Congratulations to our 2022 Undergraduate Awardees!

~ Morning Presentations ~

Morning Oral Presentations: Social Sciences and STEM A
First Place
Role of Cardiomyocyte-Specific Transforming Growth Factor Beta1 in Adult Heart Disease
Danielle Prisendorf, Biological Sciences (major), Chemistry minor - Senior
Dr. Mohamad Azhar, Cell Biology and Anatomy
Dr. Mrinmay Chakrabarti, Cell Biology and Anatomy

Second Place
Immunofluorescent Optimization: a framework for investigation into WWP1 regulation of ECM turnover during embryonic heart development
Savannah Bowers, Biological Sciences (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Junior
Dr. Lydia Matesic, Department of Biological Sciences

Morning Poster: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences A
First Place
Validity of Transition Analysis 3 Using Individuals of Known Ages
Skyler Yakes, Anthropology (major), Criminal Justice minor – Senior
Dr. Sharon DeWitte, Department of Anthropology

Second Place
Higher Expectations: Women's Place in the Office of the Solicitor General
Kaitlyn McCue, Journalism (major), Political Science minor - Senior
Dr. Jessica Schoenherr, Department of Political Science

Honorable Mention
Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Cancer Misinformation on Social Media in the United States
Serena Harn, Information Science (major), Data Science minor - Sophomore
Dr. Amir Karami, Information Science, School of

Morning Poster: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences B
First Place-Tie
Less Gatekeeping, More Girlbosses: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in STEM Higher Education
Dorathea Lee, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Junior
Dr. Charles Schumpert, Department of Biological Sciences

First Place-Tie
To Raise or Raze: Nahuatl Speakers in Mexico
Isabel Sans, History (major), Spanish (major) - Freshman
Prof. Michael Gavin, Department of English Language and Literature
Ms. Kaitlyn Smith, Department of English Language and Literature

Second Place
Uncertainty and Common Pool Resources
Weston Watts, Mathematic (major), Economics (major) - Sophomore
Dr. Philip Brookins, Department of Economics

Morning Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences A
First Place
A High-Throughput Drug Testing Pipeline for Colon Cancer Organoid Avatars
Shrey Patel, Biomedical Engineering (major), Neuroscience minor - Senior
Dr. Phillip Buckhaults, Department of Drug Discovery & Biomedical Sciences
Second Place

Hybrid Materials based on Gelatin-stabilized Amorphous Calcium Phosphate Nanoparticles and MXene Nanoflakes for use in Guided Bone Regeneration Membranes
Mary Walden, Biomedical Engineering (major) - Senior
Dr. Nader Taheri-Qazvini, Department of Chemical Engineering
Mrs. Gelareh Rezvan, Department of Chemical Engineering

Honorable Mention

Mystery in The Lab: Examination of Cross Hair Sections of a Shrunken Heads (Tsantsa)
Blaine Newton, Associate in Science - Sophomore; USC Union
Dr. Lee Morris, Science, USC Union

Morning Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences B

First Place-Tie

Preventing adaptive therapeutic resistance to CDK4/6 inhibition with CDK8/19 inhibitors: a mechanistic study
Amanda Eckstrom, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major), Spanish minor - Senior
Dr. Eugenia Broude, Department of Drug Discovery & Biomedical Sciences

First Place-Tie

Does a 2x Dose of Different Vitamin B12 Forms Affect Tau Phosphorylation and Expression of Proteins That Regulate Tau Phosphorylation?
Allen Mundok, Biology (major) - Senior; USC Upstate
Dr. Kimberly Shorter, Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering, USC Upstate

Second Place

Increased ovarian cancer incidence in mice overexpressing human MMP14
Lauren James, Biological Sciences (major) - Sophomore
Dr. Frank Spinale, Cell Biology and Anatomy
Dr. Holly LaVoie, Cell Biology and Anatomy

Honorable Mention

HIV-1 Tat-induced inhibition of dopamine transport by the human norepinephrine transporter is attenuated by tyrosine 467 mutations
Darby Porter, Chemistry (major), Neuroscience minor - Junior
Dr. Jun Zhu, Department of Drug Discovery & Biomedical Sciences

Honorable Mention

Identifying Protein Targets of Itaconate Modification
Shoba Swaminathan, Biological Sciences (major), Chemistry minor - Senior
Dr. Norma Frizzell, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Honorable Mention

Uncovering the Regulatory Regions in Miniature Inverted Repeat Transposable Elements
David Weidner, Biology (major) – Dec’21 graduate; USC Aiken
Dr. C. Nathan Hancock, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken
Dr. Priscilla Redd, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken

Morning Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences C

First Place

Exploring the effects of reduced Fig4 expression on axonal transport and mitochondrial function
Jeremy Money, Chemical Engineering (major) - Senior
Mary McElveen, Baccalaureus Artium et Scientiae (major) - Sophomore
Dr. Jeff Twiss, Department of Biological Sciences
Ms. Irene Dalla Costa, Department of Biological Sciences

Second Place

Experimental Reinforcement Using Laboratory Island Populations of Drosophila melanogaster
Graham McLaughlin, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Dr. Brian Hollis, Department of Biological Sciences
Morning Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences D
First Place
**The Study of the Interaction between Nonstructural Protein 1 of the SARS Coronaviruses and Host Proteins**
Yevgeniy Gerassimovich, Chemistry (major), Biology (major) - Senior; USC Upstate
Dr. Anita Nag, Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering, USC Upstate

Second Place
**Assessing the Effects of High-Fat Diets on Adipose tissue and Immune Response**
Megan Glover, Biological Sciences (major), Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior minor - December 2021
Dr. Alissa Armstrong, Department of Biological Sciences

Morning Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences E
First Place
**Functional Analysis of STN1 Winged Helix (wH) Domains**
Anna Bazell, Biological Sciences (major), Criminal Justice minor - Senior
Dr. Jason Stewart, Department of Biological Sciences
Mr. Logan Schuck, Department of Biological Sciences

Second Place
**Development of mucoadhesive nanoparticles for delivery of all trans retinoic acid**
Sydney Wheeler, Biomedical Engineering (major) - Senior
Dr. Michael Gower, Department of Chemical Engineering
Mr. Nicholas Colonna, Department of Biomedical Engineering

Morning Poster: Biology and Environmental Sciences A
First Place
**Signaling Responses of Tomato Plants and Cells to the Green Leaf Volatile cis-3-hexenol**
Kirsten Fisher, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Senior
Dr. Johannes Stratmann, Department of Biological Sciences

Second Place
**The Successes and Pitfalls: Deep Learning Effectiveness in a Chernobyl Field Camera Trap Application**
Rachel Maile, Biological Sciences (major), Spanish (major) - Junior
Dr. Timothy Mousseau, Department of Biological Sciences

Morning Poster: Biology and Environmental Sciences B
First Place
**Using DNA Barcoding to Assess Differences in Diets of Highly Migratory Species in the Northwest Atlantic**
Benjamin Hurley, Marine Science (major), Political Science minor - Senior
Dr. Joseph Quattro, Earth, Ocean, and Environment, School of

Second Place
**Exploring the Plasticity of Mixotrophy: Responses of Cryptomonas ovata to glucose addition along a light gradient**
Dylan Davis, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Dr. Jeff Dudycha, Department of Biological Sciences
Ms. Rachel Schomaker, Department of Biological Sciences

Morning Poster: Chemistry, Physics, and Math A
First Place
**Investigation of essential iron-binding proteins from the fungal pathogen Candida albicans**
Chloe Jackson, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Senior
Dr. Caryn Outten, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Mr. David Eap, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Second Place
**Interactions of β-Lactam Antibiotics-Transition Metal Complexes with β-Lactamase**
Isabelle Lytle, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Senior
Dr. Maksymillian Chruszcz, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Morning Poster: Chemistry, Physics, and Math B

First Place

A “Broken-Hearted” Corannulene Bowl: Strain Energy Release via an Electron Shuttle Reaction

Megan Francis, Public Health (major) – Dec’21 graduate
Prof. Natalia Shustova, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Second Place

Study of the Structure and Activity of UDP-glycosyltransferase Originating from Tetranychus urticae

Shannon Henry, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major), Mathematics minor - Senior
Prof. Maksymilian Chruszcz, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Mr. Ricardo Hernandez, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Morning Poster: Engineering and Computing A

First Place

Green Plasma Technology for Siloxane Removal

Luke Heagen, Civil Engineering (major) - Senior
Dr. Shamia Hoque, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Second Place-Tie

Video Based Estimation of Surface Currents in a Tidal Inlet

Benjamin Middour, Marine Science (major) - Senior
Dr. George Voulgaris, Earth, Ocean, and Environment, School of
Mr. Douglas Cahl, Earth, Ocean, and Environment, School of

Second Place-Tie

Measurement and Modeling of Low-Altitude Air-Ground Channels in Two Frequency Bands

Nathan Stofik, Electrical Engineering (major), Computer Science minor - Senior
Dr. David Matolak, Department of Electrical Engineering
Dr. Alphan Sahin, Department of Electrical Engineering

Morning Poster: Health Sciences A

First Place

Verbal Fluency and the Broad Autism Phenotype

Kathryn Klein, Biological Sciences (major), Experimental Psychology (major) - Junior
Dr. Jessica Klusek, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Second Place-Tie

Health Disparities in Dominican Republic

Heather Brown, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Dr. David Simmons, Department of Anthropology and Health Promotion, Education and Behavior

Second Place-Tie

Inquiry into Grip Strength Via Volumetric Analysis of the Brain

Joshua Hutto, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Dr. Roger Newman-Norlund, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Morning Poster: Health Sciences B

First Place

The Associations between Older Adults’ Sleep Patterns and Their Positive and Negative Affect

Tyler Gheen, Exercise Science (major), Psychology minor - Senior
Dr. Chih-Hsiang Yang, Department of Exercise Science
Ms. Vanessa Bartholomew, Student / Co-Author

Second Place

Effect of social comparative feedback on motor learning differs based on dopaminergic genetics

Rachel Bohnenkamp, Biological Sciences (major), Spanish minor - Senior
Dr. Jill Stewart, Department of Exercise Science
Dr. Allison Lewis, Department of Exercise Science
Morning Poster: Health Sciences C

First Place - Tie

Implications of Discharge Communication in Health-Care  
Rebecca Fanta, Nursing - RN (major) - Senior  
Dr. Ronda Hughes, College of Nursing

First Place - Tie

Examining Food Spending of DIET Guidelines Research Participants and Effects on Dietary Adherence  
Madelyn France, Public Health (major) - Senior  
Dr. Brie Turner-McGrievy, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior  
Dr. Mary Wilson, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior  
Ms. Shiba Bailey, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior

Morning Poster: Health Sciences D

First Place

Health Behavior and Anxiety Changes During the COVID-19 Pandemic in a University Population  
Etienne Thiria, Biomedical Engineering (major), Neuroscience minor - Senior  
Dr. Susan Steck, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Dr. Christine Pellegrini, Department of Exercise Science  
Ms. Bezawit Kase, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Second Place

Conceptual vocabulary scores as a diagnostic tool for Spanish-English bilingual learners  
Rose Luna, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Senior  
Dr. Lisa Fitton, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Honorable Mention

Perspectives of Primary Care Physicians on the Shortage of Primary Care Supply in Rural Georgia  
Melinda Busman, Biological Sciences (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Senior  
Dr. Peiyin Hung, Department of Health Services Policy and Management

Honorable Mention

The Age of Initiation of Vaping and Association with Vaping Intensity and Risk of Combustible Tobacco Cigarette Smoking  
Andy Hu, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major), Economics minor - Senior  
Dr. Anthony Alberg, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Morning Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience A

First Place

Ketogenic diet reverses mitochondrial dysfunction in hippocampus of aging female rats with impaired memory  
Karine Cobb, Baccalaureus Artium et Scientiae (major) - Junior  
Dr. Joseph McQuail, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience  
Mr. Tyler Cox, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience  
Ms. Erin Gorman, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Second Place

Medical complications of comorbid α-thalassemia and pediatric sickle cell disease  
Sreya Varanasi, Baccalaureus Artium et Scientiae (major) - Junior  
Dr. Jeffrey Schatz, Department of Psychology  
Ms. Sarah Bills, Department of Psychology

Honorable Mention

Building A Data Processing Pipeline for Research on the Early Detection of Autism  
Francis Villanueva, Computer Science (major), Mathematic (major) - Senior  
Dr. Jessica Bradshaw, Department of Psychology  
Dr. Xiaoxue Fu, Department of Psychology

Morning Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience B

First Place

Greeks Getting It On: An Examination of Hookup Culture in Greek Letter Organizations  
Jordan Deger, Experimental Psychology (major), Mass Communications minor - Senior  
Dr. Michael McCall, Department of Psychology
Second Place-Tie

The Association Between Obesity, Neuroinflammation, and Depression in Female Rats Fed a High Fat Diet
Maria Bykalo, Exercise Science (major), Neuroscience minor - Senior
Dr. Lawrence Reagan, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Second Place-Tie

Allergic to Sound: development of audiovisual stimuli
Skylar Linder, Experimental Psychology (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Junior
Dr. Svetlana Shinkareva, Department of Psychology
Ms. Sewon Oh, Department of Psychology

Morning Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience C

First Place

Establishing the Signature of Neural Activation Following Social Preference in Fmr1 Mutant Mice
Drew Buoniconti, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Senior
Dr. Fiona Hollis, Pharmacology, Physiology & Neuroscience

Second Place

There’s an App for That: Examining the Role of Social Media and Smartphone Technology in Supporting Youth Mental Health
MacKenzie Bewley, Experimental Psychology (major), Counselor Education minor - Senior
Dr. Nicole Zarrett, Department of Psychology
Dr. Stephen Taylor, Department of Psychology

Morning Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience D

First Place

Programming the postnatal mitochondrion: effects of gestational stress on brain metabolism and behavior
Breanna Robertson, Experimental Psychology (major), Biology minor - Senior
Dr. Fiona Hollis, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
Mrs. Erin Goreman-Sandler, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Second Place

The Relationship between Acculturation, Enculturation, and Asian Americans’ Attitudes Towards Seeking Professional Help During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Isabella Ouyang, Biological Sciences (major), Environmental Science (major) - Sophomore
Dr. Kimberly Becker, Department of Psychology
Ms. Wendy Chu, Department of Psychology

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD A

First Place

My Journey of Self-Discovery and Self-Worth
Gianna Modicamore, Marketing (major), Management (major) - Senior
Mr. Rico Reed, National Resource Center for FYE and Students in Transition

Second Place-Tie

Professional and Civic Engagement: The U101 Peer Leader Experience
Elizabeth Divers, Management (major), Operations and Supply Chain (major) - Senior

Second Place-Tie

Time Management in Professional and Civic Engagement
Sarah Gustafson, Chemical Engineering (major) - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD B

First Place

Learning to Bridge the Gap Between Your Academic Interests and Career
Kaitlyn Coghlan, Chemical Engineering (major) - Senior
Dr. Kristina Grob, Arts: USC Union
Dr. Kelly Goldberg, Department of Anthropology
Second Place

Leadership and Engagement with a Caring Profession Background
Mason Beckom, Social Work (major) - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD C
First Place
Professional and Civic Engagement in Environmental Practices
Gracie Leatherman, Environmental Studies (major), Geography (major) - Senior
Mr. David DeWeil, Capstone Scholars Program

Second Place
A Place to Live, a World to Explore
Sharla Williams, Experimental Psychology (major), Anthropology minor - Senior
Ms. Gina Spence, Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD D
First Place
Inclusion & Its Different Faces
Nainaa Oberoi, Mathematic (major), Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior minor - Senior
Second Place-Tie
Teaching Tactfulness
Sully Hutto, Experimental Psychology (major), Counselor Education minor - Junior
Second Place-Tie
Discovering Cultural Perspectives in Denmark
Courtney Rinehart, International Business (major), Operations and Supply Chain (major) - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD E
First Place
Leading to Leave a Legacy
Morgan Mochulski, Business Economics (major), Marketing (major) - Senior
Second Place
Embracing Differences: Review on how one internship changed how I see things
Samantha Gudger, Biological Sciences (major), German minor - Senior
Mr. David DeWeil, Capstone Scholars Program

Honorable Mention
Customer Service Interventions and Perceptions
Samantha Shavitz, Hospitality Management (major), Business Administration minor - Senior
Ms. Briahnna Ismail, Undergraduate Research

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Policy and Governance A
First Place
Discovering an Interconnected World Through Meaningful Discussion
Patrick Anderson, International Business (major), Finance (major) - Senior
Dr. Denise Wellman, Student Affairs and Academic Support

Second Place
Finding Femininity in the Corporate World
Kylie Purcaro, Marketing (major), Management (major) - Senior

Honorable Mention
Respecting the Dignity of All Persons: Education Through Student Conduct
Taylor Wedge, Public Health (major), Business Administration minor - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Cultural Diversity A
First Place-Tie
Studying abroad in Gothenburg, Sweden
Allison Boone, International Business (major), Finance (major) - Senior
First Place

Lessons learned from studying in three continents - a GLD Global Learning Reflection
Julia Signorelli, International Business (major), Finance (major) - Senior

Second Place

International organizations
Yiming (Krystal) Qi, Hospitality Management (major), Event Management minor - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Education A
First Place

Music Field Day
Madie Willard, Music (major) - Senior
Dr. Alex Carrico, School of Music

Second Place

Supplemental Instruction to Future Math Teacher: Applying and Developing Math Pedagogy
Jenna Gallichio, Mathemetic (major) - Senior

Honorable Mention

Building Rapport and Forming Meaningful Connections with Autistic Individuals
Makaylen Cook-Compton, Experimental Psychology (major), Religious Studies minor - Senior
Mrs. Sheri Foxworth, Earth, Ocean, and Environment, School of

Honorable Mention

Taking Journalism and Using It to Educate About Spotting Fake News
Kaylin Daniels, Mass Communications (major) - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Entrepreneurial A
First Place

Navigating Leadership Through Professional Franchises in the Sports Industry
Caleigh Stenger, Sport and Entertainment Management (major), Psychology minor - Senior

Second Place

Examining The Impact Of Financial Literacy On Women Of Color
Synovia Bell, Finance (major) - Senior

Honorable Mention

Turning a Creative Outlet into a Small Business
Alyssa Svinte, Public Relations (major), Business Administration minor - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Wellness and Health A
First Place

The Story of Mental Health
Brennan Dimery, Finance (major), Management (major) - Senior

Second Place-Tie

Relay For Life
Emily Smitheimer, Elementary Education (major) - Senior

Second Place-Tie

Healthcare in Mexico: Growing my Pre-Professional Health Horizons to Serving Abroad
Tyler String, Exercise Science (major) - Senior
Mr. Jay Pou, Department of History

Honorable Mention

Cultivation of Personal Growth and Passions
Emily Rougelot, Experimental Psychology (major), Counselor Education minor - Senior

Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Wellness and Health B
First Place

Promoting Healthy Youth Development Through the Lenses of Public Health and Psychology
Diana Rizzo, Public Health (major) - Senior
Second Place

**Early Prevention of Psychological Problems in Children and Youth**

*Jillian Boose, Public Health (major), Psychology minor - Senior*

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Morning Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Wellness and Health C

First Place

**Graduation with Leadership Distinction in Professional and Civic Engagement: The Interconnectedness of Public Health**

*Annalee Brody, Public Health (major), Business Administration minor - Senior*

*Dr. Crystal Murillo, College of Nursing*

Second Place

**The Many Factors of Patient Care**

*Talia McCool, Public Health (major) - Senior*

*Prof. Maria Sophocleous, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior*

Honorable Mention

**School-Based Interventions for Children and Adolescents to Reduce Childhood Obesity in Rural South Carolina**

*Harlan Derry, Exercise Science (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Senior*

*Mrs. Gina Spence, Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning*
~ Afternoon Presentations ~

Afternoon Poster: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences E
First Place
The National Politics of Global Justice: Portrayals of the ICC in Kenyan Media
Abby Chapin, International Studies (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Post-Grad
Dr. Meredith DeBoom, Department of Geography
Second Place
Mass Murder, Mass Shootings, and Active Shooter: A Comparison across Definitions and Data Sources
Rachel Rodriguez, Criminology and Criminal Justice (major), Russian (major) - Senior
Dr. Ashley Mancik, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Afternoon Poster: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences F
First Place
The Wordification Project
Dhruv Pai, Computer Science (major) - Senior
John Angelidis, Computer Information Systems (major), Business - Senior
Lexington Whalen, Computer Science (major) - Sophomore
Nathan Bickel, Computer Science (major) – Freshman
Dr. Stanley Dubinsky, Department of English Language and Literature
Second Place
Spread of Vaccine Mis(Dis)information on Social Media
Jacqueline Purtell, Statistics (major), Advertising and Public Relations minor - Junior
Dr. Amir Karami, Information Science, School of
Honorable Mention
Childhood Food Insecurity and Type 2 Diabetes/Prediabetes Prevalence among South Carolina Adults
Shardae Lamar, Political Science (major) - Senior
Dr. Monique Lyle, Department of Political Science

Afternoon Poster: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences G
First Place
Linguistic Distance Measures: Methods for quantifying similarity between languages
Vivian D’Souza, Computer Science (major) - Sophomore
Ashley Bickham, Computer Science (major), Japanese minor - Sophomore
Jackson Ginn, Computer Science (major), Mathematic (major) - Freshman
Lexington Whalen, Computer Science (major) - Sophomore
Dawson Peterson, Linguistics - Graduate Student
Dr. Stanley Dubinsky, Department of English Language and Literature
Second Place
Meditation as a Means of Reducing Aggression and Racial Implicit Bias within an Eyetracking Shoot/No-Shoot Task
Caden Jackson, Liberal Studies - Junior; USC Palmetto College
Dr. Randy Lowell, Psychology; USC Union
Honorable Mention
Inferring the Preferences of Presidential Candidates from Their Tax Policy Proposals
John Ryan, Economics (major), Mathematic (major) - Senior
Prof. Jason DeBacker, Department of Economics
Afternoon Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences H

First Place
Development, Fabrication, and Testing of Porcine Artery Active Response Testing Device "PAARTy"
Jackson Goldsmith, Mechanical Engineering (major) - Sophomore
Dr. John Eberth, Cell Biology and Anatomy
Mr. Colton Kostelnik, Cell Biology and Anatomy
Ms. Breanna Pederson, Cell Biology and Anatomy

Second Place
The Influence of Progerin on DNA End-Joining
Alannah DiCintio, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Madeline Ries, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Andrew Gasperson, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Dr. Alan Waldman, Department of Biological Sciences

Honorable Mention
Determining if the Bases Adjacent to the mPing Element Impact Transposition
Monica Colon-LaBorde, Biology (major) - Sophomore; USC Aiken
Dr. C. Nathan Hancock, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken

Honorable Mention
The Effects of Emodin on Chemotherapy-Induced Skeletal Muscle Atrophy
Mitchell NeSmith, Public Health (major) - Senior
Dr. Angela Murphy, Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology
Dr. Brandon VanderVeen, Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology

Afternoon Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences I

First Place
Development of an In Vitro System to Test the Inhibitors of Dead Box RNA Helicase 3
Charlotte Pollack, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major), Spanish minor - Junior
Dr. Michael Shtutman, Department of Drug Discovery & Biomedical Sciences

Second Place
Characterizing the Genes Affecting mPing Transposition in Yeast
Zara Lacera, Biology (major) - Sophomore; USC Aiken
Dr. C. Nathan Hancock, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken
Dr. Priscilla Redd, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken

Afternoon Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences J

First Place
3-Nitro-2-Phenyl-2H-Chromene Analogues as Dual Inhibitors of Trypanosomatid Parasitic Targets
Shane Carey, Biology (major) - Senior; USC Beaufort
Dr. Edward D’Antonio, Department of Natural Sciences, USC Beaufort

Second Place
The Role of Early Exposure Antibiotics on the Risk of Developing Early Onset Colorectal Cancer
Lydia Ebel, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior
Ibrahim Hasnie, Biological Sciences (major) - Junior
Dr. Marj Pena, College of Arts and Sciences

Afternoon Poster: Biology and Biomedical Sciences K

First Place
Identifying the location of ORF1 and TPASE proteins in Arabidopsis
Tyneisha Bradley, Biology (major), Psychology minor - Senior; USC Aiken
Dr. C. Nathan Hancock, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken

Second Place
Development of Phosphatidylycerine: Presenting Particles to Target Macrophages in Muscle Regeneration
Emily Ariail, Biomedical Engineering (major) - Senior
Dr. Michael Gower, Department of Chemical Engineering
Mr. Kidochukwu Atube, Department of Chemical Engineering
Afternoon Poster: Biology and Environmental Sciences E

First Place
Genomic Analysis of Rhodotorula Sphaerocarpa ETNP2018 Reveals Adaptations to the Marine Environment
Dylan Lane, Biological Sciences (major), Marine Science minor - Senior
Dr. Xuefeng Peng, Earth, Ocean, and Environment, School of

Second Place
Oviposition Site and Egg Mass Characteristics of a New Member of the Two-marked Treehopper (Enchenopa binotata) Species Complex
Kayla Reizer, Biology (major), Psychology minor - Junior; USC Upstate
Dr. Jonathan Storm, Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering, USC Upstate

Afternoon Poster: Biology and Environmental Sciences F

First Place
Identifying Boundary Layer Structure from Aircraft Observations of Hurricanes
Sophia Grimsley, Environmental Science (major) - Senior
Dr. April Hiscox, Department of Geography

Second Place
Seasonal Use of Gopher Tortoise Burrows in Coastal Beach Dunes
Kaitlyn Dirr, Biological Sciences (major), Marine Science minor - Junior
Dr. Joshua Stone, Department of Biological Sciences
Dr. Matthew E. Kimball, Baruch Marine Field Laboratory

Afternoon Poster: Biology and Environmental Sciences G

First Place
Small UAVs can be used to estimate hatching success in the American wood stork
Hannah Mayo, Biology (major) - Senior; USC Aiken
Dr. Kristina Ramstad, Department of Biology and Geology, USC Aiken

Second Place
ENVR 480: The Effects of Complete Egg Removal on Maternal Alligator Nest Attendance
Clarissa Tuten, Environmental Science (major) - Senior
Issac Murphy Abbott, Environmental Studies (major) - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Chemistry, Physics, and Math E

First Place
Bromide and Iodide Mapping of South Carolina Rivers: What Kinds of DBPs Form in the Wonderful Iodine State?
Samantha Rush, Chemistry (major), Environmental Studies minor - Senior
Dr. Susan Richardson, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Second Place
Photophysics of Coordinatively Immobilized Photoswitches in Metal-Organic Frameworks
Kelly Forrester, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (major) - Sophomore
Prof. Natalia Shustova, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Afternoon Poster: Engineering and Computing D

First Place
Static American Sign Language Recognition Using Neuromorphic Hardware
James Seekings, Computer Science (major), Mathematic (major) - Junior
Sara Hendrix, Computer Science (major) - Freshman
Dr. Ramtin Zand, Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Mr. Peyton Chandarana, Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Second Place
Development of Computational Models for Polymer Scission
Marie Burns, Chemical Engineering (major), Mathematics minor - Junior
Dr. Andreas Heyden, Department of Chemical Engineering
Honorable Mention
Nanoparticle Size Effect on Stability of Ionic Liquids (ILs) Based Nanofluids
Anna Hawcroft, Industrial Process Engineering (major) - Junior; USC Aiken
Dr. Titan Paul, Department of Mathematical Sciences and Engineering, USC Aiken

Afternoon Poster: Engineering and Computing E
First Place
Corinne Smith, Mechanical Engineering (major), Computer Science minor - Junior
Dr. Austin Downey, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Second Place
Designing Novel and Exotic Protein Structures Using ProteinSolver and AlphaFold
Xeerak Muhammad, Computer Engineering (major) - Senior
Dr. Jianjun Hu, Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Afternoon Poster: Health Sciences G
First Place
Tricare Beneficiary Experiences with Pediatric Specialty Healthcare: Feasibility Study
Natalie Trimble, Nursing - Generic (major) - Sophomore
Dr. Cynthia Corbett, College of Nursing
Dr. Pamela Wright, College of Nursing
Dr. Kimberley Taylor, College of Nursing
Second Place
The Relationship Between Work Engagement, Depression, Anxiety, and COVID-19 Anxiety in Physician Assistant Students
Sydney Pepper, Public Health (major), Biology minor - Senior
Dr. Michael Wirth, College of Nursing
Dr. Robin Dawson, College of Nursing

Afternoon Poster: Health Sciences H
First Place
Early Healthcare Communication Skills Training in an Undergraduate Honors Laboratory Course
Khushi Patel, Nursing - Generic (major) - Sophomore
Kayla Rugh, Nursing - Generic (major) - Sophomore
Dr. Robin Dawson, College of Nursing
Dr. Cynthia Corbett, College of Nursing
Dr. Phyllis Raynor, College of Nursing
Second Place
Disrupting inequities experienced by children from under-resourced areas: A focus on early literacy assessment through the Reach Every Reader Project
Caroline Boykin, Public Health (major), Psychology minor - Senior
Madison Sterne, Public Health (major) - Senior
Dr. Lisa Fitton, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Ms. Kimberly Briseño, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Afternoon Poster: Health Sciences I
First Place
Triatomine-Ectoparasite Relationship: A Preliminary Investigation from the Southwestern United States
Hanna Waltz, Biological Sciences (major), Anthropology (major) - Junior
Dr. Melissa Nolan, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Second Place

Physical Activity Levels Are Associated with Mental Health Outcomes in Daily Life: A 7-day Experience Sampling Study in College Students
Allison Tracy, Exercise Science (major) - Junior
Dr. Chih-Hsiang Yang, Department of Exercise Science
Ms. Vanessa Bartholomew, School of Public Health

Afternoon Poster: Health Sciences J

First Place

Patients’ Perspectives of Medication Use and Adherence Post-Hospital Discharge: A Metasynthesis
Isabel Stringfellow, Public Health (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Senior
Dr. Cynthia Corbett, College of Nursing

Second Place

Comparing Multiple Proportions using Marascuillo Method (An analytical study of COVID-19 data in three different care facilities)
Christian Sterner, Associate in Science - Sophomore; USC Sumter
Antonio Turner, Computer Engineering (major) - Sophomore
Kaitlin Kiser, Nursing (major) - Senior; USC Sumter
Dr. Sher Chhetri, Division of Mathematics, Science, and Engineering; USC Sumter

Honorable Mention

Exploring Religiosity, Perceived Mental Health, and Coping Behaviors of Undergraduate African American College Students During the Covid-19 Pandemic
Kennedy Golden, Nursing - RN (major) - Senior
Dr. Phyllis Raynor, College of Nursing

Afternoon Poster: Health Sciences K

First Place

Resveratrol improves nitric oxide synthase expression in HUVEC
Anna Thamasett, Music (major), Chemistry minor – Junior
Dr. Abbi Lane-Cordova, Department of Exercise Science
Dr. Olufunke Arishe, Cardiovascular Translational Research Center

Second Place

Proportion of Cancer Survivors in the United States Who Are Meeting Healthy Lifestyle Guidelines
Katherine Gregory, Baccalaureus Artium et Scientiae (major) - Junior
Dr. Susan Steck, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Dr. Jan Eberth, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Mr. Longgang Zhao, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Afternoon Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience G

First Place

Estradiol Promotes Social Stress Susceptibility in Female Rats in a Region- and CRF-Specific Manner
Sarah Mott, Experimental Psychology (major), Neuroscience minor - Senior
Dr. Susan Wood, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
Ms. Brittany Pope, Department of Exercise Science
Ms. Evelynn Harrington, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Second Place

MET Study: Ecological Validity and Data Quality
Adam Wenzel, Experimental Psychology (major), Computer Science minor - Senior
Dr. Jessica Bradshaw, Department of Psychology
Dr. Aaron Beckner, Department of Psychology
Afternoon Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience H

First Place
Acute Kynurenine Challenge Upregulates Activation of Orexinergic Neurons in the Lateral Hypothalamus

Hayley Nicholson, Baccalaureus Artium et Scientiae (major) - Junior
Snezana Milosavljevic, Postdoctoral Fellow: Dept. of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
Dr. Ana Pocivavsek, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
Dr. Jim Fadel, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Second Place
How Appearance, Gender, and Preparedness Impact Perception On Expert Witness Credibility

Joi Wilder, Psychology (major), Child Advocacy Studies minor - Senior; USC Upstate
Dr. Susan Ruppel, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, USC Upstate

Honorable Mention
Behavioral Ratings of Narratives: Valence and Arousal

Savanah Belt, Experimental Psychology (major), Chemistry (major) - Sophomore
Andrew Boldy, Experimental Psychology (major), Physics (major) - Senior
Dr. Svetlana Shinkareva, Department of Psychology
Mr. Xuan Yang, Department of Psychology

Honorable Mention
Is Attendance Mandatory for Therapy? Applying the REACH Treatment Engagement Framework to Examine YouTube Videos about Mental Health Services

Haleigh Brown, Experimental Psychology (major), Neuroscience minor - Junior
Dr. Kimberly Becker, Department of Psychology
Ms. Wendy Chu, Department of Psychology

Honorable Mention
Identifying How Patterns of Adversity Shape Families’ Response to the Head Start Program

Isabella Mallozzi, Experimental Psychology (major) - Junior
Fatima Jatoi, Experimental Psychology (major), Neuroscience minor - Sophomore
Dr. Daniel Cooper, Department of Psychology

Honorable Mention
The Impact of Covid-19 on Mental Health in Rural and Urban Communities

Kaitlyn Phillips, Experimental Psychology (major), Counselor Education minor - Senior
Dr. Suzanne Swan, Department of Psychology

Afternoon Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience I

First Place
A D-Amino Acid Oxidase Inhibitor Reverses Age-Associated Memory

Melanie Tieman, Biological Sciences (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Junior
David Horovitz, Medical Student - 2nd Year Medical Student; USC USC School of Medicine - Columbia
Dr. Joseph McQuail, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Second Place
Circadian-dependent Wakefulness in Kynurenine 3-Monoxygenase Genetically Modified Mice

Sarisha Menon, Biological Sciences (major), Psychology minor - Senior
Dr. Ana Pocivavsek, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
Dr. Snezana Milosavljevic, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience

Afternoon Poster: Psychology and Neuroscience J

First Place
Bimanual Object Manipulation and Motor Skills in Infants at Elevated Likelihood for Autism Spectrum Disorder

Alana Dea, Public Health (major), Psychology minor - Junior
Dr. Jessica Bradshaw, Department of Psychology
Ms. Alexis Federico, Department of Psychology
Second Place
Which Motivations Impact the Relation Between ADHD Symptoms and Simultaneous Use of Alcohol and Marijuana?
Caroline Hough, Experimental Psychology (major), Sociology minor - Senior
Dr. Kate Flory, Department of Psychology
Mr. Joshua Bradley, Department of Psychology

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD AA
First Place-Tie
Serving with your heart by listening with your heart
Jared Buteau, Public Health (major) - Senior

First Place-Tie
The Value of Kaizen
Sophia Daddesi, Operations and Supply Chain (major), Finance (major) - Senior

Second Place
Diversifying Education: Normalizing 'Uncomfortable' Conversations
Jacey Caldwell, Middle Level Education (major) - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD BB
First Place-Tie
The Impact of Service-Learning
Courtney Raven, Experimental Psychology (major), Social Work minor - Senior

First Place-Tie
Supporting Student's in their Unique First-Year Experience
Cecelia Tatro, Management (major), Marketing (major) - Senior

Second Place
Leading Carolina Productions Through COVID-19
Jacob Hoffman, Sport and Entertainment Management (major) - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD CC
First Place
The journey from patient to student to provider.
Gabriela Carrara, Public Health (major), Psychology minor - Senior

Second Place
The Free Medical Clinic
Brianna Milne, Biological Sciences (major) - Senior

Honorable Mention
The Importance of Patient Engagement
Caoilin Byrne, Public Health (major) - Senior

Honorable Mention
Textbook to Table
Marissa Klein, Exercise Science (major), Business Administration minor - Senior
Dr. Marketa Kubickova, College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD DD
First Place
Gaining product development experience while releasing medical devices that will serve others.
Sterling Epps, Biomedical Engineering (major), Chemistry minor - Senior

Second Place
Diet Disconnect
Shantal Gomez Rodriguez, Public Health (major), Business Administration minor - Senior

Honorable Mention
Show Don’t Just Tell: How Hands-On Experience Solidifies Learning
Ana Jukic, Exercise Science (major), Neuroscience minor - Senior
Prof. David DeWeil, Capstone Scholars Program
Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD EE

First Place-Tie
Cultivating a Community of Creatives
Parker Blackburn, Mass Communications (major), Retailing minor - Senior

First Place-Tie
Speaking My Mind: What being a student teacher taught me about how language impacts the classroom.
Erin Rittershofer, Elementary Education (major), Sport and Entertainment Management minor - Senior

Second Place
An Immersive Global History Experience
Chasity Reeder, History (major), Anthropology minor - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD FF

First Place
The Benefits of Hands On Experience for Pre-Health Students
Grace Towery, Biological Sciences (major), Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior minor - Senior

Second Place-Tie
Greek Lifes positive impact on my time at UofSC
Erin Dare, Management (major), Advertising and Public Relations minor - Senior
Prof. David DeWeil, Capstone Scholars Program

Second Place-Tie
Peer-to-Peer Learning Fosters Community
Madeline Rapaport, Public Relations (major), Business Administration minor - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD GG

First Place
Leadership as a Younion Resident Mentor
Lilian Lamb, Computer Engineering (major) - Sophomore

Second Place
The Value Peer Leadership Had on my Collegiate Experience & Beyond
Matilda Curley, Experimental Psychology (major), Criminal Justice minor - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD HH

First Place
Freshman Council: The First Freshman Voice
Blakely Hardin, Political Science (major), Interdisciplinary Studies (major) - Sophomore

Second Place-Tie
Student Centered Teaching in a Creativity Centered Environment
Ashley Bellotte, Early Childhood Education (major) - Senior

Second Place-Tie
Studying abroad at the University of South Carolina
Tristan Marchena, Biomedical Engineering (major), Chemistry minor - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD II

First Place
Digital Business Transformation at Work
Adam Frederiksen, Computer Science (major), Political Science (major) - Senior

Second Place
The Importance of My Finance Internship at Sonoco
Audrey Chen, International Business (major), Finance (major) - Senior
Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD JJ

First Place
Values Will Change over Time
Taylor Utter, Biological Sciences (major), Spanish minor - Senior

Second Place
Going Abroad During a Pandemic
Vittoria Gallello, Marketing (major), Management (major) - Senior

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Wellness and Health AA

First Place
Colors of the Mind: A Musical Workshop for Mental Wellness
Catherine Black, Music (major), Music Entrepreneurship minor - Senior

Second Place
One Size Doesn't Fit All
Alexa Jensen, Experimental Psychology (major), Criminal Justice minor - Senior
Mrs. Gina Spence, Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning

Afternoon Poster: Experiential Learning and GLD - Wellness and Health BB

First Place
Igniting Community to Combat Hunger on the UofSC Campus
Emilie Brady, Biomedical Engineering (major) - Senior