

2022 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Awardees

1. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Justin P. White, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Student Fellow: Ciara O'Neill

Project: Language Frequency: Computer-mediated Trials to Criteria of Spanish Syntax

2. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Sofia Johan, College of Business

Student Fellow: Daniel Hric

Project: Private Equity Investment in Sustainability

3. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cristobal Salinas, College of Education

Student Fellow: Tamara Penna

Project: The Experiences of Secretaries in American Higher Education

4. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Siddhartha Verma, College of Engineering and Computer Science

Student Fellow: Louis Devito

Project: Using Deep Learning techniques to discover the link between intermittency in scalar dissipation

rate and energy dissipation rate in turbulent flows

5. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Carmen Cañete Quesada, Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College

Student Fellow: Warren Yee

Project: The Gypsy Community During the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) and Under Francisco Franco's

Dictatorship (1939-1975)

6. Faculty Mentors: Dr. Daniel Nemeth and Dr. Ning Quan, Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine

Student Fellow: Christopher Vargas

Project: Analysis of novel Interleukin-1 induced astrocyte modulation of neuronal activity

7. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Safiya George, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing

Student Fellow: Megan Thurlow

Project: Addressing HIV and COVID-19 Questions through Nursing Research Lenses

8. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Beth A. Pratt, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing

Student Fellow: Alyssa Cusumano

Project: Assessment of Biopsychosocial Indicators Linked to Canine Intervention Treatment Response in

Veterans with Post-traumatic Stress Symptoms

9. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shailaja Allani, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Michelle Gras

Project: Reducing toxicity in normal cells and sensitizing cancer cells to doxorubicin(dox) by using a

combination therapy of sulindac and dox

10. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Predrag Cudic, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Lucas Costa

Project: Synthesis and characterization of cyclic peptide-based bacterial biofilm inhibitors



2022 SURF Awardees continued

11. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Nwadiuto Esiobu, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Mahi Barot

Project: Changes in the gut microbiomes of mice treated with algal toxin - microcystin and sulforaphane

as a potential remedy

12. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Gregg Fields, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Nihasika Gopi

Project: Elucidating the role of MMP-14 activity on extracellular and intracellular function in pancreatic

cancer

13. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Evelyn Frazier, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Rachel Starck

Project: Demographic Profile of Gopher Tortoise population the FAU Preserve - 10 years later

14. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Sarah Milton, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Isabella Donadio Pizzolato

Project: Surveying Antibiotic Resistance of Gram-Negative Bacteria Isolated from Green Sea Turtles

(Chelonia mydas) and Loggerhead Sea Turtles (Caretta caretta) of Florida

15. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Marianne Porter, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Student Fellow: Maria Uribe-Mejia

Project: Morphology of intervertebral joints in shark vertebral columns