



Scholars Academy Student Successes

- **Retention rate of 85%** within the Scholars Academy (SA) far exceeds the average retention rate of 65% for all majors at our eleven similar peer institutions in Texas. This success is even more impressive when one considers that these are STEM majors attending a public urban university, University of Houston-Downtown (UHD).
- **Annual Student Research Conference at UHD.** This is a university-wide conference for students to present research projects. This presentation experience is an important experience for the underrepresented students and provides an advantage when they apply to graduate school.
 - **Spring 2006** – 122 UHD STEM majors presented 83 research projects in oral and poster presentations.
 - **Spring 2005** – 85 UHD STEM majors presented 55 research projects in oral and poster presentations.
 - **Fall 2003** – 51 UHD STEM majors presented 37 research projects in oral and poster presentations.
- **Graduate School and Internship Fair (GSIF) at UHD.** The purpose of GSIF is to help promote students within the College of Sciences and Technology to prospective graduate schools and internships. It additionally serves a second purpose of showcasing the academic projects undertaken by UHD students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
 - **Fall 2005** – 23 UHD STEM majors presented 17 research poster presentations.
 - **Fall 2004** – 31 UHD STEM majors presented 25 research poster presentations.
- **Recognition for outstanding research and/or attendance at major STEM conferences.**
 - **Spring 2006 – RadTech 2006 e/5 UV&EB International Conference, Chicago, IL**
 - 4 students attended; 2 of which presented research posters; 1 won best student paper presentation award
 - **Spring 2006 – Minority Graduate Education at Mountain States Alliance (MGE@MSA)/Western Alliance to Expand Minority Opportunities (WAESO) Conference, Tempe, AZ**
 - 7 students presented research posters and received travel grants
 - **Spring 2006 – Peer-Led Team Learning National Conference, Houston, TX**
 - 18 students attended
 - **Spring 2006 – Texas Branch of the American Society of Microbiology Meeting, Fisher, TX**
 - 11 students attended; 3 of which presented research posters; 2 won awards
 - **Spring 2006 – Texas Academy of Science 109th Annual Meeting, Edinberg, TX**
 - 3 students presented research posters
 - **Spring 2006 – Mathematical Association of American National Meeting, San Antonio, TX**
 - 5 students attended; 4 of which presented research posters
 - **Fall 2005 – The 2005 Pierce’s Disease Research Symposium, San Diego, CA**
 - 1 student presented a joint research poster.
 - **Fall 2005 – Sigma Xi Annual Meeting and Student Research Conference, Seattle, WA**
 - 10 students presented research posters; all 10 won either 2nd or 3rd Place.
 - **Fall 2005 – Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Conf., Albuquerque, NM**
 - 4 students attended and received travel grants to present research posters
 - **Fall 2005 – Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference, Anaheim, CA**
 - 10 students attended and competed within the HENAAC College Bowl competition; 1 won a 2nd Place Team Award

The **UHD Scholars Academy (SA)** is an academically competitive program in the College of Sciences and Technology (CST) that promotes scholarship and student success for undergraduate students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

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- **Fall 2005 – National Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Conference, Denver, CO**
 - 10 students attended and received travel grants; 6 presented research posters; 1 won Best Poster in Geology
- **Spring 2005 – Evolution 2005 from the Society for the Study of Evolution, the Society of Systematic Biologists, and the American Society of Naturalists, in Fairbanks, Alaska**
 - 1 student presented a research poster
- **Spring 2005 – 2005 Regional Wetlands Technical Conference, Corpus Christi, TX**
 - 1 student presented a research poster
- **Spring 2005 – Minority Graduate Education at Mountain States Alliance (MGE@MSA)/Western Alliance to Expand Minority Opportunities (WAESO) Conference at Arizona State University**
 - 10 students presented research posters and received travel grants
- **Spring 2005 – 7th Annual Research Symposium at UT-Brownsville/TSC**
 - 1 student presented a research poster and won "1st Place" in the Physical Science and Mathematics Category
- **Spring 2005 – Texas Section of the Mathematical Association of America Meeting, Arlington, TX**
 - 9 students attended; 1 of which presented a research poster
- **Spring 2005 – Texas Branch of the American Society of Microbiology Meeting, Fisher, TX**
 - 8 students attended; 5 of which presented research posters; 1 won best undergraduate poster
- **Spring 2005 – UH Local Sigma XI Meeting, Houston, TX**
 - 2 students presented research posters; 1 of which won best poster award
- **Spring 2005 – Texas Academy of Science 108th Annual Meeting, Edinberg, TX**
 - 3 students presented research posters; 2 of which won Honorable Mention for their posters
- **Spring 2005 – 2nd Annual Texas Environmental Leadership Conference at UHD**
 - 1 student presented a workshop; over 160 guests, students, faculty attended
- **Spring 2005 – American Society for the Advancement of Science, Wash., D.C.**
 - 2 students presented research posters
- **Spring 2005 – HENAAC Viva Technology Program**
 - 15 students were selected to serve as College Captains for a 1-day local high school enrichment program
- **Fall 2004 – American Society for Gravitational and Space Biology Annual Conference in New York, NY**
 - A freshman presented a research poster and won 3rd place
- **Fall 2004 – Peer-Led Team Learning National Conference, Chicago, IL**
 - 3 students presented a joint poster
- **Fall 2004 – UTHSCH Undergraduate Research Conference, Houston, TX**
 - 4 students presented research posters; a 5th student attended/participated as a peer judge
- **Fall 2004 – Sigma Xi: Scientific Research Society: Student Research Conference in Canada**
 - 2 students attended and presented research posters; one won 2nd place in environmental science, and the other won 3rd place in chemistry
- **Fall 2004 – Texas Branch of the American Society for Microbiology Fall Meeting**
 - 2 students presented their research (one oral and the other student a poster presentation)
- **Fall 2004 – Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference, Austin, TX**
 - 6 students attended and competed within the HENAAC College Bowl competition; 1 won a 3rd Place Team Award
- **Fall 2004 – LSAMP State-Wide Student Research Conference, Houston, TX**
 - 22 students attended; 8 of these presented
- **Fall 2004 – National Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans (SACNAS) Conference, Austin, TX**

- 9 students attended (8 received travel grants); 5 presented research posters; 1 won Best Mathematics Poster
 - **Spring 2004 – Texas Academy of Sciences Meeting**
 - 7 students presented research posters; 1 student won the 1st Place poster presentation in ecology
 - **Spring 2004 – RadTech 2004 e/5 UV&EB International Conference**
 - One student presented 2 technical papers; two students presented posters
 - **Spring 2004 – Mini Math Symposium**
 - 3 students won travel grants to attend
 - **Spring 2004 Mathematical Association of American Texas Section Meeting**
 - A freshman presented a research poster
 - **Fall 2003 – Peer-Led Team Learning National Conference, New York, NY**
 - 3 students presented a joint poster
 - **Fall 2003 – National Sigma Xi Student Research Conference**
 - 4 students presented research posters; 1 student placed 1st; 2 students won ‘Runner Up’ awards
 - **Fall 2003 – LSAMP State-Wide Student Research Conference, Corpus Christi, TX**
 - 10 students attended; 3 students won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place in poster and oral research presentations
- **Participation in National Competitive Summer Research Programs.** These are student participation within off-campus, competitive paid summer research programs.
 - **Summer 2006** – 15 SA members participated in off-campus research.
 - **Summer 2005** – 13 SA members participated in off-campus research.
 - **Summer 2004** – 16 students participate in off-campus research programs.
 - **Participation in Competitive Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) at UHD.** All on-campus research interns present their work at local, regional and/or national research conferences, including the annual UHD Student Research Conference. Most SURP participants also
 - **Summer 2006** – 50 students participated in research on-campus.
 - **Summer 2005** – 46 students participated in SURP.
 - **Summer 2004** – 49 students were selected to participate in UHD’s SURP within the College of Sciences and Technology.
 - **Red Rose Ball Scholarship Award Recipients.** These are the most prestigious student awards given at UHD.
 - **2006-2007** – 13 of the 25 were from SA
 - **2005-2006** – 10 of the 25 were from SA
 - **2004-2005** – 15 of the 25 awardees were SA members
 - Between recent graduates and past SA Alumni, **another 10 students** will have entered **graduate or professional degree programs** by Fall 2006.