

# Graduate Student Fellowship Awardees 2021

The majority of this years students are first gen, have worked extensively through their studies and all are dedicated to giving back to their community. Graduate division would like to thank all the faculty on Graduate Council for reviewing these applications, to all the Graduate Programs for reviewing and nominating their students and to all students for their outstanding work and impressive applications.

## UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship (UC-HIS DDI)

Aims to support pathways to the professoriate for those from HSI-serving institutions. Provides a full year of fellowship and a \$10,000 professional development grant. Students need to be advanced to candidacy.



### **Jamiela Kokash**

5th Year Neuroscience student in Khaleel Razak's laboratory. Jamiela's research identifies molecular mechanisms governing hearing loss. She is currently President of the Neuroscience GSA and has spent considerable time mentoring as a TA, as a GSMP and outreach to local high schools. She has published 2 papers and organizes Brain Awareness Day.



### **Cinthya Martinez**

5th Year Ethnic Studies student mentored by Dylan Rodriguez. Cinthya researches the experiences of women in ICE detention particularly in the local Adelanto facility and is a deportation defense volunteer. She has 3 published papers, is a founder of the campus initiative Critical Antiviolence Research & Action and co-wrote a successful grant application to the Center for Ideas & Society.

## UC Dissertation Year Fellowship Award (DYFA)

Provides 3 quarters of stipend and tuition, a travel and research allowance and a UCOP Award Ceremony. Students need to be advanced to candidacy.



### **Camilla Querin**

5th Year Art History student mentored by Aleca La Blanc. Camilla studies art produced during the military dictatorship in Brazil. She has also curated an exhibition of photography, speaks 4 languages and is a recipient of an Outstanding Teaching Award.



### **Judit Gutierrez**

5th Year Hispanics student mentored by Jacques Lezra. Judit studies legislation put in place during the Spanish transition to democracy. In the past two years she has published 4 articles in leading journals and is a recipient of an Outstanding Teaching Award.



### **Esther Omaiye**

5th Year Environmental Toxicology student in the lab of Prue Talbot. Esther studies e-cigarettes, metal exposure and the regulatory gap in tobacco products containing high levels of flavor chemicals. Esther has published 7 articles and received an Outstanding Leadership award from the Society of Toxicology.

## Graduate Research Mentorship Program Award (GRMP)

Provides 1-2 quarters of stipend and tuition for domestic students that do not have to be advanced to candidacy.



### **Pedro Villa**

2nd Year Biomedical Sciences student in Djurdjica Coss's laboratory. Pedro studies the neuronal mechanisms that premature ovarian failure.



### **Austin Moon**

2nd Year Neuroscience student in Rachel Wu's laboratory. Austin studies visual search patterns using EEG and computational techniques.



### **Jessie Bridgewater**

3rd Year Psychology student mentored by Tuppet Yates. Jessica studies adverse childhood experiences in the context of the carceral system.



### **Gabriela Almendarez**

4th Year English student mentored by Richard Rodriguez. Gabriela studies the firsthand history of Chicanos through their writing and digital work

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The process of fellowship awards begins with the graduate programs who have awarded support internally based on their knowledge of their discipline and the students applications. The following is a list of these allocated awards. Congratulations to all!

Program		Program	
<b>Anthropology</b>	Sophea Seng	<b>Genetics, Genomics and Bioinformatics</b>	Amy M. Boyd
<b>Art History</b>	Cynthia Neri Lewis	<b>Geological Sciences</b>	Jianhai Zhang
<b>Biochemistry and Molecular Biology</b>	James B. Derr	<b>History</b>	Pam Vervoort
<b>Bioengineering</b>	Kriti Shah	<b>Management</b>	Richard R. Rush
<b>Biomedical Sciences</b>	John A. Clark	<b>Materials Science &amp; Engineering</b>	Kate Mower
	Erin M. Walch		Dawei Jian
	Jeffrey Koury		Xiong Huang
<b>Cell, Molecular, and Developmental Biology</b>	Burak Cetin		Anshuman Kumar
<b>Chemistry</b>	Alexander Lambert		Jian Zhang
	Kristen Wang	<b>Mathematics</b>	Jonathan Alcaraz
	Briana L. Hickey		Jonathan P. Dugan
	Anh Hong		Michael L. McNulty
<b>Comparative Literature</b>	Alba A. Cercas Curry	<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>	Qingan Cai
	Utitofofon E. Inyang		Shuonan Chen
	Marziyeh Kameli		Samaneh Sattari
<b>Computer Science</b>	Weiteng Chen	<b>Microbiology</b>	Tania Kurbessoian
	Elizabeth H. Liri		Nathan K. McLain
	Muhammad Abu Bakar Siddique	<b>Music</b>	Alvaro E. Lopez
	Kai Zhao		Nattapol Wisuttiapat
<b>Critical Dance Studies</b>	Rosalia Lerner	<b>Philosophy</b>	Tom Hanauer-Rehavia
<b>Economics</b>	Tao Wang		Jared N. Smith
	Zhuozhen Zhao	<b>Physics</b>	Chia-Feng Chang
	Saman Banafti		Green Adam
<b>Education</b>	Amanda L. Scott-Williams		Sanaz Panahandeh
	Carlos A. Galan	<b>Plant Biology</b>	Zulfi-khar A. Ali
	Elina Veytsman		Julia N. Adams
<b>Electrical Engineering</b>	Milad Izadi		Han Qu
	Xinyue Kan	<b>Plant Pathology</b>	Israel Santana
	Amirmahdi Mohammadzadeh		Gabriel S. Ortiz
	Shan Sun		Ye Xu
<b>English</b>	Heejoo Park	<b>Political Science</b>	Stephanie DeMora
	Nicole K. Furtado		Igor D. Palhares Acacio
	Stefan Torralba		Sean D. Long
<b>Entomology</b>	Tessa M. Shates	<b>Psychology</b>	Dana Glenn
	Mari A. West		Sarah E. Knapp
<b>Environmental Sciences</b>	Win C. Cowger		Dulce E. Wilkinson
<b>Environmental Toxicology</b>	Qiaoshi Jiang	<b>Religious Studies</b>	Steven Quach
	Edward C. Dominguez	<b>Sociology</b>	Evelyn Pruneda
<b>Ethnic Studies</b>	Romina Garcia		Levin E. Welch
<b>Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology</b>	Samantha T. Levell	<b>Spanish</b>	Nancy E. Naranjo Garcia
	Elisa C. Henderson	<b>Applied Statistics</b>	Suyeon Kang

Every year the Graduate Division requests nominations from faculty, staff and students for two faculty awards. The nomination letters are reviewed by the fellowship committee on Graduate Council. It is expected that for each nominee several letters are included from past and present students along with letters from colleagues who have witnessed their mentorship over a longer period of time. We encourage all to nominate your outstanding mentors and colleagues for these prestigious awards.

### Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award



#### **Jimmy Calanchini**

Assistant Professor Jimmy Calanchini joined the Department of Psychology in 2018. His research in social psychology focuses on attitudes and how they influence judgement and behavior. Dr. Calanchini is being recognized particularly by his colleagues for his outstanding leadership and mentorship during the recent recognition of institutional racism imbedded throughout society. He has founded a new graduate subfield in Diversity and Inequality Psychology, has mentored a diverse set of students in his own lab and has conducted major outreach efforts in the form of informational workshops to CSU and HBCU campuses. These efforts are recognized in the Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award.



#### **Ashok Mulchandani**

Professor Ashok Mulchandani is a Distinguished Professor in Chemical and Environmental Engineering and the W. Ruel Johnson Chair in Environmental Engineering and the Chair of Material Science and Engineering. His research aims at developing innovations in the areas of nanotechnology and biotechnology. Dr. Mulchandani has mentored over 100 trainees however he is being particularly recognized for his excellence in mentorship of international students. Many of these students have gone on to their own successful academic careers. His nominating letters, describe his understanding of their situation and continued mentorship with a balance between women and men in the lab and expression of empathy. These efforts are recognized in the Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award.

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### Doctoral Dissertation Advisor Award



**Nael B. Abu-Ghazaleh**

Nael B. Abu-Ghazaleh is a Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and is the Chair of the Computer Engineering Program. He has mentored over 20 trainees many of whom have gone on to be successful in industry and academia including seven who are now Assistant Professors. Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh's research focuses on architectural support for computer security, redesigning computer hardware to protect attacks and software patches for improved security. His PhD students have contributed to security fixes for Apple, Windows and Linux systems as well authoring publications. Nael is an ACM Distinguished Scientist (2020), an IEEE Distinguished Visitor (2021-2023) and inducted into the Micro Hall of Fame. Letters from the students of this highly accomplished research also describe his life changing mentorship that continues to be important in their career and which they try to emulate. Several letters describe a wonderful balance between having a high research caliber and strong work ethic while encouraging independent thinking and a humble empathetic nature. The 2021 Doctoral Dissertation Award is made to Professor Nael B. Abu-Ghazaleh for this distinguished track record in mentoring.