



November 25, 2014

CSUPERB is pleased to announce 2015 Howell-CSUPERB Research Scholar Awards have been made to 12 students from 6 different CSU universities, totaling \$42,000. CSUPERB received 30 applications from students at 12 different CSU campuses.

CSUPERB partners with the Doris A. Howell Foundation for Women's Health Research (<http://www.howellfoundation.org/>) to fund promising undergraduate student research projects in topics related to women's health. Together the Howell Foundation and CSUPERB recognize that research experience is critical to recruiting, training and retaining students interested in careers in women's health research. Howell-CSUPERB Scholars show great professional promise academically and in research programs. Each scholar will conduct faculty-mentored research projects during the spring and summer of 2015.

The Howell-CSUPERB Scholars for 2015 are (in alphabetical order):

**1. Joy Aparicio Valenzuela** (Biology, California State University, Fresno)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled "The expression of the Alzheimer's disease associated protein tau and the development of associated cognitive decline in *Drosophila melanogaster*."

Mentor: David Lent, Biology

**2. Andres Bermudez** (Biology, San Diego State University)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled "Identification of the GBS Bacterial Factor that Contributes to Tight Junction Disruption in Brain Endothelium."

Mentor: Kelly Doran, Biology

**3. Annalisa Duenas** (Biological Sciences, San José State University)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled "The Effects of Developmental Ethanol Exposure on Neuropeptide F Signaling in *Drosophila melanogaster*."

Mentor: Rachael French, Biological Sciences

**4. Lukas Fuentes** (Chemistry & Biochemistry, California State University, Long Beach)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Lysine and glutamate residues in the C-terminal domain of human apolipoprotein A-I are responsible for oligomerization.”

Mentor: Paul Weers, Chemistry & Biochemistry

**5. Joshua Gladfelder** (Chemistry & Biochemistry, California State University, Chico)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Inhibiting the Proliferation of Breast Cancer Cells by the use of Dimeric Binders of the Grb2 SH2 Domain.”

Mentor:Carolynn Arpin, Chemistry and Biochemistry

**6. Lindsay Hetrick** (Biochemistry, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Functional Study of Bmi I in Breast Cancer cells.”

Mentor: Junjun Liu, Biology

**7. Anna Leighton** (Biology, San Diego State University)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “A molecular approach to Myosin Storage Myopathy (MSM) disease mechanism through in vivo and in vitro assays.”

Mentor: Sanford Bernstein, Biology

**8. Geil Merana** (Biology, California State University, Fresno)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Study of the Effects of California Particulate Matter Samples on the Production of Reactive Oxygen Species in Alveolar Macrophages.”

Mentor: Laurent Dejean, Chemistry

**9. Jessica Phan** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Long Beach)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Ovarian steroid hormone regulation of progesterone receptor-Src kinase signaling pathway.”

Mentor: Kevin Sinchak, Biological Sciences

**10. Aaron Ridder** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Long Beach)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Androgen regulation of Sfswap protein expression in the developing mouse cortex and hippocampus.”

Mentor: Houg-Wei Tsai, Biological Sciences

**11. Jaime Tran** (Chemistry & Biochemistry, California State University, Long Beach)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “Mass Spectrometric Determination of the Conformation of Apolipoprotein E3 in High Density Lipoproteins.”

Mentor: Vasanthi Narayanaswami, Chemistry & Biochemistry

**12. Kaycee Villarreal** (Biology, California State University, Long Beach)

Award: \$3,500 for the proposal titled “The Effect of Dialkyl Bis-Phosphates on Beta-Amyloid Formation.”

Mentor: Roger Acey, Chemistry & Biochemistry