Best-in-Show Winners

“The undergraduate research award winners exemplify the best in experiential learning, with guidance from their faculty mentors. We applaud the commitment and persistence of these students and their mentors in creating new knowledge, advancing the UTSA research enterprise and pursuing excellence in undergraduate scholarly achievement,” said Dr. Thomas Coyle, director of the UTSA Office of Undergraduate Research.

2018 BEST-IN-SHOW

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND PLANNING (CACP)

Omar Aguirre
Multireligious Center
Faculty Mentor: Neda Norouzi

Desiree Igho-Orere
Stephanie Jalomo
Designing A Modern Mental Health Facility in Texas
Faculty Mentor: Neda Norouzi

Andrea Poore
Christie Thompson-Pellicier
Architecturally Re-Designed healthcare
Faculty Mentor: Neda Norouzi

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS (COB)

Luis Atkinson
Carlos Cruzportillo
Nancy Hernandez
Jacontance Williams
Designing Effective Distribution Network for a New Product Line
Faculty Mentor: Mark Leung

Ivan Arreola
Improvements and Analysis for Gene Set Enrichment Analysis
Faculty Mentor: David Han

Erica Perez
Justin Pons
Managing Predictable Variability and Planned Promotion of Nintendo Switch Supply Chain
Faculty Mentor: Mark Leung

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (COEHD)

Morgan Butler
Gabrielle Cortez
Joaquinita Johnson
Children Transitioning from Oral to Written Argumentation: Signaling Meaning through Punctuation in Writing: PART II
Faculty Mentor: Rosalind Horowitz

Christopher Terrazas
An Investigation of Middle School English Language Arts Classroom Libraries
Faculty Mentor: Janis Harmon

Ana Trevino
UTSA DACA Students and the Resources Provided to Them
Faculty Mentor: Cassandra Allen

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (COE)

Drishya Dahal
Tic Tac Toe Playing Robotic Arm
Faculty Mentor: Pranav Bhounsule

Joseph Galloway
Gerardo Aaron Rios
Mechanics and Control of Pumping a Playground Swing and Robotic Implementation
Faculty Mentor: Pranav Bhounsule

Joel Gomez
Understanding the Uncertainty in Nature’s Design of Trabecular Bone
Faculty Mentor: Xiaodu Wang

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES (COS)

Joshua Anderson
Functional Analysis of Homologs of Intermediate Metabolism and DNA uptake in Borrelia burgdorferi
Faculty Mentor: Janakiram Seshu

Arturo Galindo
Study of Self Ordered Nanoporous Anodic Aluminum Oxide Membranes by Annealing
Faculty Mentor: Carlos Monton

Javier Valencia
The Role of the Vacular type ATPase in the Pathophysiology of Borrelia Burgdorferi
Faculty Mentor: Janakiram Seshu

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC POLICY (COPP)

Joshua Barrera
Sanctuary Cities in the United States
Faculty Mentor: Megan Augustyn

Ayesha Meghani
Amanda Mosley
Sexual Assault on College Campuses – A Comparative Case Study
Faculty Mentor: Patricia Jaramillo

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND FINE ARTS (COLFA)

Mollianne Flood
Math and Music: A Study of Intonation
Faculty Mentor: Kasandra Keeling

Sydnee Garcia
Equal, Not Equitable: Bexar County Education
Faculty Mentor: Sofia Bahena

Emily Corley
Engagement-based single stimulus preference assessment
Faculty Mentor: Bryant Silbaugh
HONORS COLLEGE: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND FINE ARTS (COLFA)

Emma Copisarow
Effects of HEXECO & VARK on College Student Metacognition & Success Practices
Faculty Mentor: Fred Previc

HONORS COLLEGE: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND FINE ARTS (COLFA)

Raven Douglas
Before and After the “Texas Voter ID Law”: How Did SB 14 (82 R Impact Voter Turnout Among Communities of Color During the 2014 Midterm Election?
Faculty Mentor: Walter Wilson

HONORS COLLEGE: COLLEGE OF SCIENCES (COS)

Stephen Hernandez
mTOR promotes BBB breakdown and regulates tight junction proteins in an Alzheimer’s disease mouse model
Faculty Mentor: Veronica Galvan, UT Health SA

2017 BEST-IN-SHOW

Shannon Roberts
“Faunal Analysis of the 2016 Archaeological Field School”
Anthropology

Monica Martinez
“Municipal Annexation as a Mechanism for Suburban Expansion in San Antonio, Texas 1939-2014”
Architecture/Construction Science & Management

Amanda Martinez
“Determining Putative Enhanced Microglia Responses Against Pulmonary Cryptococcosis”
Biology

Sandra Ramos
“Targeting Virulence for Antifungal Drug Development: Characterization of a Small Molecule Inhibitor of Candida albicans Filamentation and Biofilm Formation”
Biology

Grecia Gonzalez
“Synthesis of Silk Scaffold for Biomaterial Application”
Biomedical Engineering

Tyler Nelson
“The effect of jasmonic acid on anthocyanin pigment accumulation in wildtype and mutant Arabidopsis seedlings”
Chemistry

Kara Thompson
“Where Are We? A Critique on the Inclusion of Biracial-Black Characters in the Coretta Scott-King Book Awards for Authors from 2007-2016”
Communication

Bilal Siddiqui
“Recovering From Microprocessor Transient Faults”
Computer Science

Elizabeth Hatch
“An examination of the influence of procedural justice on inmate behavior”
Criminal Justice

Aires Nguza
“Polymer Infiltration Toughened Hydroxyapatite Biomaterial Hybrids by Bio-inspired Materials Design”
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Sophia DiGonis
“Common Ground: How Language is Connected to Music”
English

Allison Saenz
“Puestos Aparte: Legal Segregation in San Antonio, 1920s-1940s”
History

Cynthia DeMunbrun
“Preparation of Pre-Service Teachers to Work in Inclusive Environment”
Interdisciplinary Learning & Teaching

Audrey Ramirez
“Shoulder Elevation in Manual Wheelchair Users and Able-bodied Individuals”
Kinesiology, Health, & Nutrition

Tarun Palpati
Chelsea Taylor
Kimberly Van
Christopher Weiss
Josephine West
“Strategic Analysis of Evolving Dynamics in E-Commerce Retailing”
Management Science & Statistics

Briggitt Blanco
William Cerda
Mujtaba Mohammad
“Performance Drivers and Efficiency-Responsiveness Tradeoffs in an Integrated Supply Network”
Marketing

Adam Burrows
“Neural Networks”
Mathematics

Stephanie Meier
“Characterizing Entrainment and Mixing in Density Currents using Flow Visualization”
Mechanical Engineering

Maria Macedonio
“Language and Attitudes: A Study of Attitudes Towards the Spanish Language at The University of Texas in San Antonio”
Multidisciplinary Studies

Linda McNulty
“Blood, Pollution, and Purity in the Homeric Epics”
Philosophy & Classics

Geronimo Robles
“Metal hydride composites as hydrogen fuel sponges”
Physics & Astronomy

Monica Pepping
“Aging in Mexico: A Case Study of U.S. Senior Citizens and the quality of Life in San Miguel de Allende”
Political Science & Geography

Yesenia Yanez
“Identity Conflict on Facebook”
Psychology

Annie Ma
“Cross-National Analysis of Socioeconomic Factors for Suicide”
Sociology

Richard Giddens, Jr.
“(Re)viewing & (Re)membering Violence: Testimonios of Queer & Trans Tejan@x Sexual Assault Experiences”
Women’s Studies