology
André Mastrandrea, Music
Advisor: Kenneth Fuchs, Professor, Music

9. Affirmative Action in Higher Education: What Role does Whiteness Ideology Play?
Siyu Huang, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Fred Lee, Associate Professor, Political Science

10. Is There a Double Standard?: Gender Differences in the Punishment of Judicial Misconduct
Erin Carney, Political Science
Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science

11. Examining Factors of Trust in Undergraduate Student-Instructor Relationships
Steven Kao, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Xinnian Chen, Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

12. Americans on the Move: Multimodal Migration in a Changing Nation
Noah Frank, Political Science & Economics
Advisor: Jeffrey Ladewig, Associate Professor, Political Science
Advisor: Matthew Singer, Associate Professor, Political Science

13. Analyzing the Contributing Factors Influencing Bystanders' Decisions to Intervene in Workplace Sexual Harassment
Anna Morson, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Vicki Magley, Professor, Psychological Sciences

14. Recruitment of a Clinical Population: Factors that Predict Enrollment in a Clinical Trial for Treatment Resistant Depression
Emily Criscuolo, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: James Chrobak, Professor, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Naomi Driesen, Research Scientist, Psychiatry, Yale University

15. Penicillin Allergy Labeling and Medication Choice
Claire Macioce, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Elizabeth Kline, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Sharon Smith, Professor, Pediatrics

16. Appetite Suppressant Effects of Triple Reuptake Inhibitor (TRI) NOEMA-115 on Binge-Like Eating Behavior in Rats
Autumn Leavitt, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: John Salamone, Distinguished Professor, Psychological Sciences

17. Automated Alignment of Serial Section Immunofluorescence Images of Calcium Binding Proteins using ImageJ
Alison Chase, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Linnaea Ostroff, Assistant Professor, Physiology and Neurobiology

18. Inhibitory Effect of Sugar Kelp Supplementation on Inflammation in Mice with Atherosclerosis
William Odell, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Ji-Young Lee, Professor, Nutritional Sciences

19. Characterization of Metabolism, Inflammation, and Fibrosis in a Cholesterol Ester Transfer Protein Apolipoprotein B Mouse Model with Diet Induced Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis
Abigail Interrante, Molecular and Cell Biology & Nutritional Sciences
Advisor: Ji-Young Lee, Professor, Nutritional Sciences

20. Establishing ZIP4 Knockout Enterocytes to Examine Alternative Zinc Absorption Mechanisms
Julie Kantner, Molecular and Cell Biology & Nutritional Sciences
Advisor: Sangyong Choi, Assistant Professor, Nutritional Sciences

21. Screening Novel Factors to Promote Retinal Ganglion Cell Survival After Optic Nerve Injury
Ashiti Damania, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Ephraim Trakhtenberg, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience

22. Investigating the *C1ql1* Gene in Oligodendrocyte Progenitor Cell Maturation as a Mediator of Central Nervous System Remyelination
Brian Fox, Molecular and Cell Biology & Management Information Systems
Advisor: David Martinelli, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience

23. When Problems Become Solutions: Adapting Acvr1 Mutant Fibroadipogenic Progenitors (FAPs) to Repair Bone Fractures
Mehreen Pasha, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: David Goldhamer, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

24. The Effects of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva on the Tongue
Amy Backal, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: David Goldhamer, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

25. Optimizing Sox9 Knockout in a Mouse Model of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP)
Erik Choi, Physiology and Neurobiology & Economics
Advisor: David Goldhamer, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

26. Disrupting Monoallelic Expression of Variant Surface Glycoprotein in *Trypanosoma brucei* by a Non-Lethal Mutation in Class I Transcription Factor A
Sarah Platt, Biological Sciences
Advisor: Arthur Gunzl, Professor, Genetics and Genome Sciences
Advisor: Aoife Heaslip, Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

27. Nanoparticle Mediated Inhibition of Acute Myeloid Leukemia
Joshua Yu, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Xiuling Lu, Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

28. Intersection of Notch and Hedgehog Signaling in Zebrafish Mandible Regeneration
Vilmette Mendoza, Biological Sciences
Advisor: Daniel Youngstrom, Assistant Professor, Orthopedic Surgery

29. Experiences With Cyclical User-Centered Design for Patient and Clinician Facing Medication Reconciliation mHealth Applications
Justin O'Dell, Computer Science and Engineering
Siddharth Sinha, Computer Science and Engineering
Advisor: Thomas Agresta, Professor, Family Medicine

30. Applications of Wearable Technology: At Work and Out of Work Activity Patterns of Nurses Over a 7-Day Period
Gillian Murray, Biomedical Engineering
Advisor: Jennifer Garza, Assistant Professor, Medicine

31. Examining the Distribution of Nest Fleas and Blowflies Across the Range of Eastern Bluebirds
Caroline Webb, Environmental Sciences
Advisor: Sarah Knutie, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

32. EGFR Signals in the Chondroprogenitor Response to Articular Cartilage Injury
Michelle Antony, Molecular and Cell Biology & Individualized Major: Community Health
Advisor: Caroline Dealy, Associate Professor, Craniofacial Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, Orthopedic Surgery & Cell Biology

33. Monkeying Around With Monkeyflowers: How Mimulus Got Its Spots
Nathan Schaumburger, Biological Sciences
Advisor: Yaowu Yuan, Associate Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Michael Blinov, Associate Professor, Genetics and Genome Sciences

34. Effects of Salinity on Kidney Histology in Alewives (*Alosa pseudoharengus*)
Brandon Thai, Molecular and Cell Biology & Pathobiology
Advisor: Eric Schultz, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

35. Survey of Misuses of the Kolmogorov–Smirnov-Test
Anthony Zeimbekakis, Statistics & Individualized Major: Data Science
Advisor: Jun Yan, Professor, Statistics

36. Variable Pole Induction Machine
Zachary Stone, Electrical Engineering
Quincy Heinrich, Electrical Engineering
Advisor: Ali Bazzi, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

37. An Untargeted Analysis of PFAS Contamination in Food Containers
Noah Liguori-Bills, Chemistry
Advisor: Anthony Provatas, Assistant Research Professor, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering
Advisor: James Stuart, Professor Emeritus & Senior Research Scientist, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering

38. Analysis of Short-Chain Per-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in Connecticut Surface Water
Isabella McGrath, Environmental Sciences
Advisor: Anthony Provatas, Assistant Research Professor, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering
Advisor: James Stuart, Professor Emeritus & Senior Research Scientist, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering

39. Oxoammonium-Mediated Esterification of Aldehydes
Mason Witko, Chemistry
Advisor: Nicholas Leadbeater, Associate Professor, Chemistry

40. Optimization of Orbital Trajectories Using NeuroEvolution of Augmenting Topologies
Nathan Wetherell, Mechanical Engineering
Advisor: Bryan Weber, Assistant Professor in Residence, Mechanical Engineering
Advisor: Cara Battersby, Assistant Professor, Physics
Advisor: Jonathan Trump, Associate Professor, Physics

41. False Positive Binary Supermassive Black Hole Detection Rate for Vera Rubin Observatory
Kaylee Grace, Physics & Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Advisor: Jonathan Trump, Associate Professor, Physics

42. Improving Air Filtration and Antimicrobial Function of HEPA Filters via Charged Graphene Application
Robert Williams, Materials Science and Engineering
Advisor: Douglas Adamson, Professor, Chemistry
Advisor: Seok-Woo Lee, Associate Professor, Materials Science and Engineering
Advisor: Thomas Abbott, Assistant Professor in Residence, Molecular and Cell Biology

SESSION 4 PRESENTATIONS

1. GloHub – Enabling Global Health Innovation
Mansi Dhond, Management and Engineering for Manufacturing
Amisha Paul, Physiology and Neurobiology & Economics
Advisor: John Redden, Associate Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

2. Reacting to the "End of the World": Reading Hamlet as a Plague-Play
Madelon Morin-Viall, English
Advisor: Evelyn Tribble, Professor, English
Advisor: Patrick Hogan, Distinguished Professor, English
Advisor: Debapriya Sarkar, Assistant Professor, English

3. Ethnic Identity Associated with Second-Generation, South Asian-American Young Adults
Ankita Karna, Human Development and Family Sciences
Advisor: Alaina Brenick, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Sciences

4. The End of Times: Social Activism Through Young Adult Speculative Fiction
Ellen Fuller, Individualized Major: Speculative Fiction for Young Audiences & Chemistry
Advisor: Sean Forbes, Assistant Professor in Residence, English Advisor: Darcie Dennigan, Associate Professor in Residence, English

5. Infant Feeding Type and Breastfeeding Pain
Peyton Cortese, Nursing
Advisor: Ruth Lucas, Assistant Professor, Nursing

7. Sexual Double Standards in Lustful Music: A Literature Review and Assessment of Socio-Cultural and Gender-Based Aspects Among College Students
Narayani Ballambat, Physiology and Neurobiology & English
Advisor: Jiyoun Suk, Assistant Professor, Communication

8. Financial Literacy among First-Generation Undergraduate Students in Connecticut
Nidhi Nair, Economics & Mathematics-Statistics
Advisor: Natalia Smirnova, Assistant Professor in Residence, Economics

9. The Impact of Cruelty-Free Product Labeling on Consumer Perceptions and Purchasing Behavior
Olivia Ortegon, Marketing
Advisor: Stefan Hock, Assistant Professor, Marketing

10. Remedy and Accountability Across Borders: Modeling an Adjudication Body for Corporate Human Rights Abuses
Raymond Hagan, Individualized Major: Public Administration
Advisor: Gerlinde Berger-Walliser, Associate Professor, Marketing

11. Abuse of Power or Moral Failings?: The Punishment of Judges Engaged in Sexual Misconduct
Ariana Bahavar, Political Science
Advisor: Virginia Hettinger, Associate Professor, Political Science

12. Injuries Sustained by Pediatric Motor Vehicle Accident Victims
Ranita Muriel, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Sharon Smith, Professor, Pediatrics

13. Identifying the Biobehavioral Processes Underlying Fear and Distress in Violence-Exposed Children using Electrophysiological Measures
Bo Wicklund, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Damion Grasso, Associate Professor, Psychiatry

14. The Association of Health Anxiety with COVID-19: Vaccination Status and Vaccine Hesitancy
Samantha Ballas, Psychological Sciences & Allied Health Sciences
Advisor: Kimberli Treadwell, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

16. Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as an Intervention for Cannabis Use Disorder in Undergraduates
Julianne Kelly, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Robert Astur, Associate Professor, Psychological Sciences

17. The Effectiveness of Exogenous Beta-Hydroxybutyrate Isomers at Increasing NAD+/NADH Ratio and Sirtuin 2 Levels in a Traumatic Brain Injury *Drosophila melanogaster* Model
Kate Gavilanes, Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Geoffrey R. Tanner, Assistant Professor in Residence, Physiology and Neurobiology

18. Effects of Ultrasonic Vocalizations on Rat Behavior and Place Cell Remapping in the Hippocampus
Qingli Hu, Physiology and Neurobiology & Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor, Psychological Sciences

19. The Histological Identification of Electrode Tracks and DREADDS Infusion Sites Within the Rat Hippocampus
Bailey Morte, Psychological Sciences
Advisor: Etan Markus, Professor, Psychological Sciences

20. Protective Mechanism of Caffeine on Microglia in Preterm Hypoxic Ischemic Injury
Serena Beri, Biological Sciences
Advisor: R. Holly Fitch, Professor, Psychological Sciences

21. Nutraceutical Effect of Dietary Sphingomyelin on Lean Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis
Nicholas Matejak, Molecular and Cell Biology & Physiology and Neurobiology
Advisor: Christopher Blesso, Associate Professor, Nutritional Sciences

22. The Role of BET Proteins in Opioid Use Disorder
Suzannah De Almeida, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Gregory Sartor, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

23. *In Vitro* Antivirulence Activity of Cannabidiol Against *Clostridioides difficile*
Stefan Marczuk, Biological Sciences & Political Science
Advisor: Kumar Venkitanarayanan, Professor, Animal Science
Advisor: Abraham Pellissery, Assistant Research Professor, Animal Science

24. The Development of the Inferior Olivary Nuclei and its Connections to the Cerebellum
Jasmine Aboumahboob, Individualized Major: Human Physiology and Sociomedical Sciences
Advisor: James Li, Professor, Genetics and Genome Sciences

25. Effects of Cyclosporine on Engraftment of Skeletal Progenitor Cells in Osteogenesis imperfecta Murine Mice
Etem Beskovic, Allied Health Sciences
Advisor: Ivo Kalajzic, Professor, Reconstructive Sciences & Genetics and Genome Sciences

26. HB-EGF Expression in Healthy Vs OA Cartilage
Ishan Sheth, Biomedical Engineering
Advisor: Caroline Dealy, Associate Professor, Craniofacial Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, Orthopedic Surgery & Cell Biology

27. Genomic Prediction in a Composite Beef Cattle Population
Julianne Sheehan, Animal Science
Advisor: Breno Fragomeni, Assistant Professor, Animal Science

28. Complex Pylogeny of an Intein Invading an Unusual Cyanobacteriaphage Terminase
Gustavo Colon-Garcia, Biological Sciences
Advisor: J. Peter Gogarten, Distinguished Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

29. Use of Commercial Bacteriophage Products to Control the Growth of *Salmonella enterica* in Raw and Pasteurized Milk
Audrey Worth, Molecular and Cell Biology
Advisor: Dennis D'Amico, Associate Professor, Animal Science
Advisor: Joerg Graf, Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology

30. Observation of Exciplex Emission and Modulation by Magnetic Field
Jenika Patel, Chemistry
Advisor: Tomoyasu Mani, Assistant Professor, Chemistry

31. The Reliability of Column Density Probability Distribution Functions in the Central Molecular Zone
Hannah Koziol, Physics
Advisor: Cara Battersby, Assistant Professor, Physics

32. Comprehending How Alkali Opacities Affect Brown Dwarf Spectra
Jasmine Ramirez, Physics
Advisor: Nikole Lewis, Assistant Professor, Astronomy, Cornell University

33. Properties of Reduced Convex Hulls
Benjamin Arora, Mathematics
Advisor: Jeremy Teitelbaum, Professor, Mathematics

34. Theoretical Modeling of Control Loops with Analog Electronics
Berkley Delmonico, Physics & Chemistry
Advisor: Daniel McCarron, Assistant Professor, Physics

35. Approximated Signed Distance Functions for Topology Optimization with Geometric Primitives
Amelia Geist, Mechanical Engineering
Advisor: Julian Norato, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering

36. Effect of Salinity on Thermal Breadth of the Freshwater Snail (*Helisoma trivolvis*)
Bryanna Caicedo, Biological Sciences
Advisor: Sarah Knutie, Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

37. Double Dipter-ing: Assessing Biocontrol Spillover Into Native Lepidopterans
Alyssa McGurer, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: David Wagner, Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

38. The Effect of Milkweed Density on the Parasitic Infection Rate of Monarch Butterflies
Rachel Grella, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Robert Bagchi, Associate Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

39. Assessing Algal Toxin Contamination in Connecticut Freshwater Systems Utilizing Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry

Slawomir Piela, Chemistry & Marine Sciences
Advisor: Anthony Provatas, Assistant Research Professor, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering
Advisor: James Stuart, Professor Emeritus & Senior Research Scientist, Chemistry & Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering

40. Investigation of Freshwater Inputs of Microplastics in Long Island Sound

Rebha Raviraj, Marine Sciences
Advisor: Penny Vlahos, Professor, Marine Sciences
Advisor: Fiona Leek, Assistant Professor in Residence, Materials Science and Engineering

41. Palmer Cove Marsh: Railway Development and Plant Community

Johann Heupel, Marine Sciences & Maritime Studies
Advisor: Jamie Vaudrey, Assistant Research Professor, Marine Sciences
Advisor: Matthew McKenzie, Professor, History

42. Impacts of Salt Marsh Thin-Layer Placement on Denitrification and Microbial Communities

Drew Tienken, Environmental Science & Political Science
Advisor: Beth Lawrence, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment

Special Thanks

The Office of Undergraduate Research wishes to thank the deans of the represented schools and colleges, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the generous donors to Enrichment Programs and to the Honors Program for their support of undergraduate research. In addition, we thank the following individuals for their support:

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Drew Tienken ’22 (CLAS)
Humza Zaidi ’22 (CLAS)
Chloé Zampetti ’22 (CAHNR)

Alphabetical Listing of Presenters with Poster Numbers

S1 denotes a Session 1 presentation – Friday, April 8 at 2:00 p.m.
S2 denotes a Session 2 presentation – Friday, April 8 at 4:00 p.m.
S3 denotes a Session 3 presentation – Saturday, April 9 at 11:00 a.m.
S4 denotes a Session 4 presentation – Saturday, April 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Aboumahboob, Jasmine – 24 (S4)
Abu Bakr, Fatima – 6 (S1), 28 (S2)
Alford, Alyssa – 15 (S1)
Antony, Michelle – 32 (S3)
Arora, Benjamin – 33 (S4)
Backal, Amy – 24 (S3)
Bahavar, Ariana – 11 (S4)
Ballambat, Narayani – 7 (S4)
Ballas, Samantha – 14 (S4)
Baratau, Maria – 4 (S1)
Beri, Serena – 20 (S4)
Beskovic, Etem – 25 (S4)
Bidmead, Drew – 17 (S2)
Breinan, Alex – 27 (S2)
Brydon, William – 33 (S2)
Buterbaugh, Ariana – 12 (S2)
Caicedo, Bryanna – 36 (S4)
Carney, Erin – 10 (S3)
Caron, Gabrielle – 5 (S3)
Casey, Riona – 8 (S2)
Chase, Alison – 17 (S3)
Choi, Erik – 25 (S3)
Colon-Garcia, Gustavo – 28 (S4)
Corrigan, Patrick – 30 (S1)
Cortese, Peyton – 5 (S4)
Criscuolo, Emily – 14 (S3)
Cross, Danielle – 1 (S2)
Daddi, Lauren – 23 (S2)
Daley, Jessica – 3 (S1)
Damania, Ashiti – 21 (S3)
De Almeida, Suzannah – 22 (S4)
Delmonico, Berkley – 34 (S4)
Delskey, Ashlie – 5 (S2)
Deskus, Erica – 2 (S3)
Dhond, Mansi – 1 (S4)
Dias, Nechelle – 16 (S2)
Donewald, Lisette – 11 (S2)
Dorman, Samuel – 10 (S2)
Dougherty, Morgan – 40 (S1)
Dowd, Thomas – 11 (S1)
Fenner, Maxwell – 40 (S2)
Fitzgerald, Ellie – 7 (S3)
Ford, Liam – 38 (S2)
Fox, Brian – 22 (S3)
Frank, Noah – 12 (S3)
Fuller, Ellen – 4 (S4)
Gambuzza, Kiara – 24 (S2)
Gasparrini, William – 37 (S2)
Gavilanes, Kate – 17 (S4)
Geist, Amelia – 35 (S4)
Gopinath, Anusha – 22 (S2)
Gowda, Mandira – 17 (S1)
Goyne III, Richard – 7 (S1)
Grace, Kaylee – 41 (S3)
Grella, Rachel – 38 (S4)
Guy, Ali – 25 (S2)
Hagan, Raymond – 10 (S4)
Hamdan, Muhammad – 26 (S1)
He, Elizabeth – 8 (S3)
Heinrich, Quincy – 36 (S3)
Hernandez, Isabella – 4 (S3)
Hernández, Michael – 10 (S1)
Heupel, Johann – 41 (S4)
Hu, Qingli – 18 (S4)
Huang, Lindsey – 20 (S2)
Huang, Siyu – 9 (S3)
Hussain, Musa – 9 (S1)
Ibrahim, Sarah – 5 (S1)
Interrante, Abigail – 19 (S3)
Irvathraya, Varsha – 25 (S1)
Isaac, Paul – 23 (S1)
Kantner, Julie – 20 (S3)

Kao, Steven – 11 (S3)
Karna, Ankita – 3 (S4)
Kelly, Julianne – 16 (S4)
Kerr, Aaliyah – 12 (S1)
Khimani, Kynza – 16 (S1)
Khusid, Nicole – 36 (S1)
Kim, Skyler – 36 (S2)
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Leavitt, Autumn – 16 (S3)
Lee, Katherine – 34 (S1)
Li, Cindy – 21 (S1)
Liguori-Bills, Noah – 37 (S3)
Liu, Anna – 28 (S1)
Luk, Kaley – 41 (S1)
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Mehta, Mahima – 42 (S2)
Mendoza, Vilmette – 28 (S3)
Mohler, Emily – 13 (S1)
Morin-Viall, Madelon – 2 (S4)
Morson, Anna – 13 (S3)
Morte, Bailey – 19 (S4)
Muriel, Ranita – 12 (S4)
Murray, Gillian – 30 (S3)
Nair, Nidhi – 8 (S4)
Ngo, Savannah – 2 (S2)
Nosal, Briana – 2 (S1)
Odell, William – 18 (S3)
O'Dell, Justin – 29 (S3)
Ojide, Angel – 3 (S3)
Oliveira, Brian – 3 (S2)
O'Neill, Griffin – 8 (S1)
Ortegon, Olivia – 9 (S4)
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Patel, Malcolm – 14 (S2)
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Yacuk, Katarina – 22 (S1)
Yu, Joshua – 27 (S3)
Zedan, Mariam – 32 (S1)
Zeimbekakis, Anthony – 35 (S3)

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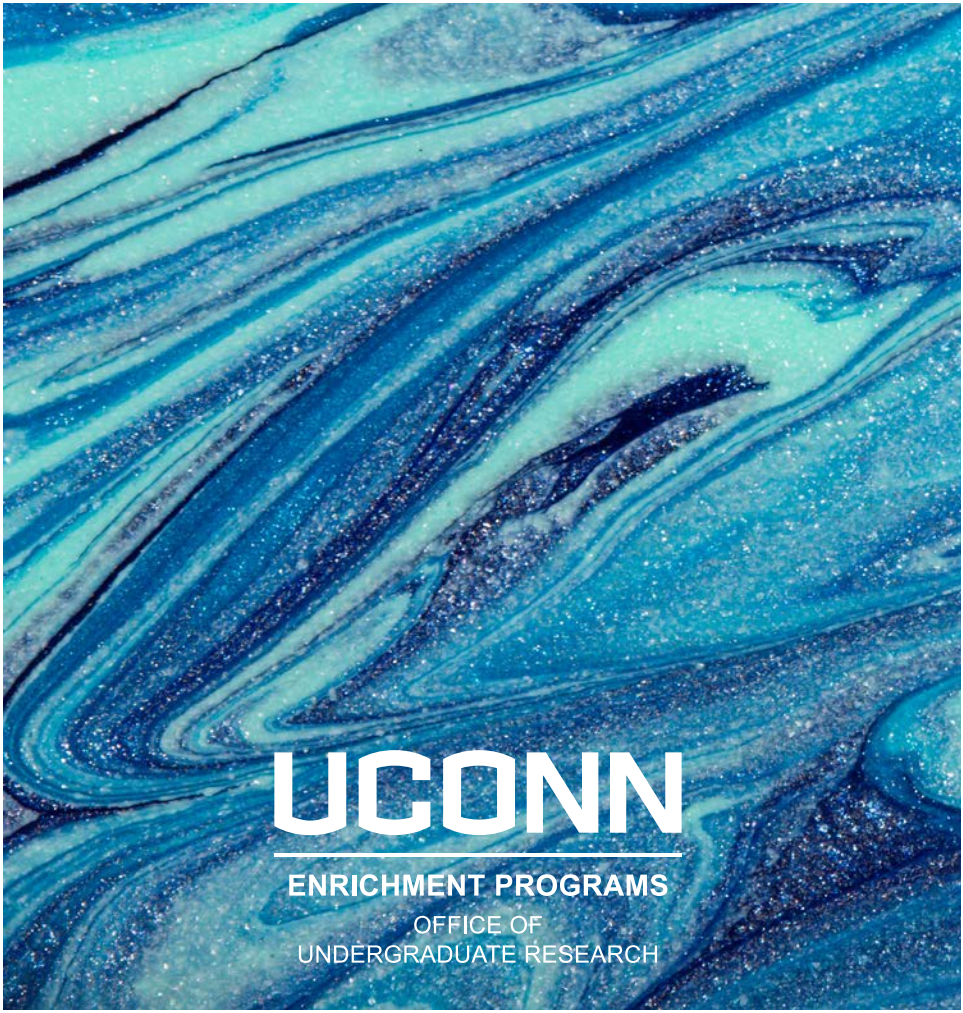

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