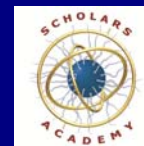




15th Annual
STEM Graduate School and Internship/Career Fair
October 24, 2014 8:00 am – 1:00 pm Room A300 & Cullen Aud.



Welcome to the 2014 STEM Graduate School and Internship and STEM Career Fair!

The UHD Scholars Academy STEM Graduate School and Internship/Career Fair (GSIF) is an excellent opportunity for students within the College of Sciences and Technology to connect with prospective graduate schools and research/internship programs. Students are strongly encouraged to speak with as many different programs as possible to explore all available opportunities. Good luck and have fun!

- 8:00 - 8:30 am Registration, Exhibitor Setup and Breakfast Mixer (UHD Coffee House)**
- 9:00 - 9:15 am UHD 40th Anniversary Alumnus Presentation, Ms. Teresa Martinez (UHD Auditorium)**
- 9:20 - 9:40 am Introduction of GSIF Exhibitors (UHD Auditorium)**
- 9:40 - 10:30 am Student Poster Session (Foyer outside A300)**
- 10:15 - 12:00 pm Graduate School and Internship/Career Fair (UHD Special Events Center A300)**
- 12:00 - 1:00 pm Luncheon for All Exhibitors and Student Poster Presenters (UHD Coffee House)**

Graduate School & Internship/Career Fair Exhibitors

American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine
Admissions

Baylor College of Medicine
Graduate Preparatory Programs (PREP and SMART)
Graduate Program in Molecular and Human Genetics

Georgetown University
Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics & Biomathematics

Gulf Coast Consortia

INROADS
College Internship Program

John Bunker Sands Wetlands Center
Education & Research
Wetland Ecology Program

Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions

Lamar University
College of Graduate Studies

Prairie View A&M University
Psychology

Rice University
NSF Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)
Program in Bionetworks

Sam Houston State University
Office of Graduate Admissions

Sherman College of Chiropractic
Doctor of Chiropractic

Southern Methodist University
Lyle School of Engineering
Graduate Programs
Guildhall (Graduate Video Game Education Program)

Stephen F. Austin State University
Mathematics and Statistics

Texas A&M University – College Station
College of Engineering
College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics
Office of Graduate and Professional Studies

Texas A&M University – Galveston
Graduate Studies

Texas A&M University Health Science Center
School of Rural Public Health

Texas Chiropractic College
Enrollment Management

Texas Southern University

Texas Tech University
Graduate Programs

Texas Tech University Health Science Center
School of Pharmacy

United States Air Force
Special Programs

University of Houston-Central
College of Pharmacy
College of Technology Graduate Programs
Graduate College of Social Work

University of Houston-Clear Lake
Office of Admissions

University of Houston-Downtown
Graduate Admissions
M.S. in Professional Writing & Technical Communication

University of North Texas (UNT)
College of Engineering
Toulouse Graduate School

University of Texas at Arlington
Graduate School

University of Texas at Austin
Graduate School

University of Texas Health Science Center Houston
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
School of Biomedical Informatics
School of Nursing

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
School of Health Professions

University of Texas - MD Anderson Cancer Center
School of Health Professions

University of Texas Medical Branch
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
School of Health Professions
School of Medicine

University of Texas School of Public Health
Biostatistics
Student Affairs



15th Annual STEM Graduate School and Internship/Career Fair

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Welcome to the 2014 STEM Graduate School and Internship and STEM Career Fair!

The UHD Scholars Academy is pleased to feature scholarly undergraduate STEM research poster presentations. Please join us in this scholarly undertaking by visiting research posters, dialoguing with the student presenters about their project, and encouraging them through offering constructive considerations that may benefit them in their next phase of research!

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9:40 - 10:30 am	Student Poster Session and Professional Photos (Foyer outside A300)
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12:00 - 1:00 pm	Luncheon for All Exhibitors and Student Poster Presenters (UHD Coffee House)

Student Research Poster Session

- 1 – Praise Anene**, “Phylogeographic Analysis of *Geomys personatus* Subspecies in Texas”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Amy Baird**
 Project Sponsor: Brown Foundation, Inc.
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 2 – Mahesh Basyal**, “Computational Studies of Gadolinium (III)-Based Ligands Used in Diagnostic Medical Imaging”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Maria Benavides**
 Project Sponsor: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 3 – Yndra Castillo**, “Alkaline Phosphatase Activity is a Sensitive Indicator of Phosphorus Limitation in the Watershed Surrounding Sheldon Lake (Houston, Texas)”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **David Lang**
 Project Sponsor: Texas Workforce Commission
 Project Locations: Sheldon Lake State Park and University of Houston-Downtown
- 4 – Shebna Cheema**, Antonio Tito, Zhen Xu, Yanning Rui, Zhihua Chen, Wen-Ting Li, Mian Jiang, Hugo Bellen, and Sheng Zhang, “Selective Degeneration of Dopaminergic (DA) Neurons in Drosophila Model of Parkinson’s Disease”
 Project Sponsors: Brown Foundation, Inc. and NIH/NINDS
 Project Location: University of Texas Health Science Center
- 5 – Francisco Colón**, “Computational Analysis and Optimization of the Catalytic Oxidation of Water for Use in Artificial Photosynthesis”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Maria Benavides**
 Project Sponsors: National Science Foundation and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 6 – Mariana Cortes**, “Development of a Boron-Containing, UV Polymerizable Film for Neutron Shielding”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Byron Christmas**
 Project Sponsors: National Science Foundation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 7 – Kimberlyn Garcia**, “Anticancer Efficacy of Components from Pearl Garlic and Regular Garlic Using Breast Cancer Cells *In Vitro*”
 UHD Faculty Mentors: **Drs. Tyra Montgomery and Qavi Hamida**
 Project Sponsors: Brown Foundation, Inc. and Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 8 – Sameer Habib**, MJ Toneff, L Xin, and JM Rosen, “Fluorescent Based Sensors for the Identification of Epithelial to Mesenchymal Transition in Breast Cancer”
 Project Sponsor: Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas
 Project Location: Baylor College of Medicine
- 9 – Masako Hino**, Zachariah Jaco, Michael Lin, Jose Gonzalez, Jim Chisholm, “Blending Kerogen with Synthetic Polymers”
 UHD Faculty Mentors: **Drs. Byron Christmas and Janusz Grebowicz**
 Project Sponsors: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 10 – Christa Landowski**, John D. Eicher, Brian Stackhouse, Arielle Sloan, Wenjie Chen, Nicole Jensen, Ju-Ping Lien, Richard Leslie, “A Big Data genetic results resource: Genome-wide Repository of Associations between SNPs and Phenotypes (GRASP) version 2.0 release”
 Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Andrew D. Johnson**
 Project Sponsor: NIH Summer Intramural Research Training Award
 Project Locations: National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Framingham, MA, and Univ. of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA
- 11 – Geraldine Lerner** and Shima Taghikhani, “Investigation of the Mechanism of Action of Saffron Extracts on *Streptococcus mutans* Biofilms”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Poonam Gulati**
 Project Sponsor: Brown Foundation, Inc.
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 12 – Lisa Martinez**, “Theoretical Study of Biodegradable Disulfide Manganese (II) Complexes as Potential MRI Contrast Agents”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Maria Benavides**
 Project Sponsor: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 13 – Leah Mulkey** and Blanca Hinojosa, “Diatom Anomaly at the Greens Bayou Wetlands Mitigation Bank”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Bradley Hoge**
 Project Sponsor: National Science Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 14 – Lord Mvoula**, Anil Kulkarni, Koji Wakame, Alamelu Sundaresan, “AHCC Modulates Hypertension Via the Nitric Oxide Signaling Pathway in Rats”
 Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Marie-Francoise Doursout**
 Project Location: Univ. of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Medical School
- 15 – Charles Punnathara**, Sheeda Han Vo, Faisal Khan, “New Application of Prussian Blue in Sensory Chemistry”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Mian Jiang**
 Project Sponsors: NASA, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 16 – Jenebu Love Okwori**, “Comparison of Anticancer Efficacy of Components from Saffron Sticks and Stem”
 UHD Faculty Mentors: **Drs. Tyra Montgomery and Qavi Hamida**
 Project Sponsors: Brown Foundation, Inc. and Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 17 – Reema Rawal**, Daniel J. Wilhelm, Troy A. Cather, “Synthesis of Salt-free Catanionic Surfactants from Sodium p-dodecylbenzenesulfonate and Quaternary Ammonium Surfactants”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Robin Jose**
 Project Sponsor: Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 18 – Reyna Valdez**, “Analysis of Grape Cultivars for Pierce’s Disease Resistance”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Lisa Morano**
 Project Sponsor: Texas Pierce’s Disease Research and Education Grant
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 19 – Saima Valliani and Sara Valliani**, “DNA Fingerprinting to Evaluate Genetic Diversity of *Xylella fastidiosa* Found in Texas”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Lisa Morano**
 Project Sponsors: Brown Foundation, Inc. and Texas Pierce’s Disease Research and Education Grant
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
- 20 – Sheeda Han Vo**, Brandon Jackson, Jacqueline Bui, Charles Punnathara, “Novel Deposition of Nickel Hexacyanoferrate Film and its Application”
 UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Mian Jiang**
 Project Sponsors: Brown Foundation, Inc., NASA, U.S. Department of Education, and Welch Foundation
 Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Sponsored by: The Brown Foundation, Inc.; National Science Foundation (0934913); U.S. Department of Education (P120A130040); and UH-Downtown.

UHD Scholars Academy, One Main Street, 725-North; Houston, TX 77002-1001
 Phone: 713-222-5344; scholars@uhd.edu; www.uhd.edu/scholars