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 8, 2016

8:00 - 8:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast, Coffee House
8:30 am Dr. Mary Jo Parker, Director, Scholars Academy, UHD
     Introduction Dr. Michael Olivas, Interim President, University of Houston-Downtown
8:35 am Welcoming Remarks,
     UHD Interim President
8:40 am Dr. Akif Uzman, Dean, College of Sciences and Technology, UHD
     Dr. Barry Garrett Endowed Scholarship 2016 Recipient – James McHenry
     Recognition of Family and the Student Recipient
9:00 am Ed Hugetz, Provost, University of Houston-Downtown
     Welcoming Remarks on High Impact Activities, Auditorium
9:10 am Dr. Poonam Gulati Salholtra, Interim Director of the Center for Community Engagement and Service
     Introduction of Keynote Speaker, Auditorium
9:15 am Claudia Jimenez Sturman, Ph.D., UHD Alumnus
9:45 am- Oral Presentations, Auditorium
11:15am Introductions by Drs. Weining Feng and Chynette Nealy, SRC Co-Chairs
11:30pm Dr. Mary Jo Parker, Director, Scholars Academy, UHD
     Introduction of External Community Speaker
     Ms. Twuanda Smith, Program Manager Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11:45 pm Lunch Break
1:15 - 3:15 pm Open Poster Sessions, Room A300
3:15 – 4:00 pm Conference check out; Conference E-post survey; Conference gift

Conference Co-Chairs:
Dr. Weining Feng, Associate Professor of Engineering Technology, UHD
Dr. Chynette Nealy, Associate Professor of Business Administration, UHD

Conference Planning Committee:
Dr. Maria Bhattacharjee, Associate Professor of Urban Education, UHD
Dr. Irene Chen, Professor of Urban Education, UHD
Dr. Akif Uzman, Dean, College of Science and Technology, UHD
Dr. Matthew Johnson, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, UHD
Dr. Ruth Johnson, Associate Professor of Social Sciences, UHD
Dr. Hong Lin, Professor of Computer Science, UHD
Dr. Michelle Moosally, Chair of English Department, UHD
Dr. Lisa Morano, Professor of Biology, Natural Sciences Department, UHD
Dr. Mary Jo Parker, Executive Director, UHD Scholars Academy
Dr. Lucille Pointer, Chair of Management, Marketing & Business Administration, UHD
Dr. Edwin Tecarro, Associate Professor of Mathematics, UHD
Dr. Poonam Gulati, Interim Director of the Center for Community Engagement and Service, UHD
Professor Mitsue Nakamura, Lecturer of Mathematics and SA Peer Mentor Coordinator, UHD
Julie Norton, Executive Director of Strategic Partnerships, Office of the President, UHD
Claudia Jimenez Sturman, PhD, UHD and Scholars Academy Alumnus, 2008

Currently, I am working as a Research Scientist at Gene by Gene and transitioning into my new position as Assistant Laboratory Director. Gene by Gene started as a DNA-based ancestry and genealogy company (Family Tree DNA) and now has expanded to provide clinicians and patients with access to a variety of clinical and research genetic tests. I first move to the United States in 2003 and joined UHD as an ESL student at the UHD English Language Institute. That same year I enrolled as an undergraduate student at UHD and graduated Magna cum laude in 2008 with a B.S degree in Microbiology and minors in Biology and Chemistry. At UHD I had the privilege to work in the laboratory of Dr. Poonam Gulati who taught me the basic principles of research and became my science mentor. In 2007, I was selected to participate in a student exchange program that took me to Poland. The work done at the Technical University of Lodz was published in 2009. In 2008 I earned the Excellence in Microbiology Academic Award and became the first recipient of the Joan Abramowitz Undergraduate Research Scholarship which gave me the opportunity to work with an international leader in Anthrax research at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. On January 2009 I was admitted to the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Texas-HSCH and graduated with a Ph.D. in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics on May 2014. At UT-HSC-H I work with Dr. Michael Lorenz, Ph.D. studying the interactions between the fungal pathogen Candida albicans and the mammalian innate immune system. As a Ph.D. student I had the opportunity to present my work at national and international conferences and to publish my work in different peer reviewed journals.

Ms. Tuwanda Smith, Esquire

Program Manager, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Outreach and Compliance Coordination Program Manager, Small Business, Outreach, and Compliance Coordination Directorate, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

This presentation will be delivered using UHD ZOOM Conferencing capabilities.
# 15th Annual UHD Student Research Conference

Sponsored by the UHD Scholars Academy
Funded by the
National Science Foundation (0934913),
U.S. Department of Education (P120A130040),
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC-27-10-1121; NRC-HQ-84-14-G-0028; NRC MSIP HQ-7P-15-G-0003),
The Brown Foundation, Inc., College of Sciences & Technology, and UH-Downtown

## Poster Presentation Session I (1:30PM – 2:30PM)

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<th>1</th>
<th>The Impact of Psychoeducation on Perceptions of Therapy Among African American Parents</th>
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<td>Erlanger Turner, <a href="mailto:turnere@uhd.edu">turnere@uhd.edu</a></td>
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<th>Plastic Degradation by Marine Microbes</th>
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<td>Aziz, Asma</td>
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<td>Poonam Gulati Salhotra, <a href="mailto:gulatip@uhd.edu">gulatip@uhd.edu</a></td>
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<th>A Study on the Integration and Functionality of Prosthetics</th>
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<td>Mitsue Nakamura, <a href="mailto:nakamuram@uhd.edu">nakamuram@uhd.edu</a></td>
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<th>Factors Associated with Acceptance of Non-Parental Discipline</th>
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<td>Bashorun Opeyemi</td>
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<td>Susan M. Henney, <a href="mailto:henneys@uhd.edu">henneys@uhd.edu</a></td>
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</table>
The Study of VBH-Compound Series on Cancer Cells
Bure, Nuru
Sadana Rachna, sadanar@uhd.edu
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Bioinformatics discovery of dense and active subnetworks conserved across multiple cancers
Bustamante, Gabriel
Segura, Ana
Benjamin Soibam, soibamb@uhd.edu
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Synthesis of New Copper Bimetallic Complexes
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Far From Home: Using Distance from Home as an Indicator of Human Trafficking in Prostitution Arrests
Buys, Christopher
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A Test a Day Makes the Forgetting Go Away: Why Instructors Should Give More Tests
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Medina, Krystal
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Anticancer Effects of Turmeric
Carcamo-Bahena, Yareli
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Actuarial Mathematics: Models and Observations on 2010 Life Table for United States of America
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Creating a MATLAB GUI for Geometry in Two and Three Dimensions
Chheang, Putra
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Design and Automation of a Two Phase Separator
De Leon, Julio
Wrightson, Westley
Chan, Wymond
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Maria Frausto
Yuan Kang, kangy@uhd.edu
Gregg Roman
University of Houston Downtown
University of Houston - Main Campus
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Quijano, Desaree D.
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Meghan Minard, minardm@uhd.edu
Mehdi Esmaeiliyan, esmaeiliyanm@uhd.edu
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Does Power Make One Moral? The Influence of Power on Moral Decisions in Video Games
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Mann, Nena
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Elias Keedy, keedye@uhd.edu
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Post-Conference Evaluation Survey
Please complete the electronic Student Research Conference 2016 Post-Evaluation Survey by visiting the following weblink:

http://uhd.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6Qk7AGagIPfpgJT
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Victims and Victim Blame
Chea, Connie
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Tran, Catherine
Xiang Jiexin

Cindy Stewart, stewartc@uhd.edu
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A Signal Processing Tool for OpenBCI
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Carvajal, Monica,
St. Cyr., Lestroy
Sinah, Seshank
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Computer Science: Coding for Flappy Bird App
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Mary Jo Parker, parkerm@uhd.edu
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University of Houston-Main Campus
Boys and Girls Club - LaPorte

Comparing the Diatom Count from 2014 to 2015 Greens Bayou Wetlands Mitigation Bank Data
Parra, Juangerardo
Brady Hoge, hogeb@uhd.edu
University of Houston-Downtown

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Cervantes, Isreal
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Yuchou Chang, changy@uhd.edu
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Murillo, Milimar
Poonam Gulati Salhotra, guratip@uhd.edu
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Plamen Simeonov, simeonvp@uhd.edu
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John, Sherin
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Rubio, Linda

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Allicin Derived Organosulfur Compounds Portentously Decrease Proliferation of MCF-7 Mammary Epithelial Cells In-vitro
Rubio, Linda

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Brame, Lauren
Romero, Joshua
Aguirre, Jessie
Huang, Cindy
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Statecraft: The Art of Nation Building
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Working Coupling
Stevenson, Amee
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Foodservice Quality and Satisfaction: A Preliminary Study on Attitudes About Foodservice in a Correctional Facility
Bitgood, Maria
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Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office
Plain language and visual design
Sudkamp, Jennifer
Natalia Matveeva, MatveevaN@uhd.edu
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The human immune response against Staphylococcus aureus virulence factors
Taktom, Rashidfarokhi
Lukasz, Cupial
Maria Gabriela Bowden, bowdenm@uhd.edu
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Tep, Chrisna
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Measurement of the human immune response to Staphylococcus aureus virulence factors
Ton, Nancy
Ton, Nita
Tanisha, Scott
Maria Gabriela Bowden bowdenm@uhd.edu
University of Houston-Downtown

UV-Polymerizable, Neutron Absorbent Coatings: A Feasibility Study
Torres, Karina
Robin Jose, joser@uhd.edu
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Enhancing awareness and knowledge of genetically modified organism (GMO) food in the UHD community: survey results
Trevino, C. Analia
Gomez, Marisa
Abouzeid, Heidi
Yuanyuan Kang, KangY@uhd.edu
Mehdi Esmaeiliyan, esmaeiliyanm@uhd.edu
Meghan Minard, minardm@uhd.edu
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Investigating a Steady State Thermistor Problem
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Giving Back To The Community: Advocating STEM through Service Learning Project
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St.Vallier, Shaynah
Contreras, Yuleisy
Mary Jo Parker, parkerm@uhd.edu
Boys and Girls Harbor at Laport, Texas
Cornelius Elementary School
University of Houston- Main Campus
The Efficacy of the Anticancer Components from Caraway Against Breast Cancer Cells in Vitro
Usmani, Momin
Tyra Hessel, hesselt@uhd.edu
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Bioreactor Design, Control and Optimization
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Stressed out: Working Parents' Childcare Satisfaction and Parenting Stress
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The effects of stimulants on the Brain
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Determination of aldehydes by catalytic oxidation
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Determination of Anticancer Efficacy of Components from Neem Leaves and Black Seeds Using Breast Cancer Cells in Vitro
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Thermotropic Properties of Salt-free Catanionic Surfactant Liquid Crystals
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Impacts of a Drop in Oil Prices
Wu, Gregory
Dumas, Kristian
Patterson, Sarah
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The role of gender and attitudes in helping victims of intimate partner violence

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The role of domestic violence myths in attributions of perpetrator blame

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Jimenez, Jennifer
Sansa, Kebire
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GENETIC DIVERSITY OF BOWHEAD WHALES (BALAENA MYSTICETUS) BASED ON THE SEQUENCES OF THREE MITOCHONDRIAL

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**Errata Sheet**

Poster Presenters – Session II 2:30 – 3:30PM

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Foodservice Quality and Satisfaction: A Preliminary Study on Attitudes About Foodservice in a Correctional Facility

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Effects of Financial Stress on Employee Well-Being and Performance
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Well-Being among Working College Students
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Sims, Lydia

Susan Henney, henneys@uhd.edu
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The Women's Resource: *MoneySmart* Evaluation Design
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The Women’s Resource: Project LEAD Evaluation

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Seven Potential Anti-Cell Proliferative Drugs Identified from Novel Synthetic Compounds Screened

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