

9th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

Oral Presentation Winners

Category: Basic Sciences

First Place: ***Joubin Jebelli***

Project Title: "Assessing the Therapeutic Potential of Novel Marine Products and Very Low Dose Radiation in Prostate Cancer"

FAU Mentor: Lyndon West

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place: ***Deborah Thomas***

Project Title: "Synthesis and Characterization of Novel Fluorescent Probes for Visualization of Biological Membranes"

FAU Mentor: Maciej Stawikowski

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Behavioral, Educational & Social Sciences I

First Place: ***Jeffrey Coltman-Cormier***

Project Title: "Desperate Times Call for Desperate Measures: How Border Fortification Intensifies Transnational Insurgents' Violence Against Civilians"

FAU Mentor: Angela Nichols

College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place: ***Cassidy Brydon, Aubrey Jones and Elizabeth Lanzon***

Project Title: "Online or Offline: Expressive Writing Administration Preferences for Non-Treatment-Seeking College Students"

FAU Mentor: Laura Vernon

College: Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College

Category: Behavioral, Educational & Social Sciences II

First Place: ***Abbey Peterman***

Project Title: "Uncovering Methods of Coercion through the Rhetorical Criticism of the Communist Manifesto"

FAU Mentor: Andrew Tinker

College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place: ***Alexandria Remillard***

Project Title: "Defining Hate: A Content Analysis of the Nation's Hate Crime Laws"

FAU Mentor: Seth Fallik

College: College for Design and Social Inquiry

Category: Business, Marketing, Finance and Public Administration

First Place: ***Alejandra Rodriguez and Anthony Vultaggio***
Project Title: "Political Divide and its Influence on Civic Engagement"
FAU Mentor: Monica Escaleras
College: College of Business

Second Place: ***Laura Bautista and Julia Gaglio***
Project Title: "Do Americans Feel Comfortable with the Advancements In Self-Driving Car Technology?"
FAU Mentor: Monica Escaleras
College: College of Business

Category: Engineering I

First Place: ***Genevieve Kunkel and Rosa Walls***
Project Title: "Carbon Dioxide and Ethanolamine Injection for Enhanced Oil Recovery"
FAU Mentor: Myeongsub Kim
College: College of Engineering and Computer Science

Second Place: ***Daniel Carvalho***
Project Title: "Micro-particle Laser Trapping for Optical Tweezers"
FAU Mentor: Grigoriy Kreymerman
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Engineering II

First Place: ***Vithulan Suthakaran***
Project Title: "Developing a Biologically Based Artificial Leaf to Filter and Transform Carbon Dioxide Emissions into Oxygen via Photosynthesis"
FAU Mentor: Peng Yi
College: College of Engineering and Computer Science

Second Place: ***Matthew Trask, Kristian Murphy and Art Rozenbaum***
Project Title: "Pi VizuWall: A Low-cost, Parallel Compute Cluster"
FAU Mentor: Elan Barenholtz
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Environmental, Ecological and Marine Sciences

First Place: ***Kaitlin Grell***
Project Title: "The Effect of High Nest Temperatures on the Growth Rates of Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*) Embryos and Hatchlings"
FAU Mentor: Sarah Milton
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place: ***Brian Lages and Alexander Shaw***
Project Title: "Nickel Nanoparticles-assisted Monoethanolamine for Carbon Capture"
FAU Mentor: Myeongsub Kim
College: College of Engineering and Computer Science

Category: Health and Medical Sciences

First Place:

Mary Minore

Project Title: "Synthesis of Glycosylated Amino Acids Bearing Tumor-Associated Carbohydrate Antigen"
FAU Mentor: Mare Cudic
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Michael Correa

Project Title: "Effects of Resistance and Aerobic Training on Growth Factor Expression and B-amyloid in a Murine Model of Alzheimer's Disease"
FAU Mentor: Michael Whitehurst
College: College of Education

Category: Music, Art, Literature, Theater, History and Philosophy I

First Place:

Elizabeth Siwica

Project Title: "Abdul Ghaffar Khan and the Partition of India"
FAU Mentor: Douglas McGetchin
College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place:

Nicholas Weid

Project Title: "Autobiographical Video Games: Essayistic, Independent, and Empathetic"
FAU Mentor: Stephen Charbonneau
College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Category: Music, Art, Literature, Theater, History and Philosophy II

First Place:

Yuri Sachnowski

Project Title: "The Place of the Body in Vladimir Solovyov's The Meaning of Love"
FAU Mentor: Richard Shusterman
College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place:

Hannah Garcia

Project Title: "Zen and American Pragmatism: Western Individualist Misperceptions of Zen-Buddhist Ritual"
FAU Mentor: Kenneth Holloway
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

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Poster Presentation Winners

Category: Basic Sciences I

First Place:

Dalia Soueid

Project Title: "Engineering of Novel Matriptase Inhibitors Based on Eglin C Core Structure"

FAU Mentor: Maciej Stawikowski

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

John Pearl, Peter Ramdhan

Project Title: "Inhibition of Matriptase at the Cell Surface: Modeling and Synthesis of Membrane-anchored Matriptase Inhibitors"

FAU Mentor: Maciej Stawikowski

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Basic Sciences II

First Place:

Lana Ilazarova, Luis Campos, Merna Mankarious, Julie Yassa

Project Title: "Identification of Amphid Neurons Where Autophagy Acts to Control C. elegans Development"

FAU Mentor: Kailiang Jia

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Alexis Martin

Project Title: "Optimized Protocols for Extraction of Microbial Natural Products"

FAU Mentor: Diane Baronas-Lowell

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Basic Sciences III

First Place:

Daniella Ospina

Project Title: "Immigration, Education and Cognitive Performance in Elderly Bilingual Adults Who Are Cognitively Normal, MCI and Dementia"

FAU Mentor: Monica Rosselli

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Maria Fernandez

Project Title: "Quantifying Genetic Differentiation Among Gopherus Polyphemus Populations in South Florida to Guide Translocation Efforts"

FAU Mentor: Evelyn Frazier

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Behavioral, Educational & Social Sciences I

First Place:

Nicole Fitzgerald, Kayla Burd

Project Title: "Examining Affective Exchanges in Therapy Sessions with Substance Abuse Clients"

FAU Mentor: Paul Peluso

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Kelly Thomas

Project Title: "The Relevance of Cultural Commonality Based Relationships Developed Between Teachers and Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders"

FAU Mentor: Lisa Finnegan

College: College of Education

Category: Behavioral, Educational & Social Sciences II

First Place:

Alyssa Alvarez, Nikole Holness

Project Title: "What is the Public's Perception of Welfare in America?"

FAU Mentor: Monica Escaleras

College: College of Business

Second Place:

Kimarah Lamothe

Project Title: "Interactions of the Nucleus Reuniens of the Thalamus and Hippocampus in Elapsed Time"

FAU Mentor: Robert Vertes

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Behavioral, Educational & Social Sciences III

First Place:

Nadine Akin

Project Title: "EEG and FMRI Data Analysis"

FAU Mentor: Emanuelle Tognoli

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Stefani Moccia

Project Title: "AI-based Feedback for Prevention of Body-focused Repetitive Behaviors"

FAU Mentor: Elan Barenholtz

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Business, Marketing, Finance and Public Administration

First Place:

Sydney Elney

Project Title: "The Effects of Infrastructure Service Disruptions and Socio-Economic Vulnerability on Hurricane Recovery"

FAU Mentor: Monica Escaleras

College: College of Business

Second Place:

Daphnie Dilus, Jazmin Velasco

Project Title: "Social Media's Affect on Self-Esteem"

FAU Mentor: Monica Escaleras

College: College of Business

Category: Classroom Research Project/Assignment

First Place:

Austin Silverstein

Project Title: "Effect of Student Dissatisfaction of On-Campus Food Services Causing Students to Prefer Eating Off-Campus"

FAU Mentor: Pradeep Korgaonkar

College: College of Business

Second Place:

Lee M. Sanchez Lucas

Project Title: "Rapid Method for Human Health Risk Assessment in the Swash Zone (Wet Beach Sand) of South Florida Beaches"

FAU Mentor: Esiobu Nwadiuto

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Cross Disciplinary Projects

First Place:

Kristen Crawford

Project Title: "All Ears: Can Ear Recognition Software be a Solution for Mobile Phone Security?"

FAU Mentor: William Hahn

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Christopher Tepetitlan, Tracey Tobkin

Project Title: "The State of Hummingbirds: The Wingbeats the World Should Know"

FAU Mentor: Dorotha Lemeh

College: Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College

Category: Engineering

First Place:

Holly Schlichting, Harrison Rudd, Andreas Noel-Williams, Renata Rigueira

Project Title: "Algae Neutralizing Cleaning Hybrid Ocean Robot (A.N.C.H.O.R)"

FAU Mentor: Pak Cheung Edgar An

College: College of Engineering and Computer Science

Second Place:

Mary Rasura

Project Title: "Recognizing the Boiling of Liquids Using CNNs"

FAU Mentor: William Hahn

College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Environmental, Ecological & Marine Sciences I

First Place:

Lisa Nguyen

Project Title: "Water Quality Analysis to Assess Nutrient Loading and Algae Bloom Potential"
FAU Mentor: William Louda
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Zachary Hollendonner, Lovenie Talien

Project Title: "Using a High-Throughput System to Manipulate Biotic Signaling and Physicochemical Parameters While Screening for Bioactive Molecules"
FAU Mentor: Nwadiuto Esiobu
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Environmental, Ecological & Marine Sciences II

First Place:

Lauren Melanson

Project Title: "A Survey of the Arthropod Species Present in Gopherus Polyphemus Burrows at the FAU Preserve"
FAU Mentor: Evelyn Frazier
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Jennifer Unger

Project Title: "Analysis of Vertebrate Species of Gopherus Polyphemus Burrows"
FAU Mentor: Evelyn Frazier
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Environmental, Ecological & Marine Sciences III

First Place:

Laurent Lorquet

Project Title: "Rapid Detection G. zonatum in Palm Trees Using qPCR"
FAU Mentor: Nwadiuto Esiobu
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Andrew Balsamo, Tahoe Albergo, Mohamed Abutineh, Milove Jeannot, Amanda Lam, Nicholas Nifakos, Nicholas Pizzo

Project Title: "Expression of Tardigrade Damage Suppressing Protein (Dsup) Gene in Tobacco Plants"
FAU Mentor: Xing-Hai Zhang
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Health & Medical Sciences I

First Place:

Aaron McFarlane

Project Title: "Transport of a Collagen-Derived Fluorogenic Substrate Across an In Vitro Model of the Blood-Brain Barrier"
FAU Mentor: Gregg Fields
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Sarah Thurlow

Project Title: "Assessing the Efficacy of Bureaucratic Caring Theory as a Framework for Evaluating Long-Term Care Administrators Description of their Roles and Challenges"
FAU Mentor: Rose Sherman
College: Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing

Category: Health & Medical Sciences II

First Place:

Sarvika Bommakanti

Project Title: "The Role of Human Polynucleotide Phosphorylase (hPNPase) in Downregulating Oxidized RNA"
FAU Mentor: Zhongwei Li
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Isabella Velasquez Botero

Project Title: "Action Research to Benefit Those Who Suffered Loss: Refining a Therapeutic Walking Intervention in a Japanese Garden and Identifying Relevant Outcomes"
FAU Mentor: Patricia Liehr
College: Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing

Category: Health & Medical Sciences III

First Place:

Rida Altaf

Project Title: "Irradiation Augmentation of Genistein-Induced Apoptosis in Androgen-Independent DU-145 Prostate Cancer Cells in Vitro"
FAU Mentor: James Kumi-Diaka
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place:

Giselle Shim, Rama Abdin

Project Title: "Effects of Bath Salts on the Activation of Cortical Neurons Associated with Excited Delirium"
FAU Mentor: Rui Tao
College: Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Music, Art, Literature, Theater, History & Philosophy

First Place:

Izabella Hernandez

Project Title: "Interactions Between Humans and The Public Built Environment: Creating Extensions of the Body Through Bacterial Exchange (A Sculptural Installation)"
FAU Mentor: Julie Ward
College: Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place:

Jessica Cassandra Young

Project Title: "Strange Frequencies: Development of a Post-Human Narrative"
FAU Mentor: Rachel Luria
College: Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College