6th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

Oral Presentation Winners

**Category: Basic Sciences**

**First Place**
“Lanthanide Induced Aggregation of Mercaptobenzoic Acid-Functionalized Gold Nanoparticles”
Alexander Santana, Luizetta Navravzhnykh, Maria Martinez, Aida Sarita Gonzalez, Xiu Mei-Chu and Daniel de Lill
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

**Second Place**
“Progress Toward Synthesis of Glycopeptide Libraries Based on MUC1 Protein”
Eric Patino and Mare Cudic
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

**Category: Behavioral, Educational, & Social Sciences I**

**First Place**
“Effects of Bilingualism and Language Dominance on the Production and Perception of Speech Sounds”
Brandy McElroy-Wright, Ana Galdamez and Viktor Kharlamov
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

**Second Place**
“The Effects of Situations on Emotion and Personality Expression”
Andrew Blake, Nicolas Brown and Ryne Sherman
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

**Category: Behavioral, Educational, & Social Sciences II**

**First Place**
“A Student-Driven Approach to Assessing Computer Science and Computer Engineering Students”
Nadeen Saleh and Lofton Bullard
College of Engineering & Computer Science

**Second Place**
“Polarized Poll Responses: Telephones vs. Internet”
Ryan Gondek, Monique Hall and Monica Escaleras
College of Business

**Category: Environmental, Ecological, & Marine Sciences**:  

**First Place**
“Differences in Submerged Walking and Swimming Kinematics of the Epaulette Shark (Hemiscyllium ocellatum)”
Andrea Hernandez, Connor Gervais, Jodie Rummer and Marianne Porter
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

**Second Place**
“A Comparative Survey of Gopherus Polyphemus Hemoparasites in Four Different South Florida Habitats”
Brian Cooney, Dana Elhassani and Evelyn Frazier
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science
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Category: Health and Medical Sciences:

First Place
“Increased CHI3L1 Levels due to Pre-Existing Pulmonary Inflammation Accelerates Breast Cancer Metastasis by Establishing a Pre-Metastatic Niche in the Lungs”
Nathalia Gazaniga, Stephanie Libreros, Camilla Castro, Ramon Garcia-Areas and Vijaya Iragavarapu-Charyulu
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place
“Inhibition of Semaphorin7A Decreases Mammary Tumor Growth and Metastasis”
Michael Simoes, Ramon Garcia-Areas, Nathalia Gazaniga and Vijaya Iragavarapu-Charyulu
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Music, Art, Literature, Theater, History, & Philosophy:

First Place
“Self-Realization to Self-Sacrifice: A Gender Based Shift in Adolescent Search for Identity within Young Adult Fantasy Literature”
Jodi Weissman and Elizabeth Swanstrom
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place
“Performing Shakespeare in Original Pronunciation”
Lydia Nigro and Kathryn Johnston
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Poster Presentation Winners

Category: Basic Sciences

First Place
“Methionine Sulfoxide Reductase Expression in Response to Anoxic Stress Conditions in D. melanogaster”
Evgeniya Rakitina and David Binninger
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place
“Three-Dimensional Anatomical and Functional Analysis of Individual Layer 5 Thalamic Projecting Excitatory Neurons in the Rat Somatosensory Cortex”
Trina Rudeski, Gerardo Rojas-Piloni, Marcel Oberlaender, Mike Guest and Julie Earles
Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College

Category: Behavioral, Educational, & Social Sciences:

First Place
“Steroid Usage Among College Athletes: A Comparison of Public and Private Four-year Institutions”
Daniel Castilla, Marlena Coco and Frankie Laanan
College of Education
Second Place
“Alcohol Consumption Habits among Acculturated Latin Americans”
Debora Ferrato and Monica Rosselli
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Business, Marketing, Public Administration, & Finance:

First Place
“Death Spiral Financing”
Alina Marian and Cheryl Arflin
College of Business

Second Place
“Aesthetic, Functional, Symbolic, and Ergonomic Impressions: Implications for Hoverboard Product Design Form”
Hunter Smith, Katherine Llanos, Danielle Gordon and Allen Smith
College of Business

Category: Classroom Research Assignment/Project:

First Place
“Treatment Options for Mesial Temporal Lobe Epilepsy”
Blanca Melero and Angelica Nevin (SLS Instructor)
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place
“An Examination of Wildlife Crime on the Treasure Coast: Do Crime Detection Rates Differ on “Conservation Lands?”
Kelsey Doyle and Tobin Hindle
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science;

Category: Engineering and Computer Science:

First Place (tie)
Alexis Base and Allan Phipps
FAU High School

First Place (tie)
“Utilizing OpenCV for Q-Learning State Space Reduction in Re-Purposed Off-The-Shelf FPV Rovers”
Paul Morris, Marcus McGuire, Shawn Martin, Nicolas Tutuianu, Washington Garcia, William Hahn and Elan Barenholtz
College of Engineering & Computer Science

Category: Environmental, Ecological, & Marine Sciences:

First Place
“Identification of Fauna Associated with Gopherus Polyphemus Burrows”
Laura De Souza and Evelyn Frazier
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science
Second Place
“Pathogenic Vibrio Bacteria in Mangrove Snapper Meat”
Brandon McHenry, Gabby Barbarite and Peter McCarthy
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Health & Medical Sciences:

First Place
“Advancing Oral Health with Stable Microbiome: the Search for Potential Oral Probiotic Bacteria”
Roberto Ramirez and Nwadiuto Esiobu
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Second Place
“Behavioral Sensitization Induced by Cathinones (Bath Salts) in Rats”
Connor Shields, Marni Schlanger, Ibrahim Shokry and Rui Tao
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Category: Music, Art, Literature, Theater, History, & Philosophy:

First Place
“Linnaeus and Buffon's Ornithological Methodology During the Age of Enlightenment”
Siddharth Satishchandran and Sandra Norman
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Second Place
“Photo Documentary: Equine Assisted Therapies of South Florida”
Charles Pratt and Sharon Hart
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters