# 5th Annual UHD Student Research Conference

**Sponsored by the UHD Scholars Academy**  
**Funded by the National Science Foundation (0336612), U.S. Army Research Office (W911NF-04-1-0024), U.S. Department of Education (P120A050068), and UHD.**

A showcase of academic excellence demonstrated by UHD undergraduates majoring within the Colleges of Business, Humanities and Social Science, Public Service, and Sciences and Technology.

**Friday, April 21, 2006**

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8:00 - 9:00 am</td>
<td>Registration and Continental Breakfast, Coffee House</td>
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| 9:00 am       | Dr. Max Castillo, President, UHD  
Welcoming Remarks, Auditorium                                         |
| 9:10 - 9:45 am| Mr. Paul M. Frison, President and CEO  
*Houston Technology Center, Houston, TX*  
Keynote Speaker, Auditorium                                              |
| 9:45 - 11:00 am| Oral Presentations, Session I, Auditorium                             |
| 11:10 - 12:25 am| Oral Presentations, Session II, Auditorium                            |
| 12:25 - 2:00 pm| Lunch break                                                            |
| 2:00 - 4:00 pm| Open Poster Sessions, Room A300                                       |

**Conference Co-Chairs:**  
Dr. Ermelinda DeLaVina, Associate Professor of Mathematics, UHD  
Dr. Darshan Wadhwa, Professor of Finance, Accounting and CIS, UHD

**Conference Planning Committee:**  
Dr. Richard Alo, Executive Director, UHD Center for Computational Science, Professor of Mathematics  
Dr. Byron Christmas, Professor of Chemistry, UHD  
Dr. Youn-Sha Chan, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, UHD  
Dr. Vicky Estrera, Director, UHD Scholars Academy  
Dr. Weining Feng, Associate Professor of Engineering Technology, UHD  
Mr. Rene Garcia, Program Manager, UHD Scholars Academy  
Dr. Aimee Kendall, Lecturer of English, UHD  
Dr. Marilyn McShane, Professor of Criminal Justice and Director of the Institute for Community Justice, UHD  
Dr. Lisa Morano, Assistant Professor of Biology and Microbiology, UHD  
Ms. Mitsue Nakamura, Lecturer of Mathematics, UHD  
Dr. George Pincus, Dean, UHD College of Sciences and Technology  
Dr. Herbert Rebhun, Professor of Finance, Accounting and CIS, UHD  
Ms. Anne Sherman, Director, UHD Office of Sponsored Programs  
Dr. Larry Spears, Professor of Chemistry and Director of UHD Urban Center for Student Success in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics  
Dr. Edwin Tecarro, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, UHD  
Dr. Akif Uzman, Chair of Natural Sciences Department, UHD  
Ms. Celeste Zamora, Media Relations Coordinator, Communications and Marketing, UHD

**Oral and Poster Presentations:**

UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Leta Schoen**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Clarisia Avila, Rita O’Malley, Don McConnell, David Cline, Yolanda Soriano,** “Innocent Spouse Relief”  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Darshan Wadhwa**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Jerry Flores,** “Change in Span of Control After 9/11: An Exploratory Study of Security Professionals”  
Co-Authors: **Dr. Hsoio-Ming Wang,** Dept. of CJ, UHD; **Greg H. Walker,** *Houston Airport System*  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Chris Guerrero**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Mario Garza and Nydia Cordero,** “High Strength Concretes with Different Proportions of Cement and Fly-Ash”  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Jorge Tito-Izquierdo**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Adnane Kidari,** “Terminal Services Security”  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Ping Chen**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Mariona Colleen Koerth,** “For the Sake of Our Children - Child Support Contributions in Dollar Amounts”  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Adolfo Santos**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Bjorn Larsen,** “Honda Fit Marketing Challenge”  
Co-Authors: **Brendan McMullan, Eric Saville, Brittney Ballard, Stephen Browning, Sylvester Chung, Mikah Palermo, Leslie Rivas, Nicole Santos, Eric Soder, Ryan Wobbe**  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Madeline Johnson**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

**Christopher Negron,** “Coordinators, a Key to Good Peer-Led Team Learning Management in a Large PLTL Program”  
Faculty Mentor: **A.E. Drefuss**  
Project Location: City College of New York  
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

**Hunter Nguyen, Nguyen Lam, Vien Lam,** “UV Polymerizable Systems Containing Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes”  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Byron Christmas**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown Center for Applied Polymer Science Research (CAPSR)

**Mesias Pedroza,** “The Structure of Basidiomycete Communities on Root Rhizospheres of Native Coastal Prairie Grasses”  
UHD Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Phil Lyons**  
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

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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).
Poster Presentations:

UHD Faculty Mentor and Co-Author: Dr. Janusz Grebowsicz
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Seyed Mohammad Abedi, “Thermal Properties of Volcanic Obsidian Rocks”
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Kenneth Johnson and Janusz Grebowsicz
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Noor Ahmed, Kenneth Collins, Cynthia Kay Blanks, Shatori Dionne Harrison, Cristina Barillas, Leila Mamytebekova, Matthew William Kogler, “Disaster Relief: Real Time Integrated Assistance”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Gary Stading
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Betul Akin, Sean Hattenbach, Nadia Lera, Claudia Mendez, “Preliminary Investigation of Doxorubicin-Induced ROS Production”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jerry Johnson
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Mohammad Alam, Jameel Eniafe, Ying Zi Ma, Bina Pise, Sumila Rehman, Adeela Yunus, “Life Style Audit”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Darshan Wahdwa
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Memling Altamirano, Antonio Basilio, and Emily De La Garza, “Identifying Hydrocarbon by Thermal Analysis of Limestone and Shale Rocks”
UHD Faculty Mentors and Co-Author: Drs. Janusz Grebowsicz and Glenn Merrill
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Karla Alvarez, “Using STELLA Software to Model Blood Glucose Levels in Response to Daily Meals and Exercise”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Ms. Mitsue Nakamura
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Shidrokh Ardestani, “Genetic Identification of the Myxococcus xanthus Envelope Stress Sensor”
Co-Author: Dr. Heidi B. Kaplan, Research Mentor, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, University of Texas Medical School at Houston
Project Location: UT Medical School

Ahlam Azam, “Games as Collaborative/Cooperative Learning”
Co-Author: Brittany Vasquez
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Ahlam Azam and Georgina Carballo, “3 - 1 ⇒ 2 + 2 = MORE”
Co-Author: Georgina Carballo
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Co-Author: Olga Soto
UHD Faculty Mentors: V. Estrella, R. Garcia, M. Nakamura, L. Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Victor Elad Barleycorn, “How Can a Student Adapt to a Learning System That He/She is Not Familiar With?”
Faculty Mentor: A.E. Dreuss
Project Location: City College of New York
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Victoria Geisler
Project Location: University of West Georgia
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Chynette Nealy
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Christopher Bowes, “Building a Semantic Network with a Peisori Algorithm”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ping Chen
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Myrna Ivone Calderon, “Purposeful Mistakes Enhance Peer Led Learning”
Co-Author: Hugo Alarcón V. and Rafael Ordoñez
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Co-Author: Karla Alvarez
UHD Faculty Mentors: V. Estrella, R. Garcia, M. Nakamura, L. Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kimberly Ann Cantrell, “Population Density and Attractant Study of Aedes albopictus and Aedes aegypti, Arthropod-borne Virus Vectors, with Baited Mosquito Oviposition Traps in Observance of their 20 years in the Houston Area”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jeff Flosi
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kimberly Ann Cantrell, “Chemistry and Potential Environmental Implications of Houston-area Waterways”
Co-Author: Joel Henderson and Judith Vazquez
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Ken Johnson and Lisa Morano
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Dulce Carbajal, “Variation of Xylella fastidiosa Colonization In Tolerant and Susceptible Grape Cultivars”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lisa Morano
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Co-Author: Eunice Rascón, Dr. James Becvar
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Michael Carolan, “Xylella fastidiosa Detection in Potatoes Exhibiting Symptoms of Zebra Chip Disease”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lisa Morano
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Stephanie Chadwick, “Synthesis of Opposites in Early Works by Eugène Delacroix”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Susan Baker
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

David Cherian, “Identification of Transcription Factor Sites Essential for Proper Expression of the Ashwin gene in Xenopus”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Akif Uzman
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Weining Feng
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

David Code, “Nanotube/Glass Composition as New Material for Entrapping Electroactive Molecules”
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Mian Jiang and Larry Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kenneth Collins, “America's Slipery Slope: A Systems Examination of the Economic and Political Consequences of Petroleum Dependency”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Steven Maranville
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Fabiola Cortez, “Proton NMR, Where Are You?”
UHD Faculty Mentor and Co-Author: Dr. Tyra Montgomery
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Ebrahim Dadabhoy, Daphine Green, Derek Harmon, Glen Kwan, Samir Muhammad, Caroline Mwanza, Jiao Phan, “Civil Fraud Penalties”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Darshan Wahdwa

Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Emily De La Garza, “Testing the Use of Adaptive Optics to Reveal the Age of Distant Galaxies”
Co-Author: Dr. David Koo and Jason Melbourne
Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Koo
Project Location: University of California, Santa Cruz

Maria Elena Delaveaga and Bertha Martinez, “Coding Public Comments to the Proposed Rules on Intercountry Adoption”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jo Bailey
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Mohamed Diarra, “Open Meme - An Open Source Project”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ali Berrached
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Walter Dickson, “Motivation by Nerds® and Airheads®”
Co-Author: Jeffrey Hernandez
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Jannie Marie Diliber, “Investigation of the Thermal Properties of Bacterially-Produced Biopolymers”
Co-Author: Martina Maier
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Poonam Gulati, Byron Christmas, Janusz Grebowicz
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown Center for Applied Polymer Science Research (CAPSR)

Josephine Diliber, Clarissa Fletcher, Amber Martinez, Shajeer Noorudeen, Reuben Rodriguez, “How Will Intelligent Machines Affect Our Future?”
Co-Author: Jonathon Keele
UHD Faculty Mentor: V. Estrera, R. Garcia, M. Nakamura, L. Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Daniel Domínguez, “No Intelligence Left Behind: Stimulating Multiple Intelligences via Active Learning Techniques”
Faculty Mentor and Co-Author: Drs. Juan Noveron
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Adam Drake, “On the Enumeration of a Class of Non-Graceful Graphs”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Timothy Redl
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Adam Drake, “Galactic Rotation Without Dark Matter Halos”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Youn-Sha Chan
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Carol Duncan, Patricia Jefferson, John Sanchez, “Are Feminists Manhaters? Students’ Attitudes Toward Feminists and Feminists’ Attitudes Toward Men”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kristin Anderson
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Nicolas Esteban Endre, “An Econometrical Analysis of the Socioeconomic and Demographic Factors Affecting Obesity Among Americans”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Justo Manrique
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

David Espino, Nguyen Lam, Binh Nguyen, Courtney Watts, “Rubella Disease and the Human Immune Responses”
Co-Author: Justin Dudgey, Moses Osoro
UHD Faculty Mentors: V. Estrera, R. Garcia, M. Nakamura, L. Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Hyefin Eum, “Throwing Stones Into Water to Make Waves: The Benefits of PLTL Workshop”
Faculty Mentor: A.E. Dreuffus
Project Location: City College of New York
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Thomas Craig Foster, “On Leafy Spanning Trees of Graph”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ermelinda DeLaVina
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kyle Garmany, “A Study of Diatom and Arcellacean Primary Communities for Measuring Succession in Mitigated Wetlands”
Co-Author: Tek Williams
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Brad Hoge
Project Location: Green’s Bayou Wetland Mitigation Bank, Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, University of Houston-Downtown

Adeawe Giwa and Juan Leon, “Behavior of Cancer Cells in a Mathematical Model”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Edwin Tecarro
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Neri Gomez, Liem Luong, Arnufo Maldonado, Robin May, “How Accurate is the Portrayl of the Eboli Virus in the movie Outbreak?”
Co-Author: Vien Lam
UHD Faculty Mentors: V. Estrera, R. Garcia, M. Nakamura, L. Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kathryn Gutierrez, Michael Taylor, Rebecca Chitwood, Tony Jackson, Tammi Lott, Bob Fryer, Grace Anderson, Amy Vargas, “The Statue of Limitations in Individual Federal Tax Matters”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Darshan Wahdwa
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Muhammad Hassan, “VoIP and Emerging PBX Technologies”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ping Chen
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Jeffrey Hernandez, “Explorations: Teaching Students to Develop the Important Questions: ‘By Jove, the Why’s (wise) have it!!’”
Co-Author: Marisa Galan, Myrna Calderon, Walter Dickson, Hugo Alarcon, Daniel Domínguez, Yoon Kim, Rafael Ordonez, Omar Khatib, Albert Padilla, Lance Williams, Gina Carballe, Ahlam Azam, and Arturo Mones
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Okezie Igboeli, “Genome Annotation and Analysis of a Dominant Community Acquired Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus, USA300”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Akif Uzman
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Brian Neal Iken, “Bald Cypress of the Texas Hill Country: Taxonomically Unique?”
Co-Author: Yessenia Patino
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deanna McCullough
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Adam Jordan, “Landmark-driven, Atlas-based Segmentation of Mouse Brain Tissue Images with Gene Expression Data”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Vasilis Zafiris
Project Location: University of Houston-Central and University of Houston-Downtown

Usman Khan, “Deploying Multi-Agents in Grid”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Hong Lin
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Yoon Ju Kim, “Countering the Know-It-All Disruptor”
Co-Author: Dr. James Becvar
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Becvar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Chad Kocurek and Raymond Mouton, “Calculating the Power and Efficiency of Computation Clusters”
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Ongard Sirisaengtaksin and Hong Lin
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Connie Larsson and Lisa Weigle, “A PCR Strategy to Analyze Ashwin Gene Structure”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Akif Uzman
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Carlton Lewis, Melissa Navarro, Alberto Calvillo, Effream Pittman, Schrhonda Compton, Pearl Jacobs, Laura Webb, “Criminal Tax Fraud Penalties”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Darshan Wahdwa
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
Martina Maier, Moriam Ojelade, Jannie Dilber, “Biofilm Formation, Extraction and Analysis of Exopolymeric Substances of Several Bacteria”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Poornam Gulati
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Karim Masri, “Growth, Isolation and Identification of Antibiotic Agents of Trichoderma”
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Tyra Montgomery and Phil Lyons
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Gary Stading
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Lee Anne McGaha, “Potential Plant Reservoirs for Xylella fastidiosa in a Pierce's Disease Hot Zone”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lisa Morano
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Paula Medrano, “An Inventory of the Herpeiefavon of Little Turkey Gulley, Harris County, TX”
Co-Authors: Susanna Hooper and Karen Purpera
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Aaron Krochmal
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Ruby Mendez, “Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Using the DekompressorTM Device in Virtual Reality Environment with Haptic Device”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ongard Sirisasengtaksin
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Rim Mohamed, “Data for Inequalities and Asymptotics for a Terminating 4F3 Series”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Plamen Simeonov
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Faculty Mentor and Co-Author: Dr. James Bevar
Project Location: University of Texas at El Paso
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Carol L. Morris, “Characterization of the Physical Properties of Coastal Prairie Mima Mound Soils, Sheldon Lake State Park, Southeast Texas”
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Eric Carson, San Jacinto College North
Project Location: San Jacinto College North and University of Houston-Downtown

Shajeer Noorudeen, “Nanotube / Plastic Composite as New Material for Environmental Remedy”
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Mian Jiang and Larry Spears
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Shamsheedeen Ojelade, “Toxically Screening of National Waters Using the Allecum Cepa Test & Mitotic Inhibiting Test”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jon Aoki
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kristi Pennington, “Testing for Soil Variances in Texas Hill Country to Determine Cause of Altered Appearance of Taxodium distichum (Bald Cypress Trees)”
UHD Faculty Mentors: Drs. Jon Aoki and Deanna McCullough
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Erum Raja, “Design and Investigation of Ru(II) N-Heterocyclic Complexes that Exhibit Proton Coupled Electron Transfer”
Co-Authors: Michelle Logue and Dr. Spencer Slattery
Faculty Mentors: Drs. Spencer Slattery and Lucille Garmon
Project Location: University of West Georgia
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Fabian Ramirez, Marvin Stephen, Gloria Matta-Aldana, “Analysis and Design of Multiple Post Tensioned Cable Concrete Beam”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jorge Tito-Izquierdo
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Patricia Azucena Ramon, “The Use of Houston's Bayous as "Green Corridors" by ari Pavna”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Aaron Krochmal
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Juan Carlos Razo, “Reevaluation of the Mimosa Species Previously Classified as Schrankia Based on the Internal Transcribed Spacers (ITS-1, ITS-2) of the nRNA Gene”
UHD Faculty Mentor and Co-Author: Dr. Deanna McCullough
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Brian Rodriguez, “Stabilization of Thiol/Acylate Systems Using N-PAL”
Co-Authors: Hilda Hinojosa, Christopher Lopez, Colin Carandang, Lucio Patino, Dr. Byron Christmas
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Byron Christmas
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown Center for Applied Polymer Science Research (CAPSR)

Co-Authors: Hilda Hinojosa, Dr. Byron Christmas
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Byron Christmas
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown Center for Applied Polymer Science Research (CAPSR)

Arbelia Roman and Shahreza Noorudeen, “Biofilm Formation of Staphylococcus aureus in vitro and Inhibition with Antibiotics”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Poornam Gulati
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Janeth Sanchez, “The Effects of UV Energy Density on the Thermomechanical Properties of UV-Polymerizable, Thiol/Acylate-Functional Systems Stabilized with NPAL)”
Co-Author: Brian Rodriguez
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Byron Christmas
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown Center for Applied Polymer Science Research (CAPSR)

Kevin Joseph Spring, “Mosquito Species Composition and Infection Rate of West Nile and St. Louiseenecephalitis Virus in Two Above Ground and Two Storm Sewer Habitats”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jeff Fosi
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Kevin Spring, William Watson, Hiba Zwiya, “Electrochemical Detection Assay for Quantification of Xylella fastidiosa DNA after Polymerase Chain Reaction”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lisa Morano
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Fatima Sultana, “A Study of the Validity of the Taxonomic Varieties of C. Lavaegata”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deanna McCullough
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Brian Terry, “Scientific Foundations of Fire Dynamics”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Alberto Gomez-Rivas
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Tatyana Teslova, “The Answer Key: Promoting Students’ Failure - An Application of William Perry’s Scheme for Successful Learning”
Faculty Mentor: A.E. Drefuss
Project Location: City College of New York
Presenter from the National PLTL Conference

Antonio Tito, “Signaling Protein Interactions”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Maria Benavides
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Juan Pablo Tito, “Fungal Diversity in Rhizospheres and Washed Roots of Coastal Tall Grass Prairie Grasses”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Phil Lyons
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Hung Q. Tran, “Infrared Sensing and Serial Communication”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Weiing Feng
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown

Jennifer Trejo, “Mathematical Models for Projecting Growth”
UHD Faculty Mentor: Dr. Youn-Sha Chan
Project Location: University of Houston-Downtown
Acknowledgements

It is a pleasure to recognize the many individuals, organizations, and institutions supporting UHD students in their research endeavors. These include significant funding of on-campus research over the past year from the National Science Foundation's STEP Program (DUE 0336612), U.S. Army Research Office HBCU/MI Infrastructure Support Program (W911NF-04-1-0024), U.S. Department of Education MSEIP Program (P120A050068), Welch Foundation, NASA and UHD. Many students conducted their research during summer research programs on and off-campus. Faculty and staff members of these and many other academic institutions, as well as personnel at industrial facilities, have done much to support and mentor our students.

In addition, we thank the UHD faculty and staff who’ve worked tirelessly to support undergraduate research experiences as well as the administrators who’ve helped make this event a reality. We especially thank Drs. Richard Alo, Alberto Gomez-Rivas, Kenneth Oberhoff, Dennis Rodriguez, Larry Spears, Akif Uzman, Dean Susan Ahern, Dean Donald Bates, Dean Elizabeth Pelz, Dean George Pincus, and UHD President Max Castillo.

Finally, we would like to thank the organizers, attendees and presenters of the National PLTL Conference on Leader Training and Peer Leader Learning on April 20-23, 2006 at UHD, in particular those who are also participating within the UHD Student Research Conference this year.