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Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research



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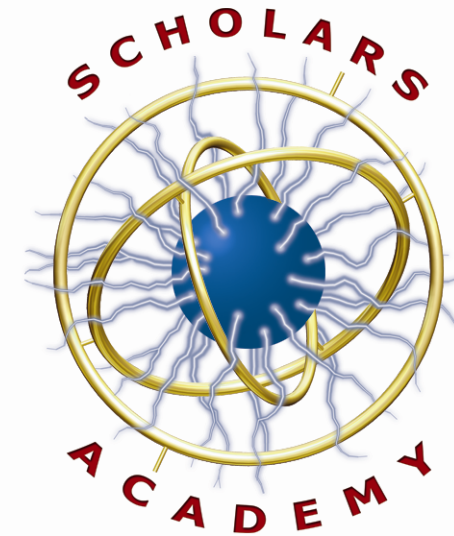
University of Houston-Downtown

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

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Spring Convocation



May 5, 2010

Scholars Academy Program Staff

Scholars Academy Staff

Director: Dr. Mary Jo Parker
 Program Manager: Mr. Rene Garcia
 Administrative Assistant II: Ms. Lois Smith
 Student Assistants: Carlos Lacayo
 Adetomiwa Oguntuga
 Massiel Rubio
 Ceraira Snerling Simmons

Executive Committee

Dr. Richard Aló Dean George Pincus Mr. Edward Sheinberg Dr. Akif Uzman
 Dr. Kenneth Oberhoff Dr. Dennis Rodriguez Dr. Larry Spears

Peer Mentor Team

Peer Mentor Coordinator: Ms. Mitsue Nakamura
 Senior Peer Mentor: Audrey Gonzalez

Gloria Abarca Morgan Dees Victor Martinez Anisa Saleh
 Ali Abedi Elena Espino Stephanie Omage Kulsoom Shah
 Frances Acevedo Arturo Garza, Jr. Reuben Rodriguez Jose Trinidad
 Kelly Colby Edgar Gatica

Faculty Mentors

Dr. Jon Aoki Dr. Brad Hoge Dr. Lisa Morano Dr. Ongard Sirisaengtaksin
 Dr. Maria Benavides Dr. Mian Jiang Dr. Timothy Redl Dr. Barry Sullender
 Dr. Ping Chen Dr. Hong Lin Dr. Rachna Sadana Dr. Jeong-Mi Yoon
 Dr. Weining Feng Dr. Deanna McCullough Dr. Catherine Shaffer

Below are SA Graduates at the Fall 2009 Commencement: Kethlyn Africa; Rosalinda Arenas; Mario Barbosa; David Brown; Mario Garza; Dhiran Giri; Terri Hoover; Jeremy Kemp; Julio LaTorre; Marsida Lisi; Amber Martinez; Angelica Medina; Yuricel Mondragon; Benito Morales; Justine Onyedebelu; Alarna Patterson; Phuong Pham; Johnny Ramos; Ivo Sanjoh; Oluwadamilola Seriki; Elva Sierra; Jesus Soto; and An Vo.



Scholars Academy Members Spring 2010

Gloria Abarca	Leonard Dees	Binh Le	Norma Pereida	Ceraira Snerling
Ali Abedi	Edgar Diaz	Steve Leon	Nhung Pham	Simmons
Frances Acevedo	Halit Dilber, Jr.	Tin Liu	Kelly Phillips	Dayna Spencer
Rogelio Acuna	Justin Dsouza	Alonzo Loreto	Danielle	Ibiene Tamuno
Santosh	Betsy Escobar	Shitul Maisuria	Picklesimer	Stephanie Thames
Adhikari	Elena Espino	Ryan Mansfield	Catherine	Teena Thomas
Manuel Aguirre	London Flores-	Anne Maredia	Pimentel	Bruno Toledo
Tahlia Aickareth	Swanson	Victor Martinez	Shawna Placide	Andrew Tran
Kolawole	Amy Flower	Sunu Mathew	Ranjan Poudel	Tuan Tran
Akindoju	Marlon Forero	Lisa Matsell	Marsha	Jose Trejo
Amie Albanese	Dennis Garcia	Mustafa	Ramesar-Babu	Victor Trejo
Naeem Ali	Walter Garcia	Mehmood	Sheyla Randle	Jose Trinidad
Noreen Ali	Arturo Garza, Jr.	Wesam Mohamed	Karla Rios	Tanu Uppal
Lilian Antunes	Edgar Gatica	Helen	Natalie Rodriguez	Eric Uquillas
Philip Ayazi	Michael Giles	Morgenstern	Reuben	Ana Uruena
Nameera Baig	A'Tondra	Jarod Mounger	Rodriguez	Ebelin Vaquiz
Jesus Barron-	Gilstrap	Jimmy Ngo	Massiel Rubio	Christine Varghese
Aldana	Audrey Gonzalez	Duc-Trung	Elda Rueda	Karina Vazquez
Brandy Bell	Dulce Guevara	Nguyen	Kamran Safarli	Jose Ventura
Brenda Blanco	Brian Holtkamp	Hung Nguyen	Nigar Safarova	Rosa Villagomez
Marlon Bonilla	Jordan Howland	Jackie Nguyen	Yesenia Salazar	Christina Wallace
Muhammad	Abdul Jangda	Katherine	Anisa Saleh	Tabitha Ward
Bukhari	Abdul Jawad	Nguyen	Samantha	Jaye Weston
Michael	Sarah Jennisca	Nhuy Nguyen	Salinas	Sara Wilder
Butterworth	Nirmal John	Yuhanna Njeim	Lassana	Antoine
Jennifer	Jonathan Jordan	Maryam	Samarakoon	Williams-Baisy
Carmichael	Russell Kendrick	Ogunkoya	Laura Sanchez	Desiree Wilson
Karla Castro	Margie Key	Adetomiwa	Mayra Sanchez	Maegan Womack
Melissa Chan	Swink	Oguntuga	Evelyn Saravia	Natalie
Preeti	Abir Khan	Matthew Ojeda	Kulsoom Shah	Yacovodonato
Choudhary	Suzette Khan	Stephanie Omage	George Shitera	Harmon Ye
Kelly Colby	Insook Kim	Isaac Omuhambe	Israel Sierra	Clemente
Jessica Collins	Jarrett Kitchen	Jonathan	Irena Sigel	Zamarripa
Erick Cruz	Nancy Koba	Palacios	Christopher	Wilbert Zegarra
Rafael Cruz	Mitesh Koirala	Deepak Pandey	Simmons	
Marlyn Davila	Adolfo Lara	Silvia Pejerrey	Derek Smith	

2010 Honor Corps

First Year

Rogelio Acuna
Manuel Aguirre
Amie Albanese
Naeem Ali
Nameera Baig
Muhammad Bukhari
Michael Butterworth
Melissa Chan
Jessica Collins
Erick Cruz
Marlyn Davila
Morgan Dees
Michael Giles
Abdul Jawad
Sarah Jennisca
Jonathan Jordan

Abir Khan
Jarrett Kitchen
Mitesh Koirala
Adolfo Lara
Shitul Maisuria
Sunu Mathew
Lisa Matsell
Mustafa Mehmood
Duc-Trung Nguyen
Yuhanna Njeim
Adetomiwa Oguntuga
Deepak Pandey
Kelly Phillips
Samantha Salinas
Lassana Samarakoon
Evelyn Saravia
Stephanie Thames

Teena Thomas
Jose Trejo
Tanu Uppal
Christine Varghese
Rosa Villagomez
Jaye Weston
Sara Wilder
Antoine Williams-Baisy
Maegan Womack

Second Year

Brandy Bell
Jennifer Carmichael
Kelly Colby
Elena Espino
Russell Kendrick
Margie Key Swink
Hung Nguyen

Stephanie Omage
Norma Pereida
Reuben Rodriguez
Jose Trinidad
Ebelin Vaquiz
Karina Vazquez
Tabitha Ward
Desiree Wilson

Third Year

Seyed Abedi
Betsy Escobar
Audrey Gonzalez
Victor Martinez
Wesam Mohamed
Elda Rueda
Laura Sanchez
Irena Sigel

Community Service Awards

Individual Award Christina Wallace
Group Project Award Kelly Colby & Anisa Saleh

Brown Foundation Leadership Awards

Ali Abedi Melissa Chan Marlyn Davila Audrey Gonzalez Laura Sanchez

Spring 2010 Graduating Seniors

Rogelio Acuna London Flores Anne Maredia Catherine Pimentel Laura Sanchez
Kelly Colby Edgar Gatica Mustafa Mehmood Shawna Placide Irena Sigel
Jessica Collins Abdul Jangda Wesam Mohamed Marsha Ramesbar Margie Swink
Erik Cruz Jonathan Jordan Jared Mounger Reuben Rodriguez Andrew Tran
Morgan Dees Shitul Maisuria Kelly Phillips Samantha Salinas Victor Trejo
Betsy Escobar

Scholars Academy Members Spring 2010



Awards Program

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Mary Jo Parker, Scholars Academy Director

Special Recognition:

Scholars Academy Program Staff

Scholarship Achievements

Joint Admission Medical Program Scholars

Betsy Escobar Michael Giles Ceraira Simmons (PreJAMP) Jose Ventura (PreJAMP)

Red Rose Scholars for 2009-2010

Ali Abedi Dennis Garcia Wesam Mohamed Reuben Rodriguez
Brandy Bell Micaela Gilbert Jarod Mounger Laura Sanchez
Tung Bui Mustafa Mehmood Stephanie Omage Desiree Wilson
Betsy Escobar

Red Rose Scholars for 2010-2011

Philip Ayazi Abdul Jawad Ojeda Matthew Evelyn Saravia
Nameera Baig Duc-Trung Nguyen Stephanie Omage Tabitha Ward
Brandy Bell

Peer-Led Team Learning Workshop Leaders

Edgar Gatica Insook Kim Stephanie Omage Anisa Saleh
Audrey Gonzalez Adolfo Lara Kamran Safarli Kulsoom Shah
Walter Huetwohl Tomy Le

Computer & Mathematical Sciences Tutors

Ali Abedi Walter Huetwohl Mai Nguyen Reuben Rodriguez
Michael Butterworth Victor Martinez Silvia Pejerrey Jose Trinidad
Edgar Gatica Hung Nguyen

Engineering Technology Tutors

Morgan Dees

Natural Science Tutors

Brandy Bell Betsy Escobar Jonathan Jordan Elda Rueda
Kelly Colby Elena Espino Jackie Nguyen Karina Vazquez
Marlyn Davila Abdul Jangda Stephanie Omage Tabitha Ward

“Pay It Forward” Volunteer Challenge

Volunteer Group Project Presentations by Peer Mentors

**Student Attendance and Presentations at
Student Research Conferences and Professional Meetings**

Third Annual Iowa Mathematical Field of Dreams Conference and StatFest Conference, Iowa City, Iowa
Edgar Gatica*

Hispanic Engineering National Achievement Awards Conference, Long Beach, CA
Antonio Acquaah Alexander Garza Jeremy Kemp Rafael Ortiz
Lilian Antunes Shatori Harrison Carlos Lacayo Tia Pilaroscia
Juan Aviles Hooman Hemmati Shitul Maisuria Victor Trejo
Abraham Flores Yvonne Hernandez Yuhanna Njeim Antoine Williams-Baisy
Loisa Ford Orlando Huerta

Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science National Conference, Dallas, TX

Nameera Baig* Preeti Choudhary* Abdul Jangda* Mustafa Mehmood*
Melissa Chan* Marlyn Davila* Rameswari Korrapati* Mayra Sanchez*

First Annual Undergraduate Conference at the Interface of Biology and Mathematics, Knoxville, TN

Lilian Antunes * Russell Kendrick * Miranda Phan * Tia Pilaroscia *
Jonathan Jordan * Marsida Lisi *

2009 Regional Undergraduate Chemistry Symposium, Houston, TX

Melissa Chan ★ Preeti Choudhary* Mustafa Mehmood*

19th Keck Center Annual Research Conference, Houston, TX

Kelly Colby Helen Morgenstern Jennifer Shoemaker

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), Phoenix, AZ

Frances Acevedo* Elena Espinosa* Edgar Gatica* Desiree Wilson*

19th Keck Center Annual Research Conference, Houston, TX

Kelly Colby Helen Morgenstern Jennifer Shoemaker

Texas Branch Fall Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, Tyler, TX

Flor Castro* Audrey Gonzalez ★

Texas Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, Huntsville, TX

Rogelio Acuna Tia Pilaroscia* Evelyn Saravia Victor Trejo
Marsida Lisi*

National Sigma Xi Annual Meeting & International Research Conference, The Woodlands, TX

Nameera Baig* Abdul Jangda ★ Julio LaTorre* Christine Varghese*
Melissa Chan* Jarrett Kitchen* Mustafa Mehmood* Desiree Wilson*
Preeti Choudhary*

Supercomputing Conference 2009, Portland, OR

Jeremy Kemp*

2010 HMC Mathematics Conference on the Mathematics of Environmental Sustainability and Green Technology, Claremont, CA

Glenda Thammavongsa*

Mathematical Association of America (MAA) 2010 Joint Mathematics Meetings, San Francisco, CA

Yvonne Hernandez*

Southwest Regional SACNAS Conference, Lubbock, TX

Melissa Chan* Jarrett Kitchen*

113th Texas Academy of Science Annual Meeting, Stephenville, TX

Naeem Ali* Melissa Chan ★ Teena Thomas* Christine Varghese*
Nameera Baig* Preeti Choudhary*

Computing Alliance for Hispanic-Serving Institutions Annual Meeting, Mountain View, CA

Carlos Lacayo*

Texas Branch of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM), New Braunfels, TX

Cindy De Los Santos* Adolfo Lara* Kelly Phillips ★ Diana Roman
Russell Kendrick Karen Martinez* Mathew Pulakkavan Karina Vazquez*
Mitesh Koirala* Matthew Ojeda* Sheyla Randle* Tabitha Ward

24th National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), Missoula, MT

Nameera Baig* Preeti Choudhary* Mustafa Mehmood* Christine Varghese*
Melissa Chan* Abdul Jangda*

American Education Research Association (AERA) 2010 Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

Harmon Ye*

Baylor College of Medicine Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Awards (IRACDA) Symposium, Houston, TX

Frances Acevedo* Justin Dsouza Jarrett Kitchen* Teena Thomas*
Naeem Ali* Cassandra Flores* Mustafa Mehmood* Eric Uquillas*
Nameera Baig* Dennis Garcia* Wesam Mohamed Charles Varghese*
Umer Bukhari Edgar Gatica* Marsha Ramesar-Babu Christine Varghese*
Melissa Chan* Michael Giles Sheyla Randle* Karina Vazquez*
Preeti Choudhary* Abdul Jangda* Kamran Safarli* Desiree Wilson*
Cindy De Los Santos* Nirmal John* Israel Sierra*

Beyond BIO2010 Celebration and Opportunities Conference, Washington D.C.

Russell Kendrick*

10th Annual Scholars Academy Graduate School and Internship Fair

22 Student Posters from the UHD College of Sciences and Technology

9th Annual UHD Student Research Conference

60 Student Posters from the UHD College of Sciences and Technology

* Indicates this student presented a scientific research poster or oral presentation at this conference

★ Indicates an award was presented to this student for their scientific research presentation

Brown Foundation Poster Presentation Awards

Melissa Chan (2) Audrey Gonzalez Abdul Jangda Kelly Phillips