

May 3, 2024

CSUBIOTECH is pleased to announce the class of 2024 Presidents' Commission Scholars. This year 11 undergraduates will be carrying out faculty-mentored biotechnology research projects on 8 different CSU campuses.

CSUBIOTECH recognizes that research experiences are critical to engaging and graduating students interested in biotechnology careers. The focus of this program is to increase the number of lower-division undergraduates and first-year transfers who have access to a full-time research experience. The Presidents' Commission Scholars are supported by a \$6,000 scholarship, in addition to \$2,000 in support for the faculty mentor's laboratory.

The 2024 CSUBIOTECH Presidents' Commission Scholars are (in alphabetical order):

1. **Gabriel Abundis** (Rangeland Resource Science, California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt), "Assessing solar panel development to guide sustainable agrivoltaics."
Mentor: Justin Luong
2. **Sophie Andrews** (Biochemistry, California State University, Sacramento), "Synthesis of Molecules to Use in Broad Spectrum HIV Medications."
Mentor: Katherine McReynolds
3. **Emily Du** (Microbiology, San José State University), "The Effect of Temperature and pH on Intercellular Junction Disruption during *S. pneumoniae* infection."
Mentor: Walter Adams
4. **Yahan Lin** (Biochemistry, California State University, Los Angeles), "Investigating the pathway by which the circadian clock controls cell division in cyanobacteria."
Mentor: Susan Cohen
5. **Madison Mercado** (Biological Sciences, California State University, East Bay), "Effects of simultaneous FAAH and sEH inhibition on acute and chronic inflammatory pain in rats."
Mentor: Ram Kandasamy
6. **Linh Thi Khanh Nguyen** (Biological Sciences, San José State University), "The role of *coup-tfii* and *ets2* on post capillary venule identity."
Mentor: Thanh Theresa Dinh

7. **Audrey Paik** (Biology, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona), “Investigating dopamine populations needed for food anticipatory activity of mice.”
Mentor: Andrew Steele

8. **Adriana Rodriguez** (Biochemistry, California State University, Fullerton), “Designed Multiple Ligands as Non-Addictive Treatments for Chronic Pain.”
Mentor: Stevan Pecic

9. **Danylo Tomyev** (Biology, California State University, Sacramento), “Elongation and Sulfation of Robust Oligomers of Sialic Acid (ROSAs).”
Mentor: Katherine McReynolds

10. **Reagan Walsh** (Biochemistry, California State University San Marcos), “Exploring the genomic diversity in depleted fin whale populations.”
Mentor: Sergio Nigenda Morales

11. **Mason Woo** (Biological, San José State University), “Polymer-supported ruthenium catalysts and their applications in the selective synthesis of biologically relevant chemicals.”
Mentor: Madalyn Radlauer