



MEDALS CEREMONY

HONORS PROGRAM | Class of 2022

The Honors Medals Ceremony is the culmination of a student’s time in the UConn Honors Program. This annual event began in 2004 as a way to celebrate those students who have completed the rigorous Honors curriculum and are graduating as Honors Scholars or University Scholars. Founded in 1964, the Honors Program offers intellectually gifted and highly motivated undergraduate students the opportunity to obtain the richest possible collegiate experience. Working with every school and college, the Honors Program promotes challenging coursework and encourages intellectual independence through research and creative activities. Students form personal relationships with faculty and staff through Honors classes, regular contact with advisors, and the close supervision that comes with conducting the Honors thesis. Students make life-long friends and enhance their talents by living in Honors residential communities, attending Honors events, and joining Honors student organizations. Honors students also contribute significantly to the greater campus culture of UConn through their academic engagement, leadership, and involvement.

This rite of passage marks the end of our students’ undergraduate careers and the beginning of their next stage in life. They have spent their time in Honors knowing they were part of a community: living, learning, and building relationships they will take with them for decades to come. It is important to note that their successes were not accomplished alone. Much of their development depended upon a wider support system. Honors faculty and advisors worked closely with our students to guide their studies and broaden their minds. Parents and family have supported their scholar, offering any assistance required for them to blossom into adults. And the Honors alumni and donors extended helping hands to move our students forward, giving of their time, their wisdom, and their own success to aid our students’ journeys. As we gather to commemorate the close of the 2021-2022 academic year; the joy, pride, and gratitude we celebrate as an Honors community remains a constant in paying tribute to our graduating scholars.

Welcome

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

Remarks

Radenka Maric, *Interim President*

Introduction of Student Speaker

Jeanine Gouin ’87, *Board of Trustees, Vice Chair of Academic Affairs Committee*

Scholar Address

Avery Smith ’22, *Honors Scholar*

Honors Faculty Member of the Year Award Recipient

Alexia Smith, *Associate Professor, Anthropology*

Dr. Lynne Goodstein and Dr. Peter Langer Award Recipient

Nicholas Leadbeater, *Associate Professor, Chemistry*

Presentation of Medals and Gifts to University Scholars

Nomenclator

Caroline McGuire, *Director, Office of Undergraduate Research*

Assisted by

Daniel Burkey, *Associate Dean, School of Engineering*

Indrajeet Chaubey, *Dean, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources*

Deborah Chyun, *Dean, School of Nursing*

Anne D’Alleva, *Dean, School of Fine Arts*

John Elliott, *Dean, School of Business*

Philip Hriteko, *Dean, School of Pharmacy*

Jason Irizarry, *Dean, Neag School of Education*

Monica van Beusekom, *Director, Individualized and Interdisciplinary Studies Program*

Juli Wade, *Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*

Presentation of Medals to Honors Scholars and University Honors Laureates

Nomenclator

Michael Bradford, *Vice Provost, Faculty, Staff, and Student Development*

Presentation of Medals to Honors Scholars

Nomenclator

Jaclyn Chancey, *Honors Associate Director for Curriculum, Assessment, and Planning*

Concluding Remarks

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

The duties of Marshal were performed today by

Jaclyn Chancey, *Associate Director for Curriculum, Assessment, and Planning*

Daniel Hoddinott, *Assistant Director for Honors Residential Communities and Programming*

Anne Kim, *Assistant Director for Honors Advising*

University Scholars

This prestigious and highly competitive program enables talented, motivated, and innovative students to design plans of study geared toward their special interests. Working closely with a committee of three faculty advisors, University Scholars undertake learning opportunities far beyond the typical plan of study and produce significant scholarly and creative projects, such as works of art and research theses. Graduation as a University Scholar is the highest academic honor the University bestows upon undergraduate students. Following is an alphabetical listing of graduating University Scholars, their majors, their project titles, their faculty advisors, and their project descriptions. The principal advisor for each student’s University Scholar project is the first advisor listed.

* Honors Scholar
**Honors Scholar and University Honors Laureate

AMY MELISSA BACKAL *

Molecular & Cell Biology

The Effect of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva on the Tongue
Advised by: David Goldhamer, Rachel O’Neill, Aoife Heaslip
Amy has spent the last 3 years studying a rare musculoskeletal disease called Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva. This disease causes abnormal bone growth in muscle and connective tissue. Amy is researching the effects of the disease on the muscle and connective tissue within the tongue, in hopes of expanding our understanding of the disease.

WILLIAM PATRICK BRYDON*

Chemistry

Electrifying Chemistry: Taking ACT-ion in Sustainable Synthesis
Advised by: Nicholas Leadbeater, Rachel O’Neill, Mark Peczuh
Creating more sustainable and efficient methods to make molecules is currently a hot topic in chemistry. To this end, the goal for William Brydon’s University Scholar project was to use electricity in conjunction with an organic catalyst to drive chemical reactions forward.

SUZANNAH DE ALMEIDA*

Molecular & Cell Biology

Novel Epigenetic Therapeutics for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder
Advised by: Gregory Sartor, Nathaniel Rickles, Barbara Mellone
Current Treatments for Opioid Use Disorder are primarily aimed at preventing overdose. Recent research has indicated that epigenetic BET proteins are involved in cocaine-seeking behaviors, but the role of BET in OUD remains unknown. Suzannah’s project investigates how BET mRNA and proteins are altered by chronic opioid use in animal models of OUD.

MATAN SHEMAYAHU DORON*

Biological Sciences and Individualized: Science, Medicine, and Ethics

Soul Searching: A Reflection on Breath, Body, and Spirit
Advised by: Sarah Willen, Lewis Gordon, Daniel Mulkey, Regina Barreca
When the pandemic began over two years ago, breath took on more than just a biological meaning; the slogan “I can’t breathe” came to represent the fight for racial justice in America. By engaging theological, philosophical, and anthropological texts, Matan sought to understand how memories of past violence continue to shape contemporary politics.

JOHANN EDWIN HEUPEL *

Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies

Palmer Cove Marsh: Railway Development and Plant Community
Advised by: Jamie Vaudrey, Matthew McKenzie, Mary K. Bercaw Edwards
The development of railways through Connecticut not only shaped society, they also impacted natural environments such as salt marsh wetlands. Johann’s study engaged in both scientific research of the plant communities of these marshes, as well as historical research of local development, using trends of land usage to better understand change over time.

SAMUEL JOHNSON*

Chemistry

The Design of Magnetically Responsive Charge-Transfer Emission Probes to Enhance Fluorescence Guided Surgery
Advised by: Tomoyasu Mani, Jing Zhao, Christian Brückner
In order to increase the practicality of fluorescence guided surgery, novel probes were created with a method of activation not currently explored, magnetic field effects. Samuels project shows, using a magnetic field as a source of activation grants precise on/off control over fluorescence, providing a high level of contrast between cancerous and healthy tissue.

KATHRYN KROCHESKI*

Art History

Textiles and the Portrayal of Power: Figuring European-Ottoman Relations, 16th-17th Centuries
Advised by: Kathryn Blaire Moore, Michael Orwicz, Kenneth Gouwens
Kathryn has been researching the complex relationship between Tudor England and the Ottoman Empire by analyzing English portraiture with a focus on Hans Holbein the Younger. She has been investigating how Ottoman ceremonial robes worn in Tudor portraits was not only politically motivated, but also symbolized virtuosity and legitimacy.

MARIA LATTA*

Doctor of Pharmacy

Drugs, Information, and Innovation: How Can Pharmacists Improve Patient Knowledge of Opioids?
Advised by: Nathaniel Rickles, David Noble, Tiffany Kelley
Maria’s project aims to impact the opioid crisis with the intersection of innovation, technology, and health education. The core goal is to create an accessible and user friendly tool for opioid education to improve the average knowledge of patients utilizing prescription opioids.

KATHERINE HANNAH LEE*

Structural Biology/Biophysics

Computational Investigations into Binding Dynamics of Tau Protein Antibodies: Using Machine Learning and Biophysical Models to Build a Better Reality
Advised by: Eric May, Yongku Cho, Adam Zweifach
Katherine’s work focuses on using computational methods to study the binding dynamics of antibodies with enhanced binding affinity to abnormal tau protein for potential use in diagnostics and therapeutics for Alzheimer’s disease. She measures allosteric communication and uses machine learning models to determine biochemically relevant motions.

FIONA SI TING LIU

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and Natural Resources

How do Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) Greenhouse Gas Emissions Vary Among Groundwater Seeps
Advised by: Ashley Helton, Beth Lawrence, Christopher Elphick
Fiona conducted a study to better understand the nitrogen cycling processes along stream banks with and without active discharging groundwater seeps in the Farmington River watershed in Connecticut. The project focused on quantifying the soil-to-atmosphere nitrous oxide fluxes from these stream banks and waterline areas.

MADELON MORIN-VIALL *

English

Reacting to the “End of the World”: Reading Hamlet as a Plague-Play
Advised by: Evelyn Tribble, Patrick Hogan, Debapriya Sarkar
Once informed by the coronavirus epidemic, one may approach Shakespeare’s Hamlet through the lens of its original Early Modern audience, who themselves suffered through plague epidemics and disruptions in daily ritual. Bridging the fields of cognitive affect and socio-historicism, Madelon explicates Hamlet as a play about sickness, death, and grief.

MEHREEN ALI PASHA*

Molecular & Cell Biology

When Problems Become Solutions: Harnessing the Osteogenic Capacity of Disease-Causing Stem Cells to Repair Bone Fractures
Advised by: David Goldhamer, Geoffrey Tanner, Adam Zweifach
Mehreen spent seven semesters studying a genetic disorder called FOP which involves uncontrolled, robust bone growth outside of the skeleton. Her project seeks to adapt the cells responsible for this abnormal bone growth to repair bone fractures in otherwise normal patients more effectively and efficiently than traditional stem cell therapies.

SEEMA MUKUND PATEL **

Molecular & Cell Biology

Translesion Synthesis Inhibitors: A New Class of Cancer Chemotherapeutics
Advised by: Kyle Hadden, Ashis Basu, Charles Giardina
Translesion synthesis (TLS) is a DNA repair mechanism, orchestrated by a multi-protein complex, that is overexpressed in cancer cells. TLS promotes cancer cell growth and division even in the presence of anti-cancer drugs such as cisplatin. Seema’s research involves discovering and testing TLS inhibitors in an ovarian cancer cell model.

MATTHEW CRAIG PHILLIPS*

Pshychological Sciences and Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences

Exploring a Perceptual Deficit in People Who Stutter: Behavioral and Electrophysiological Approaches
Advised by: Emily Myers, Erika Skoe, Gerry Altmann, Nicole Landi
People who stutter (PWS) produce speech differently than people who do not stutter, but do they also perceive speech differently? Current research suggests this is possible, but results are conflicting. Matthew’s project attempts to answer this question by investigating speech and non-speech processing in PWS across time- and pitch-based domains.

MEHAK SHARMA **

Chemistry

Evaluating the Pharmacological Activity of a Protein-Based Artificial Retina
Advised by: Caroline Dealy, Nicholas Leadbeater, Christian Brueckner
LambdaVision has created the first protein-based artificial retina using bacteriorhodopsin for patients with retinitis pigmentosa. Mehak’s project explores nondestructive and sensitive methods of evaluating the thickness and homogeneity as well as the light-induced proton-pumping activity of these multilayered bacteriorhodopsin films.

ANDREW CHARLES TIENKEN JR.**

Environmental Sciences and Political Science

Bacterial Community Composition and Denitrification: An Interdisciplinary Evaluation of Thin-Layer Placement Restoration in Coastal Connecticut Salt Marshes
Advised by: Beth Lawrence, Matthew Singer, Kendra Maas
Drew’s research is on an innovative salt marsh management method called thin-layer placement to help mitigate the effects of anthropogenic sea level rise. He is studying this management method’s effects on denitrification and marsh bacterial communities. After graduating, Drew hopes to attend law school and become an environmental lawyer.

NATHAN RAYMOND WETHERELL*

Mechanical Engineering

Optimization of Orbital Trajectories Using NeuroEvolution of Augmenting Topologies
Advised by: Bryan Weber, Cara Battersby, Jonathan Trump
Nathan investigated how artificial neural networks, specifically those with structures evolved using genetic algorithms, can be used to generate efficient orbital transfers between celestial bodies. The transfer plans produced by these neural networks were compared to the known efficient Hohmann maneuver for the Earth-Mars transfer case.

ROBERT MINH LU WILLIAMS*

Materials Science & Engineering

Improving HEPA Filtration and Antimicrobial Properties Through Graphene Application
Advised by: Douglas Adamson, Seok-Woo Lee, Thomas Abbott
Robert exfoliated graphene, a 2-D electrically conductive nanomaterial, onto the glass fibers of HEPA filters. When passing a charge, the novel filter combines the polarizing fields of electrostatic precipitation and Brownian motion impaction of HEPA filters together, reducing penetration while providing antimicrobial properties.

Honors Scholar and University Honors Laureates

These students have completed a rigorous academic program that culminated in the production of an Honors thesis or creative project. The requirements for graduating as an Honors Scholar include a minimum of fifteen Honors credits in the major (or approved related areas), engagement in the major field outside the classroom, and a total grade point average of at least 3.4. The University Honors Laureate designation recognizes graduating Honors Scholars who have completed depth in the major as well as breadth across the disciplines. In order to earn the University Honors Laureate designation, Honors Scholars demonstrate additional academic achievement and creative productivity, a commitment to community involvement, and leadership. Following is a list of students graduating as Honors Scholars and University Honors Laureates, their Honors Scholar majors, their thesis titles, and the faculty advisors for their theses.

HALLA A. ALI
Mechanical Engineering
Expanding the Capabilities of Cantera: Implementation of Python Units Package
Advised by: Bryan Weber

NICOLE ABENA ASAMOAH
Social Work
Engaging Young People of Color in Political Process
Advised by: Tanya Smith

NARAYANI BALLAMBAT
Physiology & Neurobiology
Effects of Sexual Violence based Trauma on Cognitive Functions: A Literature Review
Advised by: James Chrobak

ALEX EDWARD BREINAN
Molecular & Cell Biology
Celiac Disease: a Review of the Immunological Mechanism of Pathogenesis and Clinical Trials Studying Potential Pharmacological Treatments
Advised by: Charles Giardina

ALEX CHEN
Computer Science & Engineering
Deep Learning for Order Book Modeling
Advised by: Suining He

ALEX CHEN
Finance
Application of Stochastic Calculus in Finance: Pricing American Options
Advised by: Yaacov Kopeliovich

NATIEL COOPER
Communication
Freeing The Freemans: An Examination of Humor, Anti-Black Bias, and Double Consciousness in The Boondocks
Advised by: Diana Rios

DANIELLE CROSS
Political Science
Forgotten Immigrant Voices: West Indian Immigrant Experiences and Attitudes towards Contemporary Immigration
Advised by: Shareen Hertel

AMELIA DOUCETTE CUNNINGHAM
History
Anna Freud: Child Welfare and Psychoanalytic Collaboration in America 1941-1982
Advised by: Sylvia Schafer

LAUREN NICOLE DADDI
Molecular & Cell Biology
Identification of Ciprofloxacin Resistance Factors Via in Vivo Evolution of Aeromonas Veronii in the Medicinal Leech
Advised by: Joerg Graf

LISETTE JOY DONEWALD
Political Science
As Seen on Screen: American Ambivalence Shown through Death Penalty and Vigilante Films
Advised by: Jeffrey Dudas

JULIE DONG
Finance
The Evolution of FDI Regulations in China Since the 1980s
Advised by: Alexander Amati

SAMUEL WILLIAM DORMAN
Political Science
The Medicaid Blockade: Analyzing the Impact of Gubernatorial and State Legislature Partisanship in the Ballot Initiative Process for PPACA Medicaid Expansion
Advised by: Yusun Kim

MORGAN MARY DOUGHERTY
Animal Science
The Effects of Poor Maternal Nutrition during Gestation in Sheep on the Reproductive Efficiency of the Offspring
Advised by: Steven Zinn

MICHAELA ELIZABETH FLAHERTY
English
We Are Bad Feminists: Dissociation Feminism on Screen and in Literature
Advised by: Kathy Knapp

KELLY GEORGE
Allied Health Sciences
Assessing Self-Harm in Adolescents Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Relation to Geographic Location
Advised by: Lawrence Silbart

WILLIAM LLOYD GLIDDEN
Biological Sciences
Drug Resistance and Overcoming Inhibiting Behaviors in Herpes Simplex Viruses

REINIER ALBERTO GONZALEZ
Molecular & Cell Biology
Structure, Regulation and Function of VISTA as a novel immunotherapy ligand
Advised by: Andrew Wiemer

KEELY ANN GREINER
Individualized: Health Systems & Disparities
An Intervention to Increase Rates of Hospice Care Enrollment for Connecticut Nursing Home Residents
Advised by: Mary Berthelot

SALMA GUDAF
Allied Health Sciences
Household Composition and Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Intake, Purchases, Among, Low, Wage, Workers
Advised by: Caitlin Caspi

PRIYA GUPTA
Biological Sciences
Effects of Noise on Speech Perception in Children Using Cochlear Implants: A Systematic Review
Advised by: Diane Lillo-Martin

PRIYA GUPTA
Linguistics/Psychology
Effects of Noise on Speech Perception in Children Using Cochlear Implants: A Systematic Review
Advised by: Diane Lillo-Martin

ELIZABETH XINYUE HE
Molecular & Cell Biology
Asian American Discrimination Through United States History, Disease Outbreaks, and the COVID-19 Pandemic
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

EMILY ROSE KILIAN
Molecular & Cell Biology
Attitudes and Experiences of Parents of Children with Behavioral Health Concerns in the Schools
Advised by: Elizabeth Kline

LINDSEY KOLLMER
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
Developmental Stage of Overwintering Floral Buds in the Woody Genera Cornus, Tilia, and Magnolia
Advised by: Pamela Diggie

EFUA ENIMPA KOOMSON
Mathematics/Actuarial Science
Underwater: Flood Insurance, Systemic Bias, and a Tale of Two Cities
Advised by: Daniel Watt

JILLIAN ROSE LEVESQUE
Nursing
Anxiety as a Moderator of the Effect of Mindfulness Practice on Pain Experience
Advised by: Natalie Shook

MICHAEL MARTLAND
Molecular & Cell Biology
Constructing a 3-Dimensional Cerebral Ventricle Model to Assess Post-Infectious Hydrocephalus Severity in the Mouse
Advised by: Joanne Conover

NICHOLAS MATEJAK
Molecular & Cell Biology
Effect of Dietary Sphingomyelin on Genetic FXR Regulation in the Setting of Lean Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis
Advised by: Christopher Blesso

MARISSA ALBA NACLERIO
Natural Resources
Tracking Changes in Greenness in a Mangrove Forest Following Hurricane Irma in the Florida Everglades
Advised by: Ashley Helton

SAHAL BIN NASIM
Molecular & Cell Biology
Analysis of MicroRNA Regulation of Methylation and Demethylation Pathways
Advised by: Theodore Rasmussen

AARUSHI NOHRIA
English
Anything Dead Coming Back to Life Hurts”: Reviving Margaret Garner in Toni Morrison’s Beloved and N.K. Jemisin’s The Fifth Season
Advised by: Jason Courtmanche

SHIVANI PADHI
Physiology & Neurobiology
Evaluating the Efficacy of a Self-Administered, Intensive, App-Based Treatment for People With Aphasia (PWA)
Advised by: Jennifer Mozeiko

SEEMA MUKUND PATEL
Molecular & Cell Biology
Translesion Synthesis Inhibitors: A New Class of Cancer Chemotherapeutics
Advised by: Matthew Hadden

AMISHA PAUL
Physiology & Neurobiology
Understanding Ventricular-Subventricular Zone Development: Neural Stem Cell Lineage Tracing and Structural Configuration Modeling
Advised by: Joanne Conover

AMISHA PAUL
Economics
A Simulation of Heat Stress in Hartford
Advised by: David Simon

JULIA BERNADETTE QUINN
Biological Sciences
Determination of the Timing of Post-Mitotic Read-through Transcription by RNA Polymerase II
Advised by: Leighton Core

JAMES ROBERT
Rybczyk Molecular & Cell Biology
Investigating the Effects of Cell Signaling Mutants and Inhibitors on Chemokinesis in Dictyostelium Discoideum
Advised by: David Knecht

MEHAK SHARMA
Chemistry
Evaluating the Pharmacological Activity of a Protein-Based Artificial Retina
Advised by: Jordan Greco

MARY KATHLEEN STAUNTON
Biological Sciences
Analyzing Inhibitors of SARS-CoV-2 Endoribonuclease nsp15
Advised by: James Cole

ANDREW CHARLES TIENKEN JR.
Environmental Sciences
The Effects of Salt Marsh Thin-Layer Placement on Denitrification and Corresponding Microbial Communities
Advised by: Beth Lawrence

EMILY TROCCHI
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Effects of Heat Shock on Arf Guanine Nucleotide Exchange Activity of IQSEC2, an Intellectual Disability-Linked Protein
Advised by: Randall Walikonis

NOAM LEV WATT
Sport Management
Beyond The Play
Advised by: Laura Burton



Honors Scholars

These students have completed a rigorous academic program that culminated in the production of an Honors thesis or creative project. The requirements for graduating as an Honors Scholar include a minimum of fifteen Honors credits in the major (or approved related areas), engagement in the major field outside the classroom, and a total grade point average of at least 3.4. Following is a list of students graduating as Honors Scholars, their Honors majors, their thesis titles, and the faculty advisors for their theses.

BRETT ALEXANDER ABERLE
Computer Science & Engineering
Design and Implementation of a Microcontroller-Based Alarm Clock with Internet Connectivity
Advised by: Bing Wang

ELIZABETH ABRAHAM
Molecular & Cell Biology
Peptide Nucleic Acids as Biopolymers
Advised by: Charles Giardina

SUHAIB KHAMIS ABU-HASABALLAH
Finance
An Analysis of the Efficient Market Hypothesis
Advised by: Liping Qiu

THOMAS JOHN ACQUISTA
Molecular & Cell Biology
Fighting Cancer From Within: The Efficacy of Checkpoint Blockade Immunotherapy
Advised by: Craig Nelson

MARIEL AGBIM
Biological Sciences
Localization of RNA in Ultrathin Tissue Sections
Advised by: Linnaea Ostroff

YA-SINE AGRIGNAN
Computer Science & Engineering
Performance and Execution Time Analysis and of Hardware Executing Machine Learning Algorithms
Advised by: Caiwen Ding

ARIA ADINA AHMED
Nursing
Evaluating the Knowledge and Perceptions of Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives Among Young Adult Women
Advised by: Ivy Alexander

ALYSSA ROSE ALFORD
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Effects of Toxic Stress on the Physiological and Neural Development of Children
Advised by: Andrew Moiseff

JEREMY JOHN AMORO
Electrical Engineering
Compact and Robust Data Logger in Harsh Environments
Advised by: John Chandy

NEHA ANDE
Computer Science & Engineering
Image Recognition Using a Siamese Neural Network
Advised by: Joseph Johnson

ELENA GRACE ANDERSON
Molecular & Cell Biology
Vaccine Developments for Group A Streptococcus Diseases
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

ABIGAIL ELLA ANDRADE
Psychological Sciences
Meta-Analysis of Alpha Desynchronization in Bipolar Disorder
Advised by: James Chrobak

BENJAMIN DAVIS ARORA
Mathematics
Ergodic Theory and Applications
Advised by: Vasileios Chousionis

PRACHI ARORA
Economics
The Economic Impact of Rape and Sexual Assault: 2015-2019
Advised by: David Simon

KATHERINE ROSE ARPINO
American Sign Language
The Effect of Language Deprivation on Deaf Accessibility to the United States Education System
Advised by: Doreen Simons

HANNAH ASELTINE
Mechanical Engineering
Does Microdamage to Articular Cartilage Effect its Advantageous Surface Frictional Properties?
Advised by: David Pierce

ANUSHA ATTRE
Molecular & Cell Biology
ESKAPE Pathogens: The clinical Prevalence and Molecular Mechanisms of Antibiotic Resistance
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

VICTORIA AVIANI
Marketing
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Sara Blakely
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

AMY MELISSA BACKAL
Molecular & Cell Biology
The Effect of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva on the Tongue
Advised by: David Goldhamer

KATHERINE MARIE BACOLAS
Animal Science
Effects of Leg Protection on Equine Tendon Temperature
Advised by: Sarah Reed

KATHERINE MARIE BACOLAS
Finance
Financial Implications of Leg Injuries in the Equine/Livestock Industries
Advised by: Paul Gilson

BRANDON DOUGLAS BAKER
Mechanical Engineering
Quantifying the Efficiency of Reverse Osmosis in the Production of Maple Syrup
Advised by: Jason Lee

SAMANTHA JORDYN BALLAS
Psychological Sciences
Contributions of Health Anxiety and Emotional Reasoning to COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy
Advised by: Kimberli Treadwell

MARIA BARATAU
Individualized: Global Health
Assessing Knowledge of HPV and the Vaccine in Underrepresented Populations
Advised by: Jessica Beaudet

TYLER BARRETT
Business Administration
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Mark Cuban
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

JACK MICHAEL BARTLETT
Biological Sciences
Assessment of Genetic and Plastic Phenotypic Distinction in Pelargonium scabrum
Advised by: Carl Schlichting

SARAH NICOLE BATTAGLIA
Nursing
NICU Nurses’ Varying Levels of and Experiences with Moral Distress While Caring for Infants with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
Advised by: Valarie Artigas

KATHRYN BEARD
Psychological Sciences
Effort-Related Motivational Effects of the Dopamine Transport Inhibitor MK-26: Effects on Progressive Ratio/ Chow Feeding Choice Performance
Advised by: John Salamone

CHLOE DIANNA BECQUEY
Computer Science
A Deep Learning Approach to Detecting Breast Cancer from Mammograms
Advised by: Jinbo Bi

CHLOE DIANNA BECQUEY
Mathematics
A Deep Learning Approach to Detecting Breast Cancer from Mammograms
Advised by: Jinbo Bi

BRIAN BEHRENS
Mathematics
Lyapunov-type Inequalities for Nonlinear Differential Equations
Advised by: Sougata Dhar

JOAO BENITES
Business Data Analytics

SERENA BERI
Biological Sciences
Protective Mechanism of Caffeine on Microglia in Preterm Hypoxic Ischemic Injury
Advised by: Roslyn Fitch

JESSICA BERRY
Nursing
Maternal Perceptions Regarding Care of their Infants with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
Advised by: Valarie Artigas

DREW MICHAEL BIDMEAD
Molecular & Cell Biology
Feasibility of Universal HIV Risk Screening in a Pediatric Emergency Department
Advised by: Sharon Smith

AKASH BINOJ
Computer Science
CloudBots: Autonomous Atmospheric Explorers
Advised by: Ashwin Dani

SONYA BOSTOM
Allied Health Sciences
Perceived Stress and Experiences Parenting During the COVID-19 Pandemic Among Mothers of Children 0-12 years
Advised by: Molly Waring

JOHN ROBERT BRADLEY
Mathematics-Actuarial-Finance
Analysis of U.S. Federal Entitlement Programs
Advised by: Edward Perry

EMILY BRADSHAW
Nursing
The Lived Experience of Burnout in ED Nurses
Advised by: Elizabeth Polifroni

LYNNA BRAY
History
The American Pearl within the Spanish Crown
Advised by: Ricardo Salazar-Rey

CARLY BRENNAN
Business Administration
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Bill Gates
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

TARIF WILLARD BROWN
History
The Socio-political Significance of Former Chinese Chairman Jiang Zimen’s Three Represents Policy
Advised by: Peter Zarrow

TARIF WILLARD BROWN
Anthropology
A Comparison of International Criminal Tribunals: Is a Hybrid National-international Criminal Tribunal Model Just as Effective as an International Criminal Tribunal Model in Achieving Justice for Victims?
Advised by: Richard Wilson

WILLIAM PATRICK BRYDON
Chemistry
Make it Green, Make it Simple: New Approaches to Oxidative Functionalization
Advised by: Nicholas Leadbeater

MELISSA MARY BURKE
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Jeff Bezos
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

GRACE BURNS
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Jane Fraser
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ZOE BUTCHEN
Individualized: Social Impact & Organizational Leadership
Strategic Innovation Within Corporate Social Impact and Responsibility (CSIR) Through People, Planet, and Profit
Advised by: Travis Grosser

ARIANA BUTERBAUGH
Individualized: Global Health
The Role of State Vaccine Policies and Mandates on the Awareness and Prevalence of Human Papillomavirus in the US
Advised by: Jessica Beaudet

DANIEL PATRICK BYRNE
Computer Science & Engineering
Lambda Calculus
Advised by: David Solomon

DANIEL PATRICK BYRNE
Mathematics
Lambda Calculus
Advised by: David Solomon

DANIEL PATRICK BYRNE
German
The Relationship between Heidegger & Eckhart
Advised by: Friedemann Weidauer

JOSHUA MICHAEL CAMPUTARO
English
The Effects of Literary Translation on Endangered Languages
Advised by: Peter Theologhides

ALEJANDRO SAMUEL CARINO NIEVES
Mechanical Engineering
Optimizing Load Distribution of Power Threads by Analyzing Possible Material Composition of the Main Geometry
Advised by: Ryan Cooper

GABRIELLE ALEEN CARON
Molecular & Cell Biology
An Update on the Relationship Between Food Insecurity and Negative Health Outcomes in the United States Using NHANES data from 2013-2018
Advised by: Sharon Smith

FRANCISCO ANDRES CARRILLO
Psychological Sciences
Trauma History and Self-Identity in College Students
Advised by: Crystal Park

JOSEPH PASQUALE CARUSO
Biomedical Engineering
Multi-systems approach to lower extremity exoskeleton design.
Advised by: Krystyna Gielo-Perczak

RIONA CASEY
Political Science
Confined in Connecticut: Criminal Justice Policy Recommendations Based on Best Practices in a Neighboring State
Advised by: Kimberly Bergendahl

NICOLE L. CATARINO
English
Gravedigger
Advised by: SeanForbes

ALISON NICOLE CHASE
Physiology & Neurobiology
Automated Alignment of Serial Sectioned Immunofluorescence Images of Calcium Binding Proteins in the Lateral Amygdala
Advised by: Linnaea Ostroff

MENAL CHAUDRY
Allied Health Sciences
Vision and Emerging Brain Activity: What We Can Learn From the Theory of Self-Organization
Advised by: Till Frank

KANAKAPRIYA CHELLADURAI
Financial Management
The Effect of Fintech on Businesses’ and Individuals’ Resilience During the COVID-19 Pandemic
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Korean and American Journalism: Its Online Presence and Interdisciplinary Dimensions
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Device and Mobile App Development for Retinal Imaging Diagnosis
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Analysis on the Effect of Ball Pressure on Head Acceleration to Ensure Safety in Soccer
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Effect of Infant Feeding Type on Maternal Breastfeeding Pain and Self-Efficacy
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Application of a Convolutional Neural Network to the Segmentation of Lungs in Mice
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Recruitment of a Clinical Population: Factors that Predict Enrollment in a Clinical Trial for Depression
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Probing Behavioral and Proteomic Effects of Ketogenic-like Treatment in a Drosophila Model of Glial Tauopathy
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Diagnostic Genetic Sciences
Comparative analysis of LymphoTrack IGHV Leader Somatic Hypermutation Assay- MiSeq and IGH Somatic Hypermutation Assay v2.0
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How Kangaroo Care Influences Neurobehavioral Outcomes in Neonates
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Assessing the Association Between Language-specific Acculturation Characteristics and BMI in Hispanic-American Children
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Proposal For Measuring The Efficacy of Exogenous Ketones In Recovery of Spatial Memory And Expression of Tau In Drosophila Melanogaster Following A Traumatic Brain Injury
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Novel Epigenetic Therapeutics for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder
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Optimal Therapy Design Using Artificial Neural Network Surrogate Models of Fluid and Solute Transport in Tumors
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Nursing
Effects of Music and Movement-Based Interventions on Communication and Social-Emotional Behavior in Autistic Adolescents
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Energy and Climate Change Impact of Building Green
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Enhancing Mathematics Education for Students with Learning Disabilities
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Fever in Oncology Study
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Dialectical Method in Sartre and Adorno
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Food Security Status and Health Behaviors During the Early COVID-19 Pandemic
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Individualized: Science, Medicine & Ethics
Breath, Body and Spirit: Navigating Jewish Memory in Israel/Palestine
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VAMP 2/3 and Neuronal Excitation: Intrinsic and Extrinsic Mechanisms of OPC/NG2-cell Dynamics
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Dissecting Discontent: How Stocks and Flows of County-level Economic and Social Factors Affect the Vote Shares of Populist Candidates
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The Silent Voice of the American Woman Within Modern Coming-of-Age Literature
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Predicting The Political Polarity of Twitters Regarding Vaccine Passports
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A Machine Learning and Deep Learning Framework for Multiclass Emotion Classification of Covid-19 Vaccine-Related Tweets
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Investigating mRNA Expression of Genes Involved in Epigenetic Modification in the Liver of F1 Offspring of Poorly Fed Mothers Using a Sheep Model
Advised by: Kristen Govoni

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Effects of VMAT-2 Inhibitor Tetrabenazine on Effort-Related Choice Behavior in Female Rats
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Essays on American Politics
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Personality Traits and the Correlation with Medication Adherence: A Narrative Review and Proposed Utility in Patient Care
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Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Elon Musk
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Harnessing Slime Mold to Map Infectious Diseases
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Neuromodulation and Sleep: Slow Wave and Sleep Spindles in Sleep Disorders
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Quantifying and Visualizing Drought Resilience Across the United States
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Targeting Chromodomains to Attenuate Substance Use Disorder Symptoms
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A Human Factors Approach to the Optimization of Prostheses for K3 and K4 Amputees
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Quantum Computing for the Solving of Schrödinger’s Equation
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Constructions of American Quilting Narratives: An Exhibition Analysis of the Museum of Fine Art’s 2021-2022, Fabric of a Nation: American Quilt Stories
Advised by: Alexis Boylan

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Art History
Constructions of American Quilting Narratives: An Exhibition Analysis of the Museum of Fine Art’s 2021-2022, Fabric of a Nation: American Quilt Stories
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English Education
Educators’ Transfer of Educational Technology Skills From the COVID-19 Pandemic
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The Influence of Tetrabenazine on Operant Behavior and Binge-Like Eating Model in Rats
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Exploring the Societal Implications of Data Analytics and Predictive Modeling in Insurance Underwriting
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Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Steve Jobs
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Americans on the Move: Opportunity Migration in a Changing Nation
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Social Activism Through Young Adult Speculative Fiction
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A Summary of Sobolev Spaces
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Computer Science
Generating Chemical Fingerprints Using Knowledge Graphs
Advised by: Jinbo Bi

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Mathematics
Generating Chemical Fingerprints Using Knowledge Graphs
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Cross-Institutional Connections: A Rhetorical and Interconnected Archeology of the Mansfield Training Institute and the University of Connecticut
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Effects of Theta Wave Coherence During REM Sleep on Memory Consolidation in Rodent Models
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Manipulability of Social Choice Functions
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Characterizing Male and Female Rat Lateral Amygdala Interneurons by Colocalization of Calcium-Binding Proteins and Neuropeptides via Serial Multiplex Immunohistochemistry
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The Effectiveness of Exogenous Beta-Hydroxybutyrate Isomers at Increasing NAD+/NADH and Sirtuin 2 Levels in a Traumatic Brain Injury Drosophila Melanogaster Model
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Social Media and Body Image during COVID-19 among Female College Students
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Headcase Regulates Growth in Response to Nutritional Status Downstream of Insulin Signaling
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Testing the Effect of Fabrication Method on the Properties of Carbon Fiber Reinforced Epoxy Composites for UConn Formula SAE
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The Youth Vaping Crisis
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Light Intensity Modulator Design
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Cellular Basis for Disordered Breathing i n Pitt-Hopkins Syndrome
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The Effect of Soft Power and Sportswashing on the Football Fans and their Communities
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False Positive Binary Supermassive Black Hole Detection Rate for Vera Rubin Observatory
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Political Leadership and Self-Determination Through the Writings of Hubert Harrison and Wendell Malliet between the Years of 1900-1960
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Prevalence of homeless patients diagnosed with diabetes admitted into a Medical Respite program
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The Usefulness of Physician Referral Network Characteristics in Predicting Hospital Efficiency and Patient Outcomes
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Investigating the Role of SNRNP70 in the Splicing and Expression of Minor Intron-Containing Genes
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Individualized: Public Administration
Remedy and Accountability across Borders: Modeling an Adjudication Body for Corporate Human Rights Abuses
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Monitoring the Activity of Purified Adenine Nucleotide Translocase (hANT1) Reconstituted in an Isolated Liposome Environment
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Enumeration of Polyforms Inscribed in Various Lattices
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An Analysis of Boston’s Property Value Through Econometric Processes
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Punishment vs. Rehabilitation: A Discourse on American Prison Reform & Comparative Analysis to Swedish Incarceration
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A Retrospective Study to Evaluate the Relationship Between Postnatal Growth, Postnatal Steroids and Retinal Vascularization in Premature Infants Born at < 32 wk. GA.
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Physiology & Neurobiology
Effects of Ultrasonic Vocalization Playback on Rodent Behavior and Place Cell Remapping in the Hippocampus
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Assessing the Role of Eggs on Insulin Resistance and Inflammation in a Metabolic Syndrome Population Consuming a Plant-Based Diet
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Affirmative Action in Higher Education: What Role does Whiteness Ideology Play?
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Chemical Engineering
Multi-Layered Stimuli-Responsive Dynamic Shape Change Device
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Exploring the Impact of Equity Compensation for Executives on Earnings Management through the adoption of “Say on Pay.
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Modeling Tools for NBA Data
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Determining the Accuracy of an Alternative Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization Protocol Using a Reduced Probe Quantity
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Piezoelectric Nano Composite Barrier Membrane For Treatment of Periodontitis
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Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences
The Efficacy of Treatment Dosage and Intensity for Children with Speech Sound Disorders
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Mechanical Engineering
Triggering Thermal Runaway in Lithium-ion Batteries
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Johnson Molecular & Cell Biology
Beyond Cosmetics: Applications of Botulinum Toxin in Dentistry and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
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Allied Health Sciences
Feasibility of Evidence-Based Gaming to Deliver Health Messages to Tween and Teens
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The Design and Fabrication of a Smart, Efficient, and Light Solar Microgrid Inverter
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The Design of Magnetically Responsive Charge-Transfer Emission Probes to Enhance Fluorescence Guided Surgery
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Molecular & Cell Biology
Optimization of an Electrochemical Microfluidic Array for the Detection of Cancer Biomarkers
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Plague and Mourning in Ancient Greece: The Vital Place of Funerary Rites in Healthy Societies
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Insurance and Racial Inequities
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Financial Bubbles: Their Formation and Impact on the Economy
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Molecular & Cell Biology
Establishing ZIP4 Knockout Enterocytes to Examine Alternative Zinc Absorption Mechanisms
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Physiology & Neurobiology
Examining Trust in Student-Instructor Relationships Among Undergraduate Contexts
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Human Development & Family Sciences
Ethnic Identity Associated with Second-Generation, South Asian-American Young Adults
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Molecular & Cell Biology
Verification of IRF8 Transcript Isoform Switching Due to CLL-Associated Enhancer SNP
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Biological Sciences
Permselective Membrane Optimization for Implantable Glucose Sensors
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Mathematics/Actuarial Science
Using Linear Regression To Create Fantasy Football Lineup
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Physiology & Neurobiology
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as an Intervention for Cannabis Use Disorder in Undergraduates
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Individualized: Global Health
A Mixed Method Study of Health Diet Challenges in Children Affected by PANS (Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome)
Advised by: Cesar Abadia-Barrero

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Physics
Multimessenger Gravitational Wave Signals from Strongly Lensed Supermassive Black Hole Binaries
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Innovation in Education: Outlook on Education Technology Investments in Venture Capital
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General Program in Art
Collapsing Star
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Calcium Ferrite as a Semiconductor for Microbially Assisted Photocatalytic Reduction of Carbon Dioxide
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A Case for Improved Financial Literacy Curriculum in Secondary Education
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The Relationship between the Internalization of Racial Stereotypes and Individual Democratic Participation and Civic Engagement
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Biomedical Engineering
Automatic Shear Rate Device for Biopharmaceutical Production Development
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Animal Science
A Simulation Study to Assess How Genomic Selection Can Improve Disease Resistance in Pacific White Shrimp
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Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Gordon Ramsey
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Learning Resilience from Ancient Construction
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Use Cases of Artificial Intelligence in Quantitative Finance
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Biomedical Engineering
5-axis Milling for Micro-machining of Implantable Flow Sensor
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Physiology & Neurobiology
The Atypical Antipsychotic Cariprazine Induced Motivational Impairments in an Animal Model of Avolition: Implications for the Treatment of Schizophrenia
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Audit Technology: How Automation is Changing the Future of Accounting
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Obsidian and Ostrich Eggshell: An Archaeological Study of Social Technologies from Mumba Rockshelter, Tanzania during the Upper Pleistocene and Holocene
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Textiles and the Portrayal of Power: Figuring European-Ottoman Relations, 16th-17th Centuries
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Exercise in the Heat: Perceptual Measures in Hydrated and Dehydrated Conditions
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Inverted Pendulum Sensors and Mechanical Components Analysis
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How Do You Divide Up a Feather? Diversity in Feather Microstructure Demonstrates That There is No “Transitional” Section of Feathers
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Molecular & Cell Biology
Comparing SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Tests from Quest Diagnostics and Jackson Laboratories Utilized to Identify MIS-C Patients
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Sport Management
Identifying Success Indicators and Utilizing Statistical Analysis From Past Years to Increase the Probability of Successful Outcomes in the NFL Draft
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Osteochondral Engineering: Singular and Interfaced Approaches
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Examining the Effects of Trauma Type on PTSD Symptom Clusters in Mothers
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Doctor of Pharmacy
Drugs, Information, and Innovation: How Can Pharmacists Improve Patient Knowledge of Opioids?
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Allied Health Sciences
An Analysis of Adherence and Barriers to Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Connecticut
Advised by: Beth Russell

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Physiology & Neurobiology
Appetite Suppressant Effects of Triple Reuptake Inhibitor (TRI) NOEMA-115 on Binge-like Eating Behavior in Rats
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Structural Biology/Biophysics
Computational Investigations into Binding Dynamics of Tau Protein Antibodies: Using Machine Learning and Biophysical Models to Build a Better Reality
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Development of 3D-printed Membranes for the Production of Low-carbon Intensity Biofuels
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Molecular Data Confirms the Widespread North American Moss, Physcomitrium immersum (Funariaceae), as a Hybrid of Single Origin
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The Assistance of Applied Introduction to Cryptography
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Effects of JNK Pathway on Mmp2 Expression During Drosophila Ovulation
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Spatial Analysis and Modeling of the Housing Value Changes in the U.S. during the Covid-19 Pandemic
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Systemic Bias in the Insurance Industry
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Neural Mirroring and Neurobiological Development in Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Review
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Traffic Calming Measures in New York City and Their Impacts
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The Effects of Pain, Sleep and Obesity on Participation in a Pediatric Obesity Program
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Westphalia in an Era of Globalization and the Trajectory of the Israel-Palestine Conflict Through the Lens of Water Scarcity
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Exploring the Feasibility of Using A Turbine-Based Combined Cycle Propulsion System for Hypersonic Air Travel
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Development of a Smart Shunt System with a Focus on Spectrophotometry to Monitor Cerebrospinal Fluid
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Molecular & Cell Biology
Penicillin Allergy Labeling and Medication Choice
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Physiology & Neurobiology
Drug Delivery Systems of Glioblastoma Multiforme
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Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Michele Buck
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Medical Cost Trends: An Actuarial Perspective
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Nursing
Impact of Pain on Neurobehavioral Outcomes in Male vs. Female Preterm Infants
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Biological Sciences
Effects of Cannabidiol on Clostridioides difficile Growth and Virulence Mechanisms
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Molecular & Cell Biology
Analyzing the Role of Animal Model Systems in the Development of Emerging Therapeutic Strategies for Kabuki Syndrome.
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Psychological Sciences
Characterization of the Catecholamine Uptake Inhibitor Bupropion and the Opioid Antagonist Naltrexone, Alone and in Combination, on Binge-Like Eating Behavior
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Critical Political Essays
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Plant-Based Diets and Metabolic Syndrome: Evaluating the Influence of Diet Quality
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New York Times v. Sullivan; Still “An Occasion for Dancing in the Streets?”
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A Molecular Assessment of the Insect Parasitoid Fauna of New England Lepidoptera
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Validation of Wearable Multimodal EMG, ECG, EDA Biosignal Acquisition Device
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An analysis of RNA Transcription Readthrough and Termination
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The Chemogenetic Application and Biotherapeutic Potential of Designer Receptors Exclusively Activated by Designer Drugs for Parkinson’s Disease
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Impact of ESG Reporting on the Financial Performance of Companies in the Trucking and Oil Industries
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Role of PRG-4 in Interactions Between TSG-6, HA, and CD44.
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Exploiting the Antineoplastic Effects of Caffeine: A Prospective Melanoma Therapy
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Spatial Comparisons of the Need for, Funding of, and Access to SNAP Services Across the United States
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Designing the Power Distribution System for the Eagle Mobile Robotic Carrier
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Evaluating Antimicrobial Surface Modifications Using Quaternary Ammonium Compounds on Industry Materials
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The Inefficient Market Hypothesis
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Time and Time Again
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Biological Sciences
Relating Auditory Threat Reactivity to Trauma Related Symptoms in Children Exposed to Violent Environments
Advised by: Margaret Briggs-Gowan

TONI LINN TERESA MOORE
Mechanical Engineering

MADELON MORIN-VIAL
English
*Reacting to the “End of the World”:
Reading Hamlet as a Plague-Play*
Advised by: Evelyn Tribble

MICHAELA MARIE MOROSKY
Accounting
Cybersecurity and 8-K Disclosure
Advised by: Alina Lerman

ANNA MARISSA MORSON
Psychological Sciences
*Analyzing the Contributing Factors
Influencing Bystanders’ Decisions to Inter-
vene in Workplace Sexual Harassment*
Advised by: Vicki Magley

RYAN MUNASINGHE
History
*Riots, Routes, and Unlawful Assemblies:
Boston’s Urban Laboring Classes in the
American Revolutionary Era (1760-1776)*
Advised by: Christopher Clark

RANITA KRISTEN MURIEL
Molecular & Cell Biology
*Injuries Sustained by Pediatric Motor
Vehicle Accident Victims*
Advised by: Sharon Smith

DEVON ROSE MURPHY
Psychological Sciences
*Autistic Individuals May See Emotions
Differently: How Gradable Adjectives Can
Be Used to Determine Emotional Recognition*
Advised by: Letitia Naigles

KAITLYN ROSE MUZZY
Statistics
*Is There a Gap Between Conservative and
Liberal Opinions on Climate Change?*
Advised by: Lynn Kuo

ANUSHA NAGELLA
Computer Science & Engineering
*Detecting Depression Dialogue on
Social Media*
Advised by: Swapna Gokhale

MARCO ANDRES NARDONE GUERRA
Management Information Systems
*Assessing Leadership in Business: A
Critical Investigation of Sundar Pichai*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

HUYEN NAM NGUYEN
Economics
*Weather Shocks and Finance: An Application
to 19th Century Connecticut*
Advised by: Michele Baggio

JENNIFER MINH NGUYEN
Diagnostic Genetic Sciences
*GelRed Replacing Ethidium Bromide for
Southern Blot*
Advised by: Denise Anamani

KHANG AN NGUYEN
Mathematics/Actuarial Science
*Telematics: Causative Pricing and
the Future*
Advised by: Daniel Watt

SARAH NHU NGUYEN
Marketing
*Assessing Leadership in Business: A
Critical Investigation of Mark Zuckerberg*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

BRIANA NOSAL
Nutritional Sciences
*The Impact of Coffee Preparation on Total
Phenolic Contents in Brewed Coffee
Extracts and Their Contribution to the
Body’s Antioxidant Status*
Advised by: Ock K. Chun

CATHERINE ELIZABETH ODENDAHL
Chemical Engineering
*Designing Artificial Reef Structures to
Mitigate Shoreline Erosion*
Advised by: Kristina Wagstrom

CASEY ELIZABETH O’GRADY
Finance
*Assessing Leadership in Business: A
Critical Investigation of Susan Wojcicki*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ANGEL C. OJIDE
Nursing
*The Effects of the Patient-Provider
Relationship on Black Women’s Satisfac-
tion in Pregnancy and Delivery*
Advised by: Thomas Long

ROSEMARY KATHRYN O’MAHONY
English
*As Herself and Not Herself: Reclamation
of the Pregnant Experience through
Narratives of Medicalized Birth*
Advised by: Eleni Coundouriotis

OLIVIA ORTEGON
Marketing
*The Impact of Cruelty-Free Product
Labeling on Consumer Perceptions and
Purchasing Behavior*
Advised by: Stefan Hock

SYDNEY RIO OSBORNE
Allied Health Sciences
*Correlates of Sexualized Drug Use Among
Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in
Malaysia*
Advised by: Roman Shrestha

JARET EDWARD OSTOP
Digital Media & Design
*Illusions and Witchcraft: A 2-D
Animated Short*
Advised by: Sue Huang

JULIA ROSE OZIMEK
Marketing
*Assessing Leadership in Business:
A Critical Investigation of Steve Jobs*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ALYSSA MARIE PAGAN HAGEARTY
Political Science
*The Rational Basis Test as a Means for
Excluding Puerto Rico from Supplemental
Security Income: an Examination of the
Case Study United States v. Vaello Madero*
Advised by: Charles Venator

ROHITH S. PAMIDIMUKKALA
Management Information Systems
*Assessing Leadership in Business:
A Critical Investigation of Jeff Bezos*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

AMANDA PAN
Doctor of Pharmacy
*Thin Film Formulation of Acetaminophen
for Rapid Dissolution and Absorption*
Advised by: Diane Burgess

CINDY PAN
Philosophy
*Counterfactual Conditionals, Possibility,
and Impossibility*
Advised by: Keith Simmons

RAJVI JAY PARIKH
Physiology & Neurobiology
*A Spotlight On Defibrotide Sodium:
Mechanism, Toxicity and the Future of
Oligonucleotide Treatments*
Advised by: Xiaobo Zhong

ROHAN PARIKH
Computer Science & Engineering
*Predictive Modeling for Stock Movement
Via Gamma Exposure & Liquidity*
Advised by: Joseph Johnson

MEHREEN ALI PASHA
Molecular & Cell Biology
*When Problems Become Solutions:
Harnessing the Osteogenic Capacity
of Disease-Causing Stem Cells to Repair
Bone Fractures*
Advised by: David Goldhamer

VENKATA PATCHIGOLLA
Molecular & Cell Biology
*Investigating the Role of Centromeric
DNA On Centromeric Function*
Advised by: Barbara Mellone

JENIKA PATEL
Chemistry
*Observation and Magnetic Modulation
of Exciplex Emission*
Advised by: Tomoyasu Mani

MALCOLM KAIZAD PATEL
Physiology & Neurobiology
*Associations Between Extracurricular
Activities and Mental Health Among
Sexual and Gender Diverse Young Adults*
Advised by: Ryan Watson

NIDHI PATEL
Human Development & Family Sciences
*Expectations of Children with a PANS/
PANDAS Diagnosis*
Advised by: Maria Larusso

JULIA PAUL
Physiology & Neurobiology
*Defining the Role of Locus Coeruleus
Noradrenergic Neurons in the Modulation
of Homeostatic Feeding*
Advised by: Natale Sciolino

LAUREN ANN PAWLOWSKI
Environmental Studies
*Environmental Justice Communities
in Connecticut: An Analysis of Socio-
Environmental Concerns and History
of Environmental Justice in the State*
Advised by: Nefeli Maria Bompoti

CLARICE RYAN PENNOCK
Human Development & Family Sciences
*When Do Children Realize They Are Poor?:
A Coded Analysis of Socioeconomic
Awareness Among Youth in Film*
Advised by: Jodie Oshana

JAMES MARSHALL PETERSEN
Mathematics-Actuarial-Finance
What Do You Really Know About Inflation?
Advised by: Edward Perry

ALYSSA MARIE PETERSON
Physiology & Neurobiology
*Isolation, Culture, and Characterization of
Hair Follicle Stem Cells from Rat Whiskers*
Advised by: Lakshmi Nair

MATTHEW CRAIG PHILLIPS
Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences
*Exploring a Perceptual Deficit in People
Who Stutter: Behavioral and Electrophysio-
logical Approaches*
Advised by: Emily Myers

NOAH PICARELLI-KOMBERT
Computer Science & Engineering
*Expanding the Health Check Capabilities
of Envoy*
Advised by: Wei Zhang

DEANNA SIMONE PIETRORAZIO
Physiology & Neurobiology
*Regaining Effort-based Food Motivation:
the Drug Methylphenidate Reverses the
Depressive Effects of Tetrabenazine in
Female Rats*
Advised by: John Salamone

SARAH STRAWBRIDGE PLATT
Biological Sciences
*Disrupting Monoallelic Expression of Variant
Surface Glycoprotein in Trypanosoma
brucei by a Non-lethal Mutation in Class I
Transcription Factor A*
Advised by: Aoife Heaslip

NADYA TERESA PONTHEMPILLY
Biomedical Engineering
*Modeling Organs with Microfluidic Devices
in Drug Development and Testing*
Advised by: Yupeng Chen

KATRINA MARIE PRUITT
Nutritional Sciences
*The Effect of Exercise on Undergraduates
Mental Health and Well-being*
Advised by: Michael Puglisi

KHALEEL RAHMAN
Biological Sciences
*Examining the Effect Of Information Sources
On Sustainability Perceptions Among
Undergraduates*
Advised by: Margaret Rubega

SUSHANT KRISHNA RAJ
Electrical Engineering
Assembly Process Improvement with Co-bot
Advised by: Ashwin Dani

KYLIE RAMIA
Management Information Systems
*Assessing Leadership in Business:
A Critical Investigation of Wendy Zomnir*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ANNIE RAMIREZ
Allied Health Sciences
*Misinformation in Public Social Media
Posts on Child Nutrition: Differences
among English and Spanish Posts*
Advised by: Molly Waring

REBHA RAVIRAJ
Maritime Studies
*Investigation of Freshwater Inputs
of Microplastics in Long Island Sound*
Advised by: Epapante Vlahos

ARIELA FANNY REITER
Marketing
*Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical
Investigation of Whitney Wolfe Herd*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

SEAN RESCSANSKI
Mechanical Engineering
*Heterogenous Sensing and Bayesian
Optimization for Smart Calibration of
Additive Manufacturing*
Advised by: Farhad Imani

SERENA HANNAH RIBACK
Computer Science & Engineering
*Performance Improvements in Inner
Product Encryption*
Advised by: Benjamin Fuller

JACQUELINE RING
Marketing
*Assessing Leadership in Business:
A Critical Investigation of Satya Nadella.*
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

SEAN THOMAS ROACH
Urban Studies
*Public Art Creating a Sense of Belonging:
A Case Study of William Lanson Statue.*
Advised by: Mary Donegan

ASHLEY JUDITH ROBINSON
Physiology & Neurobiology

JHOAN ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ
Physiology & Neurobiology
*Does Anodal tDCS Over the Left Prefrontal
Cortex Using the C3-RSO Montage Improve
Cognitive Control?*
Advised by: Eiling Yee

JHOAN ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ
Spanish
*Ana Lydia Vega: Nation, Allegory,
and Narration*
Advised by: Miguel Gomes

XAVIER BRYANT ROULEAU
Philosophy
*Existential Anthropology as Validating
Experience: A Comparative Analysis of
C. L. R. James and Michael D. Jackson*
Advised by: Lewis Gordon

JONATHAN ADAM RUCINSKI
**Management & Engineering
for Manufacturing**
*Analysis of Flow Stress Data of Ti-6Al-4V
for Application in Simulations*
Advised by: Lesley Frame

LAUREN REBECCA RUDIN

Exercise Science

Content Analysis of Public Instagram Posts about Pelvic Floor Disorders and Pelvic Floor Muscle Training in Pregnancy

Advised by: Molly Waring

HEATHER ROSE RUTISHAUSER

Digital Media & Design

Floating to Freedom: A Documentary Film

Advised by: Catherine Masud

STEPHANIE RYZYK

Doctor of Pharmacy

The Role of P&T Committees, Monographs, and the AMCP P&T Competition

Advised by: Christina Polomoff

CHRISTOPHER RONALD SACCHI

Molecular & Cell Biology

LAVANYA SAMBARAJU

Physiology & Neurobiology

Development, Characterization, and Drug Release Study of Bupivacaine Encapsulated in Nanoparticles

Advised by: Lakshmi Nair

NIA SAMUELS

Chemical Engineering

Investigation of Particle Interactions at the Surface of Thin, Composite Coatings of Montmorillonite (MMT) and Polyvinyl Alcohol (PVA) on Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)

Advised by: Luyi Sun

ISABELLA SANCHEZ

Nursing

Investigating Anti-Arthritic Possibilities Through Collagen Induced Arthritis Model

Advised by: Steven Kinsey

AVIN SAPOWADIA

Molecular & Cell Biology

Lubricin Delivery System via Biomimetic Nano-Matrix for Treatment of Age-Related Macular Degeneration

Advised by: Yupeng Chen

JORDAN SARGENT

Diagnostic Genetic Sciences

Validation of Applied BioSystem’s Seq-Studio Sanger Sequencing and Fragment Analysis for Use in Detection of the FLT3 Gene Mutation

Advised by: Stephen Lanno

LINDSEY MAE SAWTELLE

Doctor of Pharmacy

Cannabis and Cannabinoids in Patients with Cancer

Advised by: Lisa Holle

NATHAN ROSS SCHAUMBURGER

Biological Sciences

A Bidirectional Approach to Furthering the Understanding of Anthocyanin Pattern Formation in Mimulus

Advised by: Yaowu Yuan

TAYLOR LIND SCHELLHORN

Mathematics/Actuarial Science

The Application of Data Analytics to the World of Baseball

Advised by: Stephen Camilli

CARINA ANNE SCHER

Civil Engineering

Transit Oriented Developments: A Measure of Their Success With Respect To Walkability and Ridership

Advised by: Norman Garrick

ERIC SCHEUERMANN

Physics

Numerical Methods for the Time-Independent Schrodinger Equation

Advised by: George Gibson

JOSHUA PHILIP SCHLACTUS

Management

JUSTIN ROCCO SCIPLINI

Finance

Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Jensen Huang

Advised by: Nell D’Auria

TAYLOR SCULLY

Marketing

Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Mary Dillon

Advised by: Nell D’Auria

JACQUELINE MAUREEN SERAS

Finance

Personal Finances Post-Incarceration

Advised by: Paul Gilson

PAYAL PRASHANT SHAH

Computer Science & Engineering

Detecting Prejudice and Meta Hate Against Asian Americans

Advised by: Swapna Gokhale

SAUMYA SHAH

Computer Science

Alterations of the Gut Mycobiome in Patients with MS - a Bioinformatic Approach

Advised by: Ion Mandoiu

MEGHASRI SHANKAR

Biomedical Engineering

The Imaging and Microtissue Analysis of a Two-Layer Tubular Structure for Three-Dimensional Cancer Cell Culture

Advised by: Kazunori Hoshino

CHRISTINE SHARABUN

Chemical Engineering

Micro-chemical Control for Tuning Elimination of Recalcitrant Plastic via the Fenton Process

Advised by: Leslie Shor

ARNAV SHARMA

Physiology & Neurobiology

Nanopore Sequencing in The New Era of Smarter Food Safety: A State-of-The-Art Review of Opportunities and Challenges

Advised by: Alexander Jackson

MEHAK SHARMA

Doctor of Pharmacy

A Narrative Review: Pharmacy Intervention Fidelity

Advised by: Nathaniel Rickles

MEGHAN NICOLE SHAW

American Sign Language

Relationship Between Approximate Number Systems and Cardinal Principle as Influenced by Language Modality and Timing of Language Exposure in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

Advised by: Marie Coppola

NATALIE JANET SHCLOVER

Health Care Management

Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Melinda Gates

Advised by: Nell D’Auria

JULIANNE SHEEHAN

Animal Science

Genomic Prediction in a Composite Beef Cattle Population

Advised by: Breno Fragomeni

BENSON SHI

Molecular & Cell Biology

Structure and Function of BTN and TIM Proteins

Advised by: Spencer Nyholm

JASON SHI

Molecular & Cell Biology

Antitumor Properties of Small Molecule Natural Product Mimosine

Advised by: Adam Zweifach

MADISON YI SIDMORE

Accounting

The Long-Term Effects of Stock Repurchases on Company Performance

Advised by: George Plesko

PAUL WILLIAM SIMMERLING

Electrical Engineering

Path Planning with Deep Neural Nets

Advised by: Shalabh Gupta

PAUL WILLIAM SIMMERLING

Physics

Detecting the Phi Vector Meson with CLAS12

Advised by: Joo Kyungseon

DANIEL JAY SIMMONS

Mechanical Engineering

Additive Manufacturing and Mechanical Evaluation of Fiber-Reinforced Structures

Advised by: Julian Norato Escobar

JAMES SIMONINI

Geoscience

Identification of Geochemical Characteristics of Kettle Lakes Compared to Non-Kettle Lakes in Maine

Advised by: Robert M. Thorson

LAUREN ANNE SIMONSE

Pathobiology

Time Series Analysis of PU1 Allele Frequency in Gasterosteus Aculeatus

Advised by: Daniel Bolnick

MANJOT SINGH

Molecular & Cell Biology

The Effects of Occupational Physical Activity on Fetal and Maternal Health

Advised by: Adam Zweifach

ADITI RAJINDRA SIRSIKAR

Physiology & Neurobiology

Screening for Depression in Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Advised by: Inge-Marie Eigsti

AVERY ANGELA SMITH

Social Work

The Leadership of a Social Work Student Advocate

Advised by: Kimberly Campbell

CALLI ANNETTE SMITH

Cognitive Science

Categorization of Phonemes: Effects of Stimulus Contrast, Hand of Response, and Ear of Presentation

Advised by: Adrian Garcia-Sierra

EVA BARRETT SOLANO

Art History

Museum Talk: Conversations Regarding Art Museums’ Policies & Practices

Advised by: Alexis Boylan

KRISTEN ANNE SOLDAU

Biomedical Engineering

Design and Fabrication of Gelatin Hydrogels to Mimic Brain Matter for in vitro Traumatic Brain Injury Studies

Advised by: Fayekah Assanah

SHARON SNEHA SPAULDING

Mathematics

Dimension Theory of Conformal Iterated Function Systems

Advised by: Vasileios Chousionis

JULIANNE SPILLANE

English

Redefine 21

Advised by: Kathy Knapp

MACKENZIE GRACE STAHL

Physiology & Neurobiology

The Effects of Whole Body Movement-Based Interventions on Movement Form and Muscle Strength in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder

Advised by: Sudha Srinivasan

SHREYA SREENIVAS

Physiology & Neurobiology

Using Co-occurrence Analysis to Explain How Researchers Study Emotional Well-Being

Advised by Fumiko Hoeft

MATTHEW J. STAID

Doctor of Pharmacy

The Potential of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins as Drug Targets

Advised by: Brian Aneskievich

ELISABETH CHRISTINE STANKEVITZ

Political Science

If It Pleases the Court: The Impact of Late Night Political Comedy on Citizens’ View of the Supreme Court

Advised by: David Yalof

PETER STOKES

Mechanical Engineering

THOMAS ALBERT STRELECKY

Mathematics

Questions from the Book

Advised by: Maksym Derevyagin

JUSTINE A. STROM

History

The Disparity between Perceptions and Reality in Costume of the Elizabethan Period Perpetuated by Modern Media

Advised by: Brendan Kane

BRADLEY GEORGE STUTZMAN

Chemical Engineering

Surrogate Modeling of Chemical Processes using Optimal Neural Network Structures

Advised by: Burcu Beykal

AUBREY MORGAN SURIAN

Psychological Sciences

Developmental Outcomes of Foxp1 Cerebellar-specific Knockout Mice Using Pup Vocalizations

Advised by: Roslyn Fitch

NOAH THOMAS SWANSON

Environmental Sciences

Attributes of Northeastern Water Quality Valuation

Advised by: Charles Towe

MARLENA SHANNON TAKES

Allied Health Sciences

Low-Wage Employment Conditions, Stress, and Self-Rated Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Advised by: Caitlin Caspi

SRUTHI TAKILLAPATI

Physiology & Neurobiology

The Effects of Creative Play Interventions on the Locomotor Movement of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Advised by: Sudha Srinivasan

MICHAEL PIERCE TARBY

Management Information Systems

Give A Byte

Advised by: Jonathan Moore

NEVA TAYLOR

Urban Studies

Public Libraries and the Expanding Literacies they Serve

Advised by: Mary Donegan

DENNIS ROBERT TEIXEIRA

Finance

Analysis of Post-Pandemic M&A Transactions

Advised by: Paul Gilson

BRANDON THAI

Molecular & Cell Biology

Effects of Salinity on Kidney Histology in Alewives (Alosa pseudoharengus)

Advised by: Eric Schultz

JAMES C. THURSTON

Doctor of Pharmacy

Primary Care Provider Perspectives on the Roles of Clinical Pharmacists in Community Pharmacies and Primary Care Teams

Advised by: Marie Smith

JULIA ROSE TILLINGHAST

Anthropology

Agricultural Land Usage in Mansfield, Connecticut: An Analysis of the Town’s Past and Present Agricultural Landscapes and Recent Farmland Conservation Efforts

Advised by: Eleanor Ouimet

MATTHEW JOHN TOGHER

Computer Science

Number Theory in Cryptography

Advised by: Myron Minn-Thu-Aye

SARA MARGARET TOMIS
Individualized: Agriculture Education & Outreach
Effects of Feeding Probiotics to Pre-Weaned Dairy Calves
Advised by: Amy Safran

CARA TRAN
Biomedical Engineering
Bioprinting External Breast Prostheses
Advised by: Liisa Kuhn

TIANA PHAN THYLAN TRAN
Doctor of Pharmacy
The Impact of State Regulations on Opioid and Benzodiazepine Prescribing and Dispensing at the Connecticut County Level
Advised by: Nathaniel Rickles

JOAN LAUREN TREMBLAY
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
COVID-19 Lockdown Impacts on Mammalian Carnivore Activity in the Eastern United States
Advised by: Miranda Davis

KAVYA UDDARAJU
Molecular & Cell Biology
Effect of High Concentrations of Colpoda sp. on the Formation of Nodules on Medicago Truncatula Root Systems by Sinorhizobium Meliloti
Advised by: Sharyn Gage

SABRINA GRACE UVA
Human Development & Family Sciences
The Effects of Anti-Racism Engagement and Stress on Emerging Adults’ Psychological Adjustment
Advised by: Annamaria Csizmadia

KAITLYN MAY VAN DAME
Physiology & Neurobiology
Salud de la Mujer: Language Barriers and Accessibility in Health Communication
Advised by: John Redden

ANIKA VEERARAGHAV
Cognitive Science
Does Object Interaction Change the Goal of Eye Movements?
Advised by: Gerald Altmann

MELANIE VELIZ
Management
Restaurant Environmental Impact Mitigation
Advised by: Kevin Thompson

APOLLINE TERESA VINCENT
Biomedical Engineering
Study of Pore Connectivity of Hydrogels to Mimic Brain Tissue
Advised by: Fayekah Assanah

SAILAKSHMI VISWANATHAN
Physiology & Neurobiology
Pain Management in Pediatric Healthcare: Examining the Relationship Between Bias, Physician Empathy, and Pain Management
Advised by: Alexander Jackson

SAUMYA VODAPALLY
Molecular & Cell Biology
Patterns between Social Factors and Frequency of Reading to Babies with NICU Clinic Follow up Visits
Advised by: Sharon Smith

ANNA ZJ WANG
Finance
Exploring the Capabilities of Social Media as an Investment Tool
Advised by: Alexander Amati

ETHAN YIFENG WANG
Doctor of Pharmacy
Approaches to Reduce Use and Duration of Anti-MRSA Agents for Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs: A Review of Recent Literature
Advised by: Jennifer Girotto

JANET WANG
Chemistry
Asymmetric Patchy Gold Nanoparticles: Controllable Growth and Self-assembly
Advised by: Jie He

JEANNE WANG
Mathematics-Actuarial-Finance
An Analysis on Hedge Fund Strategies and Commodities
Advised by: Edward Perry

ELISE KENI WARDELL
Allied Health Sciences
Examining the Barriers and Facilitators of HIV Prevention With an Eye Towards Future Approaches
Advised by: Michael Copenhaver

JACOB WEBBER
Classics & Ancient Mediterranean Studies
The Missing Entheogen: Modern Considerations in Reconstructing the Historical Nature of the Eleusinian Mysteries
Advised by: Roger Travis

NATHAN RAYMOND WETHERELL
Mechanical Engineering
Optimization of Orbital Trajectories Using NeuroEvolution of Augmenting Topologies
Advised by: Bryan Weber

TYLER FLANGIAN WHITE
Psychological Sciences
Scientific and Religious Beliefs Have Different Mediators and Moderators in their Direct Relationships with Well-Being: A Cross Cultural Study
Advised by: Crystal Park

NICHOLAS WILLETT
Accounting
The Association Fallacy – Fraud and Financial Reporting Quality in the Customer-Supplier Relationship
Advised by: Youli Zou

ROBERT MINH LU WILLIAMS
Materials Science & Engineering
Improving HEPA Filtration and Antimicrobial Properties Through Graphene Application
Advised by: Douglas Adamson

ELEANOR OSBORN WILLIS
Mathematics-Actuarial-Finance
The Impact of Climate Change: An Exploration into the Challenges & Opportunities Faced by Health and Life Insurers
Advised by: James Trimble

MADELINE DODD WINTER
Psychological Sciences
Sleep Spindle Deficits in Adolescents at High-Risk for Developing Early-Onset MDD.
Advised by: James Chrobak

MASON WITKO
Chemistry
Novel Green Synthetic Methods: A Study of Four Oxoammonium-Assisted Oxidative Functionalization Reactions
Advised by: Nicholas Leadbeater

JOHN NATHAN WOHL
Computer Science
File Buy: A Web-based Digital Art Sales Service
Advised by: Brian Daley

MICHAEL THOMAS WOLFF
Mathematics/Actuarial Science
The Collapse of AIG: The Ethics of Government Bailouts
Advised by: Edward Perry

AUDREY GRACE WORTH
Molecular & Cell Biology
Use of Commercial Bacteriophage Products to Control the Growth of Salmonella enterica in Raw and Pasteurized Milk
Advised by: Dennis D’Amico

NICHOLAOS XENAKIS
Molecular & Cell Biology
Demographic Factors influencing Age of Diagnosis within Autism Spectrum Disorder
Advised by: Deborah Fein

HUMZA ZAIDI
Individualized: Global Health & Reproduction
Alzheimer’s Disease: Biophysiological and Sociocultural Perspectives.
Advised by: Royce Mohan

NATALIE IRENE ZAKRZEWSKI
Marketing
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Bill Gates
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

CHLOE JOY ZAMPETTI
Natural Resources
Global Assessment of Selenium and Mercury in Fish and Seafood
Advised by: Jessica Brandt

HARRY HARTNETT ZEHNER
Political Science
Homeownership and Cultural Hegemony in the United States: A Conjunctural Analysis
Advised by: Sandy Grande

ERIC JACOB ZEIBERG
Biomedical Engineering
3D Esophageal Model for Testing Novel Surgical Stapling Technology
Advised by: Patrick Kumavor

GARRETT MICHAEL ZEILINGER
Electrical Engineering
Viability of Underwater Bidirectional Wireless Power Transfer with Application to Submersible Vehicles
Advised by: Krishna Pattipati

ANTHONY GEORGE ZEIMBEKAKIS
Statistics
Survey of Misuses of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test
Advised by: Jun Yan

AMANDA ELIZABETH ZETTLER
Physics
Black Hole - Galaxy Scaling Relations in Cosmological Simulations
Advised by: Daniel Angles-Alcazar

ANTHONY YIFEI ZHANG
Molecular & Cell Biology
Identification of Single-chain Variable Fragment Binding Affinity to Target Protein Extracellular Domains and the Applications of Western Blotting and Phage Titer Assay
Advised by: Michael Lynes

MING MAY ZHANG
Doctor of Pharmacy
The Growth of Small Interference RNA-Based Therapeutics: From Failure to Frontrunner
Advised by: Xiaobo Zhong

OLIVIA ZHANG
Diagnostic Genetic Sciences
Validation of a Tick-Borne Disease Panel Utilizing ChromaCode Technology
Advised by: Denise Anamani

YIWEN ZHANG
Doctor of Pharmacy
Pharmacist’s Role in Pharmacogenomics
Advised by: Xiaobo Zhong

TERRY ZHIHAO ZHAO
Electrical Engineering
Autonomous Search and Rescue Helicopter System Design
Advised by: Ashwin Dani

Honors Faculty Member of the Year Award Recipient



Alexia Smith

Alexia Smith is Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Anthropology where she also serves as the departmental Honors Advisor. Professor Smith arrived at UConn in 2005 and has worked closely with Honor students and the Honors program since then. Her research focuses on archaeology and the long-term dynamics of food production, climate change, and social stability across Southwest Asia. This work has been funded by a National Science Foundation Faculty Early CAREER award to help integrate research and education, an American Institute for Archaeology-National Endowment for Humanities Award, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological research, and UConn SHARE Awards to work collaboratively with undergraduate students. Her publications have appeared in *Scientific Reports*, *Nature Plants*, *Plos One*, *Current Anthropology*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, *Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution*, *Ethnobiology Letters*, and *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*.

Dr. Lynne Goodstein and Peter Langer Award Recipient



Nicholas Leadbeater

Nicholas Leadbeater is an Associate Professor in the Chemistry Department, a position he has held since moving from the United Kingdom to UConn in 2004. His research is focused around more environmentally-friendly ways to make molecules. He is a strong proponent of incorporation of undergraduates in research and, as such, has mentored a number of students from the Honors Program, many of which become University Scholars and have numerous publications to their name. He teaches an Honors section of Organic Chemistry and, as the Undergraduate Program Director in the Chemistry Department, he serves as the Academic Advisor to over 20 Honors students.

Past Faculty Member of the Year Award Recipients

2020-21	Jason Courtmanche , English, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2011-12	Virginia Hettinger , Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2019-20	Judy Brown , Genetics and Genome Sciences, School of Nursing	2010-11	William F. Bailey , Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2018-19	Jennifer Sterling-Folker , Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2009-10	Lawrence Gramling , Accounting, School of Business
2017-18	Brian Aneskievich , School of Pharmacy	2009-10	Robert Thorson , Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2016-17	Blair T. Johnson , Psychology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2008-09	Robert Gross , History, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2015-16	Alaina Brenick , Human Development and Family Studies, Collage of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2007-08	Steven Wisensale , Human Development & Family Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2014-15	Mark Boyer , Political Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2006-07	Louis Lombardi , Mathematics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2013-14	Patrick Dragon , Mathematics, Collage of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2005-06	Lawrence Hightower , Molecular & Cell Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2013-14	Annamaria Csizmadia , Human Development and Family Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2004-05	Robin Chazdon , Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2012-13	Patricia J. Neafsey , Nursing, School of Nursing	2003-04	Harry A. Frank , Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2012-13	Rebecca Flanagan , Pre-Law, Enrichment Program		

Past Honors Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

2020	Sarah Wojiski '97 , College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources	2013	Chad A. Landmon '96 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2019	Alan Bennett '69 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2012	Bill DeWalt '69 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2018	The Honors Inaugural Class of 1968	2012	Marian Kennedy '70 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2017	Sarah D. Kambou '80 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2011	Robert M. Holster '68 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2017	Kate Farrar '01 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2011	Nicole McKinney Lindsay '96 School of Business
2016	David Fetterman '76 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2010	Roger Ballentine '85 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2016	Mark Romanoff '79 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2010	Virginia DeJohn Anderson '76 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2015	Robert LaBarre '76 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2009	Mark Weidenbaum '77 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2015	Patricia Friar '80 School of Business	2009	Daniel Levine '78 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2014	Howard M. Sandler '78 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2008	Bonnie Sarno Vontell '81 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2014	Brian Preleski '87 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	2007	Carolyn Runowicz '73 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2013	Anthony E. Chiodo '80 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences		

Student Speaker Finalist Speech Excerpts

The selection of the Honors Medals Ceremony student speaker is always so difficult, given the number of highly qualified applicants. The 2022 student finalists graciously have allowed for this publication to share excerpts from their prepared speeches.

If I have learned anything from my experiences as an Honors Scholar, it’s to follow where your mind wanders. If you’re ever in a dilemma of whether “to or not to?”, go for it. Talk to the person next to you, they could be your future best friend. Find that balance between school, personal life, and sleep (still a work in progress for me). Most of all, stop and smell the roses. What I would pay to travel back and sit in the Buckley common room doing homework and the next moment laugh uncontrollably with my best friends.

Steven Kao ’22 *Honors Scholar*

To all the honors students in this room, people who see you as “different” may try to limit your potential by telling you “what you can’t do,” instead of “what you can do.” Never listen nor settle for such, instead surround yourself with positive human influences, and remain hopeful. Continue to seek knowledge because learning is a lifelong process, strive for excellence in all you wish to accomplish, and become the best version of yourself.

Angel Ojide ’22 *Honors Scholar*

The program...has developed us personally and professionally, fostered a sense of community and identity, exposed us to the depth, breadth, and interconnectedness of all academic fields...and challenged us to consider how we can use our talents and passions to positively impact and transform the world around us. It has set us up to become what the world so desperately needs: leaders who are able to lead with conviction, integrity, and humility, scholars who are able to think outside the box and collaborate interdisciplinarity, citizens who are able to think critically about the issues that impact the world around them, and community members willing to help their neighbors in any capacity they can.

Amisha Paul ’22 *Honors Scholar and University Honors Laureate*

The Honors Program provides so much...It was a home that I needed coming to a new state with no one that I knew. It was a place where I felt supported unconditionally, by my peers and faculty; where I grew from a freshman with a lack of self-confidence, to a senior who truly feels like they can take on the world. There were times of uncertainty for all of us...But with the support of one another, even if it was just...calling that group of friends you made freshman year from your dorm building just to feel some sense of normalcy, we all persevered through."

Jillian Levesque ’22 *Honors Scholar and University Honors Laureate*

The Honors Board of Associate Directors

The Honors Board of Associate Directors includes faculty members, Honors Program staff, and students from the Honors Council. The Board advises and assists with the work of the Honors Program.

Brian Aneskievich, School of Pharmacy
Maureen Armstrong, Committee Rep/Scholastic Standards
Dylan Audette, Molecular and Cell Biology (Hartford)
Johnny Banks, Academic Advisor (Avery Point)
Judy Brown, School of Nursing
Kelly Burke, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Mary Burke, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Jamie Caruso, Bachelor of General Studies Program (Waterbury)
Jaclyn Chancey, Honors Program
James Chrobak, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Laura Donorfio, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Waterbury)
Travis Grosser, School of Business
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Maria-Luz Fernandez, Nutritional Sciences
Linda Halgunseth, Human Development and Family Studies (Hartford)
Kaitlin Heenehan, Honors Program (Stamford)

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Claudia Koerting, Marine Sciences (Avery Point)
Beth Lawrence, College of Allied Health and Natural Resources
Jennifer Lease Butts, Honors Program
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Deborah McDonald, School of Nursing
Rachel O’Neill, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
James Rybczyk, Class of 2022
Thatcher Schechtman, Class of 2023
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John Richardson, School of Fine Arts
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Aarthi Tippireddy, Class of 2025
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Rebecca Troeger, Academic Center Coordinator (Avery Point)
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The Honors Program Staff

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Gregory Champion, Program Assistant for Communication and Wellness
Jaclyn Chancey, Associate Assistant Director for Curriculum, Assessment, and Planning
Kaitlin Heenehan, Stamford Honors Program Assistant Director
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Anne Kim, Assistant Director for Honors Advising
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Jennifer Oliveira, Student Services Program Administrator
Cody Olson, Coordinator for Peer Leadership Programs
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