

**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

**REPORT**

**WINTER 2018 & SUMMER 2018 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH STIMULUS PROGRAM AWARDS**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents accept and place on file the Report on the Winter 2018 and Summer 2018 Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program Awards.

**STAFF SUMMARY**

The Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program is intended to facilitate research partnerships between undergraduate students and Eastern Michigan University faculty. Student awardees will receive a \$2,000 fellowship in support of their research efforts. This award will be in the form of a credit to the student's university account. The collaborating faculty member may receive \$500 to be used for lab/studio supplies or equipment, professional travel, or other professional expenses.

WINTER 2018: The Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs has awarded a total of \$20,000 to ten (10) undergraduate students and \$4,425 to nine (9) Eastern Michigan University faculty for research and creative projects under the Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program.

SUMMER 2018: The Provost and Executive Vice President has awarded a total of \$32,000 to sixteen (16) undergraduate students and \$6,987 to fourteen (14) Eastern Michigan University faculty for research and creative projects under the Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The cost of Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program awards will be funded from the Provost's indirect cost recovery.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.



University Executive Officer

5/25/2018

Date

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Academic Affairs**  
**Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President**

**Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program Award**  
**Winter 2018 Winners**

1. Matt Beadle (majoring in Economics and Political Science). "Talking the Talk & Walking the Walk: Evaluating Canada's Role in International Politics Post-World War II." Faculty mentor: Volker Krause (Department of Political Science).
2. Sadaf Dorandishyazdi (majoring in Biochemistry). "Discovery of Novel Antibiotic." Faculty mentor: Paul Price (Department of Biology).
3. Thomas Klemm (majoring in Social Work). "Guaranteed Monthly Income: Benefits and Challenges for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi." Faculty mentor: Perry Silverschanz (School of Social Work).
4. Kangkana Koli (majoring in Political Science). "Beyond the Generalization of Racial Categories: How Voters React to Different Asian Identities." Faculty mentor: Jeffrey Bernstein (Department of Political Science).
5. Jacob Kowalczyk (majoring in Environmental Hydrology). "Using Inorganic Chemical Constituents to Determine Extent of Landfill Leachate Plume." Faculty mentor: Christopher Gellasch (Department of Geography and Geology).
6. Nikkolo Romero (majoring in Nursing). "Dietary Acculturation and Health Literacy of Filipino-American (FA) Students in Michigan." Faculty mentor: Meriam Caboral-Stevens (School of Nursing).
7. Sarell Shaw & Kristal Serna (majoring in Fine Arts). "Joining Together: Japanese Joinery in a Modern American Context." Faculty mentor: John DeHoog (School of Art and Design).
8. Tilmira Smith (majoring in Biology). "Timing of cell-cycle events during pre-replication." Faculty mentor: Hannah Seidel (Department of Biology).
9. Alyssa Swinehart (majoring in Biology). "McCord's Box Turtle (*Cuora mccordi*) Parentage Analysis." Faculty mentor: Katherine Greenwald (Department of Biology).
10. Harel Tanjong (majoring in Geospatial Information Science and Technology). "Assessing the Relationship between Conflict and Agricultural Productivity in Syria." Faculty mentor: William Welsh (Department of Geography and Geology).

## **Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program Award Summer 2018 Winners**

1. Asra Akhlaq (majoring in Biology). “Testing Morphological Hypotheses in *Humbertiella* (Malvaceae) Using RAD Sequencing” Faculty mentor: Margaret Hanes (Department of Biology).
2. Shanti Bernstein (majoring in Biology). “Effects of Tumors on Surrounding Non-tumorous Tissue in a Model Organism” Faculty mentor: Hannah Seidel (Department of Biology).
3. Marisa Gilliam (majoring in Biochemistry). “The Mutational Effects of the Cancer-Related UHRF2 Protein” Faculty mentor: Brittany Albaugh (Department of Chemistry).
4. Kelsey Hawkins-Johnson (majoring in Anthropology). “Identity, Power, and Resistance: Climate Change Narratives in the Conservancies and NGOs of Namibia” Faculty mentor: Maria Garcia (Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology).
5. Patreice Maier (majoring in Professional Chemistry). “Chemical Conditions for the Synthesis of Silver Nanoparticles of Various Sizes” Faculty mentor: Timothy Brewer (Department of Chemistry).
6. Jocelyn Marsack (majoring in Environmental Science and Society Biology Concentration). “Does Salt Pollution Interfere with the Capacity for a Plant to Defend Itself?” Faculty mentor: Brian Connolly (Department of Biology).
7. R Merz (majoring in Geology – Hydrogeology Concentration). “Emplacement and Alteration of the Deer Lake Peridotite, Northern Michigan” Faculty mentor: Christine Clark (Department of Geography and Geology).
8. Stephanie Overla (majoring in Earth Science). “The Benthic Foraminiferal Record of Paleoenvironmental Changes at the Blake Outer Ridge During the MIS 13-12 Time Interval” Faculty mentor: Serena Maria Poli (Department of Geography and Geology).
9. Kristine Platt (majoring in Chemistry). “An Investigation of the Role of Amino Acid Aspartate in Preventing Amyloid Plaque Formation in the Brain” Faculty mentor: Maria Milletti (Department of Chemistry).
10. Roxanne Reinhardt (majoring in History and Anthropology). “Women Rising: The American Revolution and Evangelical Thought” Faculty mentor: John McCurdy (Department of History and Philosophy).
11. Ryan Sean (majoring in Geography), Madeline Ligotti (majoring in Nursing). “Black Museum Geographies: Analyzing Current Injustices” Faculty mentor: Matthew Cook (Department of Geography and Geology).
12. Joseph Stewart (majoring in Biology). “Solving a DNA Repair Mystery” Faculty mentor: Anne Casper (Department of Biology).

13. Alicia Stier (majoring in Electrical Engineering Technology) “Molecular Dynamics Based Assessment of a Shockwave-Augmented Electroporation on Cell Membrane” Faculty mentor: Qin Hu (School of Engineering Technology).
14. Guadalupe Vazquez-Perez (majoring in Biology) “Development of a Structure-Activity Relationship of a Novel Biphenyl Amide Inhibitors of Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-1 (PAI-1)” Faculty mentor: Cory Emal (Department of Chemistry).
15. Kathryn Wilson (majoring in Nursing) “Nursing Students’ Perceptions and Beliefs Regarding Vaccinations” Faculty mentor: Jennifer Avery (School of Nursing).
16. Dorothy Zahor (majoring in Environmental Science and Society) “Relationships Between Metal Contamination, Health, and Plumage Characteristics of the American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*)” Faculty mentor: Jamie Cornelius (Department of Biology).