

## College of Health Affairs Students Take Home Winning Posters at (SACNAS) 2017



College of Health Affairs students at SACNAS 2017 in Salt Lake City, Utah

**College of Health Affairs at SACNAS 2017 - Rio Grande Valley, TX – October 26, 2017** - Students from the College of Health Affairs attended the national scientific conference SACNAS 2017, October 19 -21 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Society for the Advancement of Chicano and Native American Science is the largest National Diversity in STEM Conference. Fifteen students from the College of Health Affairs were accompanied by the Dean of the College, Dr. Michael Lehker and CoHA RISE program Staff, Ms. Bianca Farrell, Ms. Noemi Hernandez, Ms. Magali Ayala and Ms. Ednia Gutierrez to the conference and experienced three days of cutting-edge science, professional development, training and mentoring. Ten students presented their research at the conference. Four student posters placed first in the student competition. The winning posters were:

**Undergraduate Student: Jonathon Abshier**

Mentor: Chun Xu

Category: Medicine, Poster Presenter Health, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: The CCSER1 Genetic Variants Associated with Alzheimer's Disease

**Undergraduate Student: Daniela Barbosa (RISE Scholar)**

Mentor: Dr. Sue Anne Chew

Category: Bioengineering/Biomedical Engineering, Poster Presenter Engineering, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Manipulation of Different Fabrication Parameters of PLGA/Minocycline Microparticles for the Treatment of Gliomas

**Undergraduate Student: Jesus Roberto Franco**

Mentor: Dr. Sue Anne Chew

Category: Bioengineering/Biomedical Engineering, Poster Presenter Engineering, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Optimization of the Fabrication Method of W/O/W Minocycline Loaded PLGA Microparticles for Glioblastomas

**Undergraduate Student: Aylin Flores**

Mentor: Dr. Michael Lehker

Category: Cell/Molecular, Poster Presenter Life Sciences, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Distinguishing Whether Rif2 and Orc4 Subfunctionalized or Neofunctionalized after duplication

**Other Student SACNAS PRESENTERS were:**

**Graduate Student: Marco Arriaga**

Mentor: Dr. Sue Anne Chew

Category: Bioengineering/Biomedical Engineering, Grad Poster Engineering, Graduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: miRNA-induced Mesenchymal Stem Cells for Bone Tissue Engineering Applications.

**Graduate Student: Magali Ayala**

Mentor: Dr. Michael Lehker

Category: Microbiology, Grad Poster Life Science, Graduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Cytoadherence of *Trichomonas vaginalis* is regulated by environmental conditions

**Undergraduate Student: Ednia Gutierrez (RISE Scholar)**

Mentor: Saraswathy Nair

Category: Cell/Molecular Biology, Poster Presenter Life Science, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Determining the Effects of Melatonin on 3t3-L1 Adipogenesis

**Undergraduate Student: Daniel Rodriguez De Anda (RISE Scholar)**

Mentor: Dr. Sue Anne Chew

Category: Bioengineering/Biomedical Engineering, Poster Presenter Engineering, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Controlled Release of Chemotherapy Drug Temozolomide from Poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) Loaded Microparticles Fabricated By Electrospaying

**Undergraduate Student: Carolina Leynes (RISE Scholar)**

Mentor: Dr. Sue Anne Chew

Category: Bioengineering/Biomedical Engineering, Poster Presenter Engineering, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Porous PCL Scaffolds with Different Amount of Porogen and Size Range for Bone Tissue Engineering: A Study of Scaffold Degradation and Cell Proliferation

**Undergraduate Student: Johanna Mora (RISE Scholar)**

Mentor: Dr. Michael Lehker

Category: Medicine, Poster Presenter Health, Undergraduate Poster Presenter

Poster Title: Optimizing Growth Conditions for Clonal Expansion of Mucosal-Associated Invariant T (MAIT) Cells

**SACNAS ATTENDEES (RISE Scholars)**

Roman Sanchez Martinez, 2<sup>nd</sup> year scholar

Perla Leyva, 3<sup>rd</sup> year scholar

Amador Hernandez, 3<sup>rd</sup> year scholar

Aleida Gonzalez, 3<sup>rd</sup> year scholar

Raul Ordonez, 2<sup>nd</sup> year scholar



Dr. Lehker's lab students at SCANS



RISE and BMED students at SCANS



Dr. Chew's lab students at SCANS



CoHA RISE Leadership at SCANS