

Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Participation 1994-2022

The Annual OK-LSAMP Newsletter

# The Link

2021-2022



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Award #HRD—1911370

**About OK-LSAMP**

Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP) is funded by the National Science Foundation and it is a partnership of Oklahoma Colleges and Universities working together to develop programs aimed at increasing the number of students from underrepresented populations who receive degrees in Stem disciplines.

**Current focuses of the program:**

- Recruit, retain and graduate 25% more URM's in STEM
- Increase students transferring from 2-year to 4-year institutions
- Increase the number of scholars gaining international experiences by 30%
- Increase Graduate School Participants by 25%

**Activities Include:**

- Faculty mentoring
- Conference and Presentation travel
- Graduate school Preparation
- International experience

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PI

*Dr. Jason F Kirksey*



Greetings from the OK-LSAMP Program!

As the state, nation, and the world continue experiencing unprecedented challenges to the health and well-being of its citizens, the cultivation and expansion of knowledge in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is paramount in combatting these issues. Our 12-University Alliance continues successfully preparing Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP) Scholars to exemplify the determination, innovation, and vivaciousness to solve some of society's most pressing problems. Almost 30 years ago, the OK-LSAMP program was established as an opportunity to support and encourage underrepresented minority students (URMs) earning STEM degrees across the state. Today, it is a privilege and an honor to continue the legacy of Dr. Earl Mitchell, the original principal investigator of this National Science Foundation funded program. Throughout this issue of *The Link Newsletter* we highlight the noteworthy accomplishments and successful endeavors of OK-LSAMP Scholars and their faculty mentors.

The mission of the OK-LSAMP program is to support, encourage, and inspire our Scholars to achieve the unexpected while establishing a standard of excellence in all they seek to accomplish. OK-LSAMP Scholars in collaboration with outstanding faculty mentors are engaging in exceptional and ground-breaking research and discoveries that are influencing the world. Our Scholars continue elevating the stature of the OK-LSAMP Program around the nation through research presentations at prestigious scientific conferences such as American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) and Emerging Researchers National (ERN). Equally exciting is the growing trend of OK-LSAMP Scholars engaging in International research and participating, and achieving success, at conferences worldwide. As always, we offer a special thank you and a heartfelt sense of gratitude to our incredible faculty mentors who continue to challenge our Scholars to broaden and deepen their knowledge, understanding, and passion for the respective STEM fields and the research with which they engage. Again, we are excited that our OK-LSAMP Scholars are successfully continuing, and expanding, the legacy, contributions, and goals of Dr. Mitchell.

The OK-LSAMP Program is focused on growing and strengthening the next generation of professors, researchers, scientists, and thought leaders who will shape the future of Oklahoma, the nation, and the world. Through this newsletter, we are honored and humbled to have the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the academic accomplishments and research experiences of OK-LSAMP Scholars from across the state, as well as witness a glance of their future potential. As OK-LSAMP principal investigator, and in partnership with our entire state team, we hope each of us that play a role within this program develops a heightened awareness of the opportunities this program offers students. Over the past year, we have witnessed an unprecedented level of inspiration and motivation to support and broaden the impact of the OK-LSAMP program at our Alliance institutions. The OK-LSAMP program enables us to prepare STEM scholars today for a brighter tomorrow. Again, thank you for your participation with, and support of, the OK-LSAMP program as we provide innovative and inspiring future opportunities for our Scholars!

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason F. Kirksey". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Jason F. Kirksey, Ph.D.

Vice President for Institutional Diversity and Chief Diversity Officer

Principal Investigator for the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation

## The Link

# *Approved Majors*

### **Agricultural Sciences**

- ◆ Animal Sciences
- ◆ Food Science and Technology
- ◆ Plant and Soil Sciences

### **Natural Reservation and Conservation**

- ◆ Natural Resources
- ◆ Wildlife and Wildlands Science and Management

### **Architecture**

- ◆ Architecture
- ◆ Environmental Design
- ◆ Architectural Sciences and Technology

### **Computer and Information Sciences**

- ◆ Computer and Information Sciences
- ◆ Computer Programming
- ◆ Computer Software and Media Application

### **Mathematics**

- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ Applied Mathematics
- ◆ Statistics

### **Physical Sciences**

- ◆ Physical Sciences
- ◆ Astronomy and Astrophysics

### **Business and Management**

- ◆ Management Sciences and Quantitative Methods

### **Engineering And Engineering Technologies**

- ◆ Aerospace and Aeronautical Engineering
- ◆ Agricultural Engineering
- ◆ Architectural Engineering
- ◆ Chemical Engineering
- ◆ Civil Engineering
- ◆ Computer Engineering
- ◆ Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engineering
- ◆ Materials Engineering
- ◆ Mechanical Engineering
- ◆ Nuclear Engineering
- ◆ Petroleum Engineering
- ◆ Construction Engineering
- ◆ Geological/Geophysical Engineering
- ◆ Mechatronics, Robotics, and Automation
- ◆ Biochemical Engineering
- ◆ Biological, Biosystem Engineering
- ◆ Construction Engineering Technologies
- ◆ Nanotechnology

### **Biological Sciences**

- ◆ Biology
- ◆ Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- ◆ Botany/Plant Biology
- ◆ Cell/Cellular Biology and Anatomical Sciences
- ◆ Microbiological Sciences and Immunology
- ◆ Zoology/Animal Biology
- ◆ Genetics
- ◆ Physiology, Pathology, and Relates Sciences
- ◆ Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
- ◆ Biotechnology
- ◆ Neurobiology and Neurosciences
- ◆ Biological and Biomedical Sciences

*\*Above is a condensed list of approved majors. If your major is not listed visit with the program staff.*

# SCHOLAR REQUIREMENTS

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## Eligibility Requirements

1. Minimum GPA 3.00
2. US Citizen or permanent resident
3. Able to participate in and contribute to program activities
4. Full time student in an approved STEM field (see page before for approved majors)
5. Demonstrated intent in pursuing investigative studies and a graduate degree in STEM
6. Demonstrated desire to promote the efforts of LSAMP and NSF in underrepresented communities

## Requirements for Continued Support

1. Maintain GPA of 3.00 or higher
2. Regular class attendance
3. Retain full-time status (immediate notification of any drop/add changes requires)
4. Remain in eligible STEM major (immediate notification of major change is required)
5. Continued active participation in the required program activities. Any scholar whose participation rate is below 75% may be dismissed from the program the following semester.

## Required Activities for all Participants

**Scholars meeting**—once a month unless specified otherwise.

**Mentoring Component**—under the guidance of faculty mentors, all scholars are expected to participate in 5-10 hours of research-related experiences per week. Enrollment in 3 hours of departmental Special Problems permitted.

**Graduate School Preparation**—Scholars will be involved in vigorous preparation for graduate studies. Specific activities will be based on academic classification. By the end of the semester BEFORE you graduate, you are required to submit a minimum of five applications for admission to graduate school

**Summer Research Internships**—All scholars will be involved in a two-month summer internship and must present their research at the annual symposium held at OSU.

**Occasional leadership, peer-mentoring, or other program activities**—this will not interfere with your academics.

**Acknowledgement of support by OK-LSAMP and NSF**—(Cooperative Agreement HRD-1408748) in appropriate publications and public events is required. Display of the OK-LSAMP and NSF logos on posters and on last slide of PowerPoint Presentations is required. Logos will be provided by the OK-LSAMP office.

# Louis Stokes



LSAMP is named in honor of the African American political voice and former congressman, **Louis Stokes**. Stokes was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1925 and was educated in the Cleveland Public Schools. After graduating from high school in 1943, Stokes enlisted in the United States Army where he found his desire for civil rights activism. Soon after his time in the army, he attended Cleveland College of Western Reserve University and Cleveland Marshall College of Law School. In 1953, he received his law degree and started practicing law towards civil right cases with his brother, Carl B. Stokes.

In 1968, Stokes was elected to become the first African American member of Congress from the state of Ohio. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives as a member of the Democratic party for 15 consecutive terms until 1998. He maintained a quest for civil rights, equality and social and economic justice throughout his tenure in the United States Congress. Stokes was also a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus.

## A Brief History of OK-LSAMP



In 1992, the Oklahoma State Regents organized the Oklahoma Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (OKAMP SEM). Dr. Earl Mitchell, Oklahoma State University (OSU) Professor, was chosen to serve as Chair of the Alliance. In 1993, Dr. Mitchell, with the help of Dr. Ann Ackerman from South Oklahoma City Junior College, wrote and submitted an AMP proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Included in the proposal was additional matching support for the program at the regional universities provided by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. In 1994, OSU, as the lead institution, along with seven partner institutions was awarded the grant. The OKAMP program was established to address the critical undersupply of minority students pursuing BS degrees in Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology (SMET).

Today, 12 Oklahoma institutions of higher education make up the Oklahoma consortium. Through the years, many changes have been made including the addition of Congressman Louis Stokes' name to the AMP programs nation-wide, and the change of SMET to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) program was implemented within Oklahoma providing graduate support to LSAMP alumni. OK-LSAMP has had 9 BD cohorts since its inception.

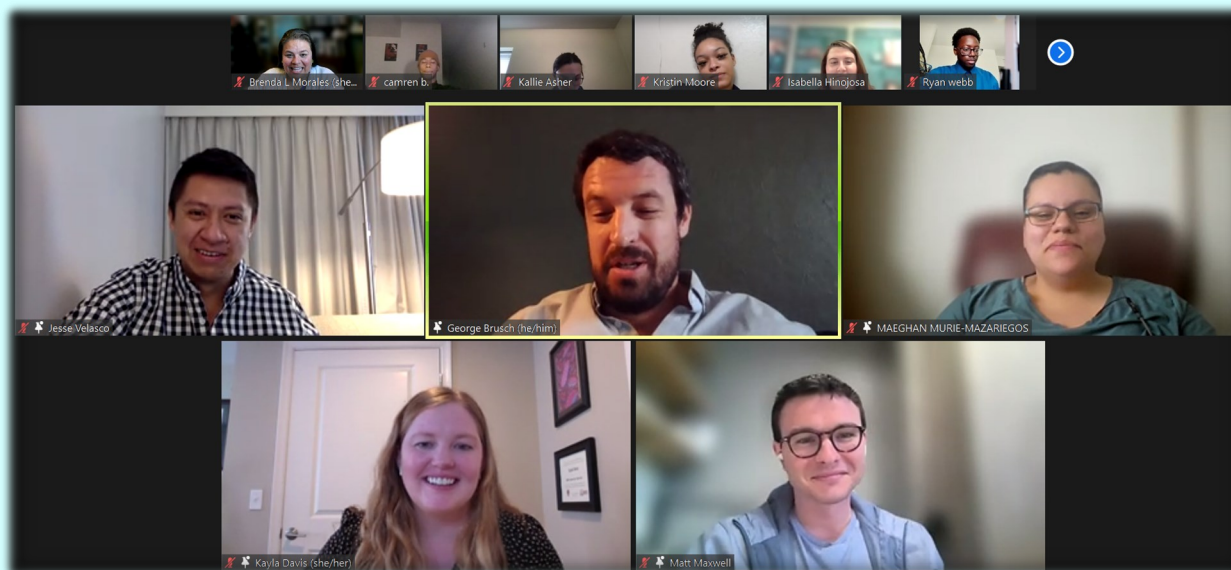
# Program News

## LSAMP PI/PD Meeting



Principal Investigators and Program Directors attended the annual LSAMP PI/PD hosted by LSMRCE (Louis Stokes Midwest Regional Center of Excellence) to discuss how to empower Diverse STEM Innovators. With presentations designed to provide an overview of the LSAMP annual data collection and guidance for completing reports.

## PHD Camp



LSAMP Students attended Preparing for High Degrees Camp in April 2022. The camp is an opportunity to prepare LSAMP Scholars for graduate school. The camp provides scholars with information that enhances their competitiveness as candidates for graduate school.

# Program News

## *OK-LSAMP 27th Annual Research Symposium*

The 27th Annual OK-LSAMP Research Symposium was held on October 8-9, 2021, hosted at Oklahoma State University in a hybrid format. Mississippi LSAMP alumni Dr. Justin Rice, from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, presented the keynote address. The OK-LSAMP Research Symposium welcomes 143 attendees (106 in person, 37 virtual) for poster presentations, oral presentations, and guest speakers. Thirty-three scholars presented research posters and 13 did an oral research presentation. In addition to the keynote speaker, the conference invited LSAMP alumni to provide advice to scholars, on "How to make the most of your internship or REU." Dr. Mario Borunda served as moderator and was joined by panelists, Dr. Darian James, and Dr. Tasia Bryson. Every year, OK-LSAMP recognizes scholars for their impressive research projects and presentation skills. During the symposium, the following OK-LSAMP scholars received the following awards:

### Life Sciences Poster

**1st place** Andrianna Buxton (LU)

**2nd Place** Karina Cunningham (TU)

**3rd Place** Meadow Gonzalez (TU)

### Non-Life Sciences Poster

**1st place** Makya Stell (OU)

**2nd place** Mason Egermeier (OSU)

**3rd place** Leslie Garcia (SWOSU)

### Oral Presentations

**1st place** Lucia Torres (OU)

**2nd place** Madison Whitekiller (NSU)

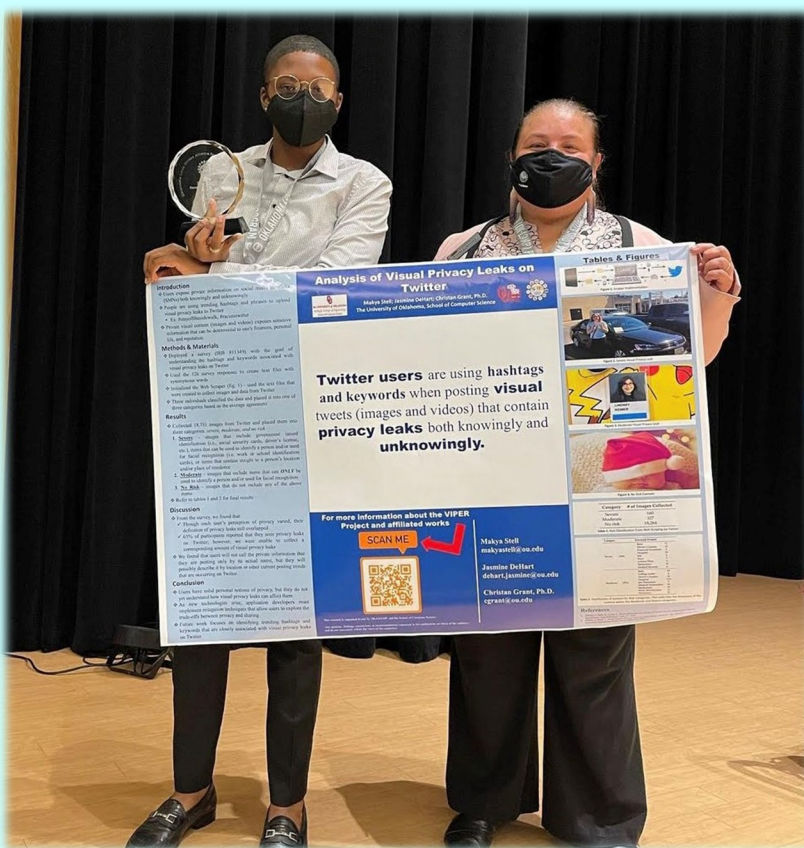
**3rd place** Andrianna Buxton (LU)



*Dr. Justin Rice*







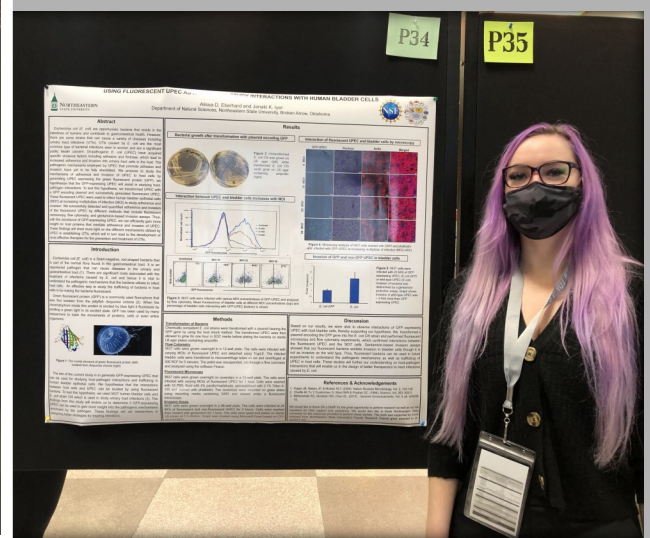
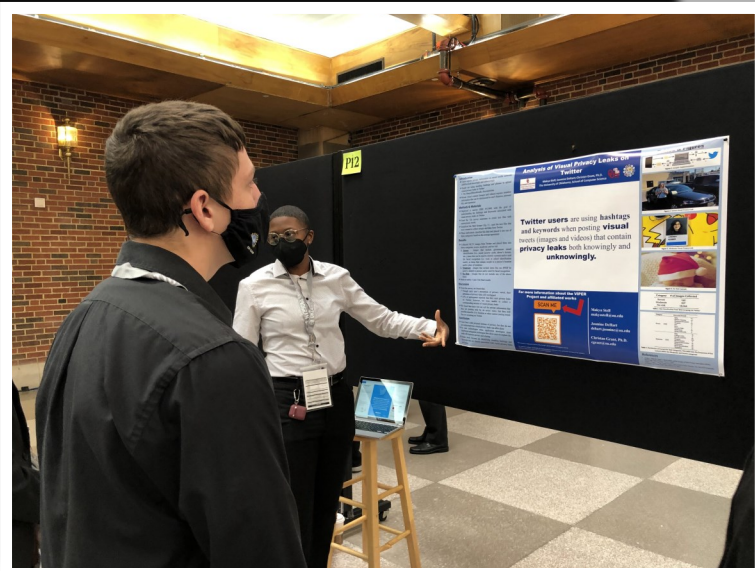
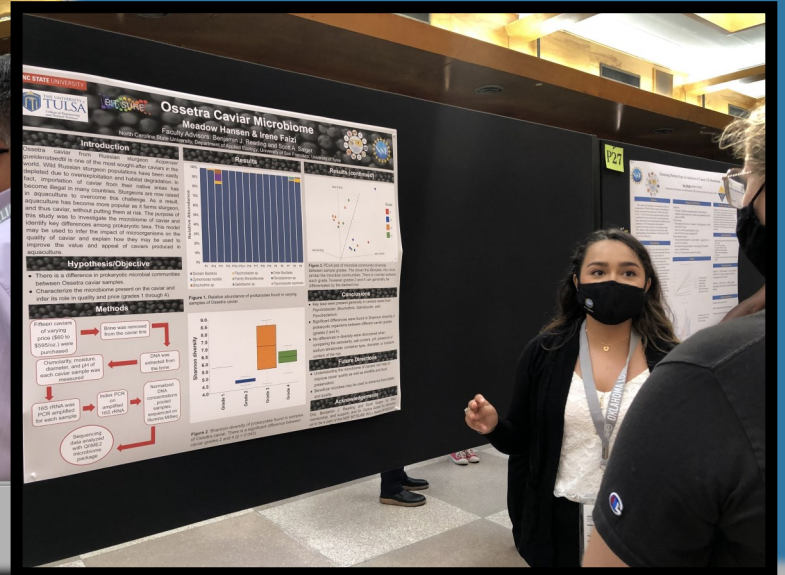
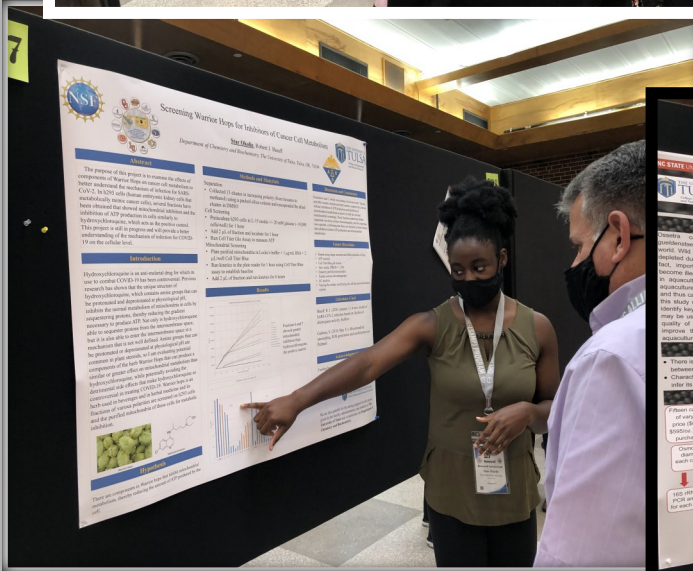
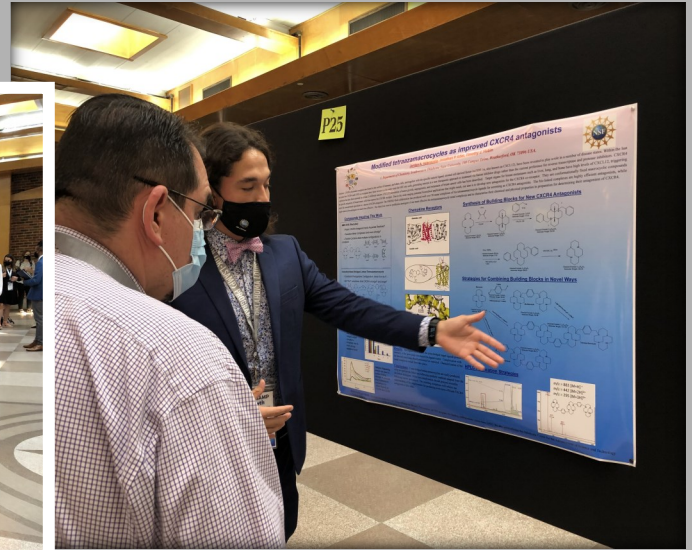
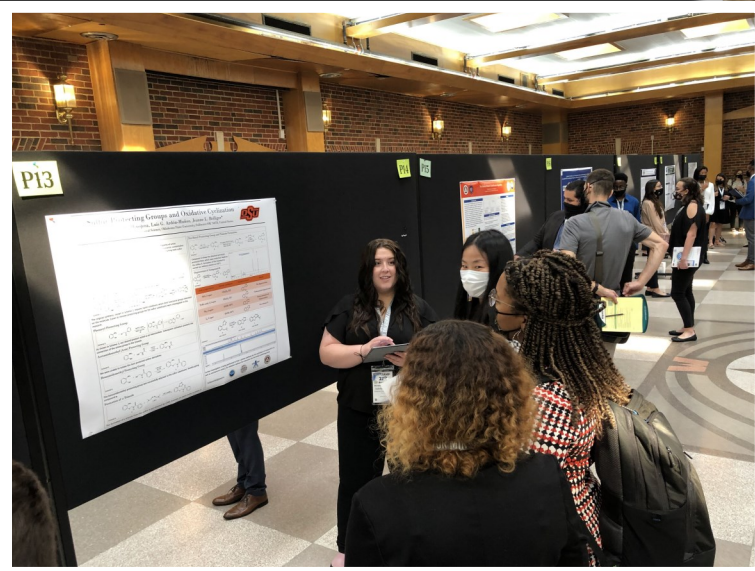
1st place Non-Life Sciences Poster winner, Makya Stell (OU), with LSAMP State Director, Brenda Morales

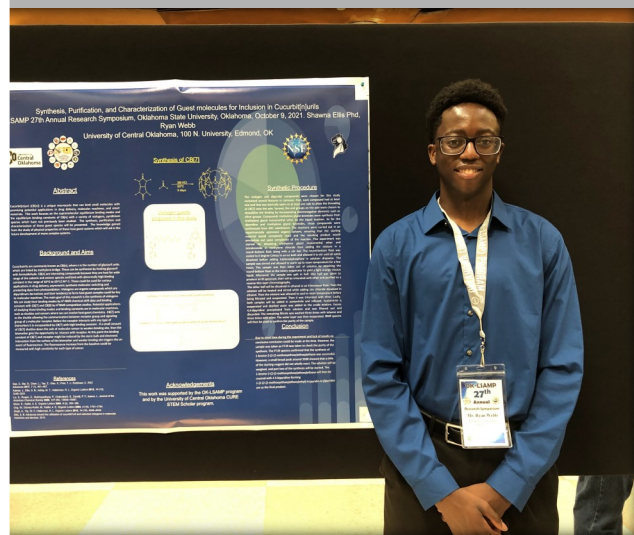
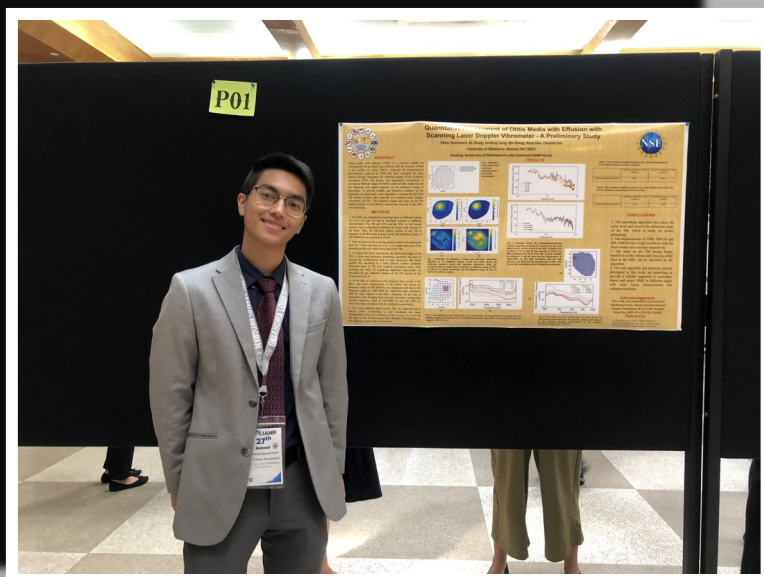
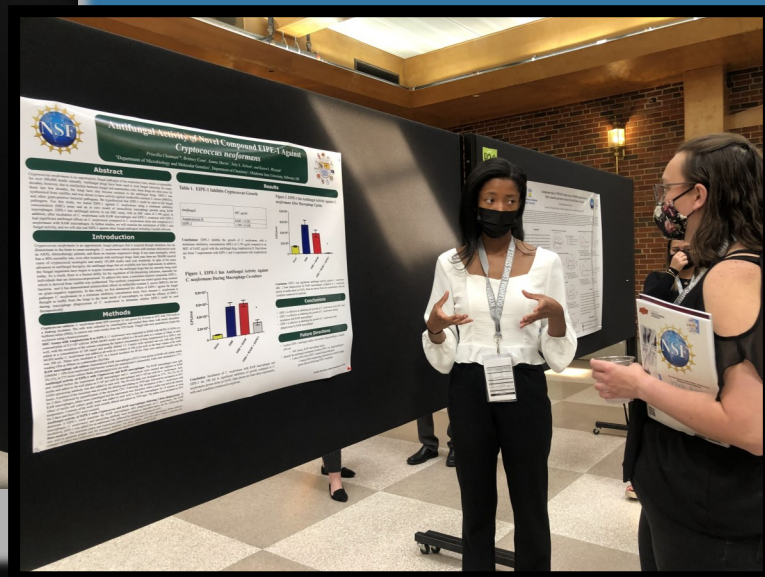
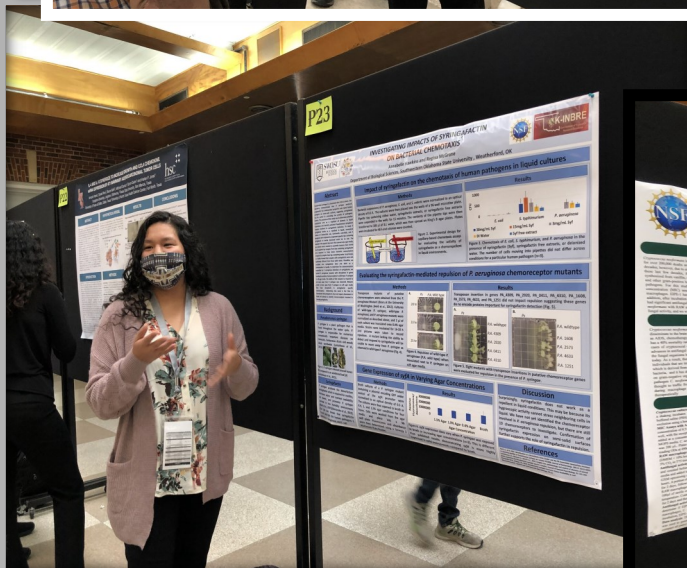
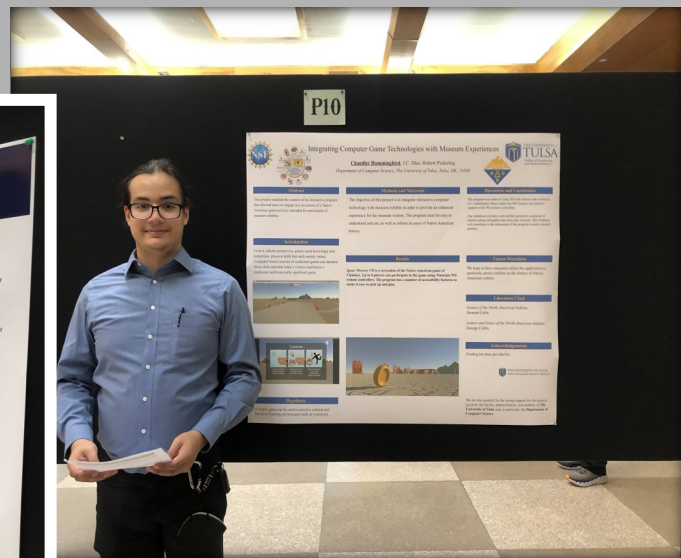
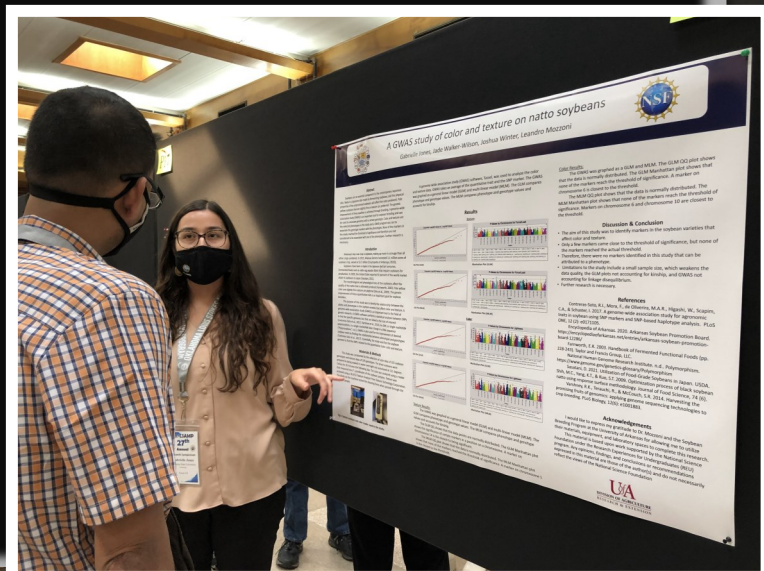


OK-LSAMP 27th Annual Research Symposium winners

Lucia Torres, Andrianna Buxton, Makya Stell, Mason Egermeier, Meadow Gonzalez

# The Link

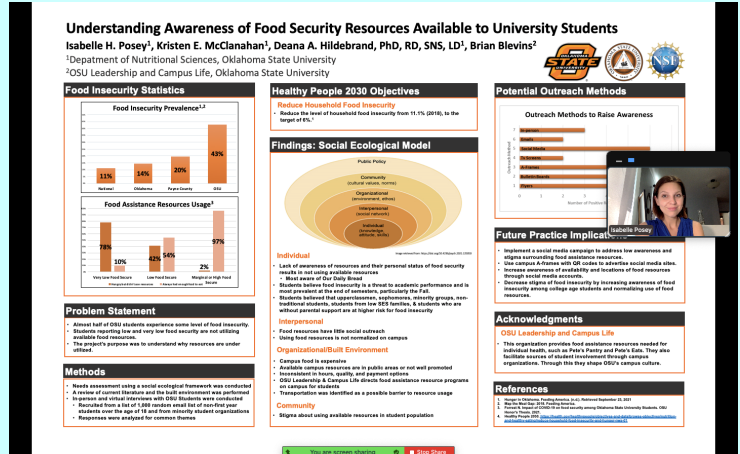




# SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHTS



LU scholar, Mackenzie Mims wins 1st place in oral presentation at LU Research day.



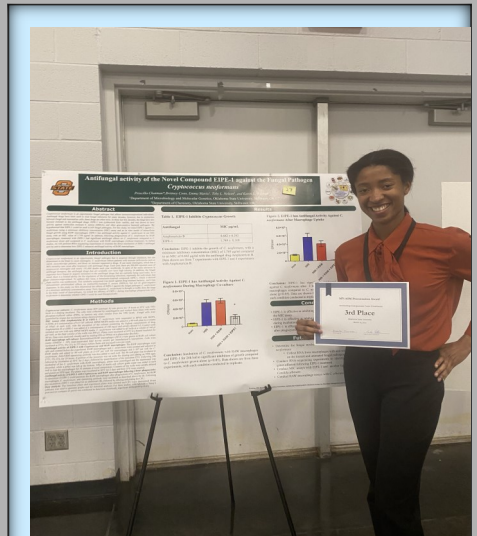
Isabelle Posey presented her research at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research.



Tionne Fultz was offered an internship with Valero summer 2022.



Gerald DeRogers was offered an internship with Valero summer 2022.



Priscilla Chapman won 3rd place at ASM Conference, Spring 2022.

## AISES National Conference



Students attended the 2021 AISES National Conference. AISLES is an annual 3-day event which focuses on STEM studies and careers for Indigenous peoples of North America and the Pacific Islands, all while providing a space for participants to make meaningful connections with one another.

## LSMRCE Virtual Conference

**Comprehensive Health Record Collection based on Blockchain**  
Simeon Dunn and Qin Hu  
Purdue School of Science

**Abstract**  
Many healthcare patients do not have a secure way to keep track of their complete medical history, especially when their records span across multiple hospitals and health institutions around the world. Patients have the flawed option of storing medical records with a company inside a centralized database, but this creates a single point of failure for data manipulation and certain companies tend to collect personal data to sell to advertisers. Therefore, we need to create a decentralized system where patients have full control over their own comprehensive medical history. Fortunately, there exists a technology called blockchain that many researchers have been using to create decentralized systems. Although, the

**System Design**  
The system design includes a flowchart showing the interaction between various components like 'Patient', 'Hospital', and 'Blockchain'.

**Blockchain Design**  
The blockchain design section details the structure of the blockchain, including 'Block', 'Transaction', and 'Hash'.

**Conclusion**  
The conclusion states that the proposed system can effectively manage and secure medical records using blockchain technology.

**A GWAS study of color and texture on natto soybeans**  
Gabrielle Jones, Jade Walker-Wilson, Joshua Winter, Leandro Mozconi

**Abstract**  
Soybeans are an essential component to the contemporary Japanese diet. Natto is a Japanese dish made by fermenting soybeans, and the physical properties of the unprocessed soybeans will affect the natto produced. Pale yellow soybeans that are slightly firm in texture are preferred. The genetic improvement of these qualities is achieved through breeding. A genome-wide association study (GWAS) is an important tool for soybean breeding and can be used to accelerate progress in a variety of breeding goals.

**Introduction**  
The introduction discusses the importance of soybeans in the Japanese diet and the need for genetic improvement in natto production.

**Results**  
The results section displays several line graphs showing the relationship between different genetic markers and the traits of color and texture in natto soybeans.

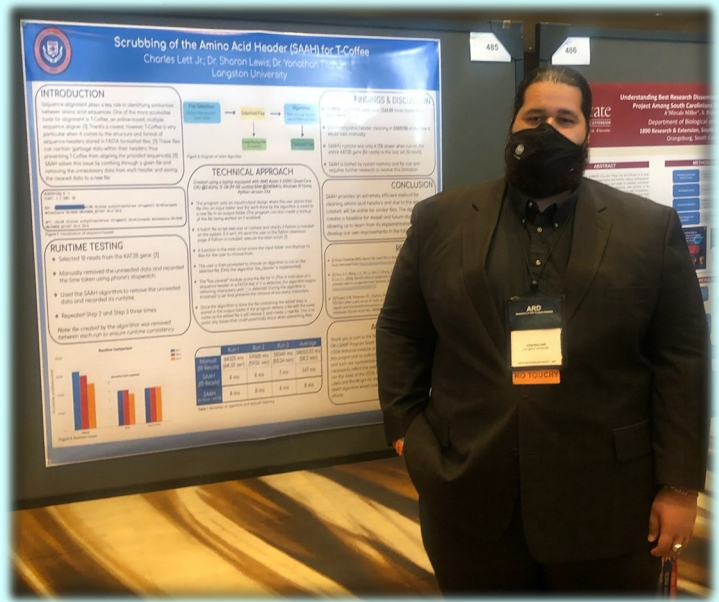
The Louis Stokes Midwest Regional Center of Excellence conference, was held virtually, October 2021. The conference offered students, educational researchers, and program administrators a platform to exchange knowledge and to cultivate a community of practitioners and scholars in the area of broadening the participation of underrepresented minorities in STEM.

## CEAT Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Annual Awards Banquet



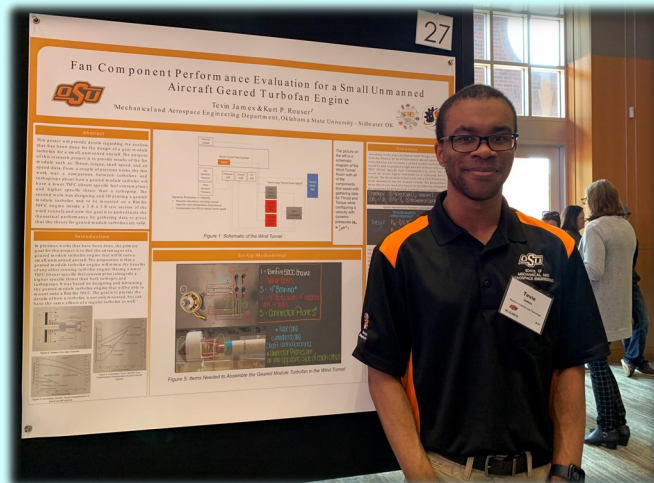
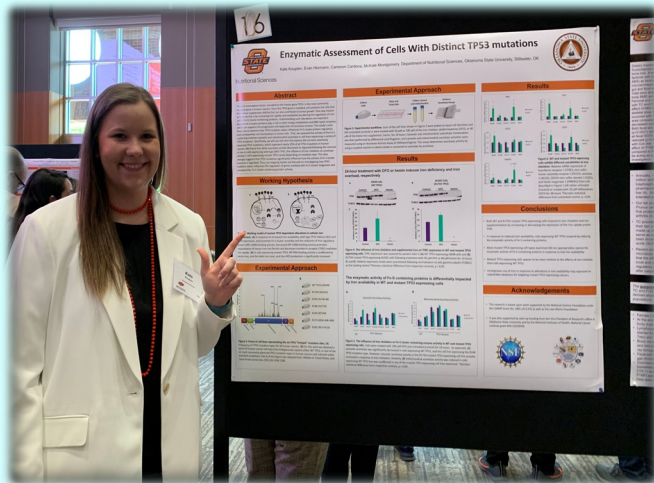
Students attended the Spring 2021 CEAT Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Annual Awards Banquet. Each spring CEAT's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Programs recognizes and honors students, alumni and industry leaders for their achievements, outreach, and leadership.

## LU at ARD Research Symposium



Students attended the ARD Research Symposium on April 2022, where they were able to showcase their research papers and posters that share innovative and practical research findings. Research papers and posters were presented in 5 areas that were on theme: "The 1890 Research and Innovation Agenda: Pathways to Build Back Better".

## OSU Undergraduate Research Symposium



OSU Students attended the Undergraduate Research Symposium held by OSU Research on April 2022. The symposium is a chance for students to showcase their research. The Symposium was a reflection of the research conducted at a comprehensive R1 institution. Students presented their creative and research activities in disciplines such as architecture, English, languages and literatures, plant and soil sciences, chemistry and mechanical engineering.

## OSU at Capitol Cowboys Day



OSU Students attended Capitol Cowboys Day on April 2022. The event was a chance for Oklahoma State University students to visit with state lawmakers about their OSU experience and share areas where they would like the university and the legislature to further partner. In their meetings with lawmakers, students focused on a handful of topics.

# SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHTS

## *Scholar Articles*

### Alex Arreola (OSU)

From article: *OSU Student wins 2022 Research Day at the Capitol Award.*



During the 2022 Research Day at the Capitol, Alex Arreola won third place in the research-intensive institution category. Arreola was one of four students from Oklahoma State University presenting their work. Competing against 22 other students from across the state, Arreola’s poster focused on his research—discovering and characterizing new fungi found in horses’ digestive systems.

“I am very happy that I was able to bring recognition to the excellent research being conducted at our institution,” Arreola said. “Once I began to have a discussion with legislators and the public, I found a great deal of importance in this event. I feel that in the science community we struggle to get out messages across to the public through literature alone. Presenting at the Capitol allowed us to communicate our messages more effectively and I am very thankful to have had this opportunity.” Arreola, from Coweta, Oklahoma, conducted his research in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics. Arreola is both an Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OKLSAMP) Scholar and a McNair Scholar. In the future, Arreola wants to look into cancer research. “I plan to switch gears a little and focus my efforts into biomedical research,” Arreola said. “Specifically, I hope to apply my knowledge and skills in the field of cancer. Starting in the fall, I will be participating in the GPiBS program at OUHSC and begin working towards a Ph. D.”

*Article from OSU Headlines and Media*



## Candelaria Alayon (TU)

From article: *Outstanding Senior empowers others to excel*



For Jess Choteau Outstanding Senior and first-generation college student Candelaria Alayon, studying mechanical engineering and joining the profession is just part of her larger mission. Hailing from Las Vegas, Nevada, Alayon regards engineering as much more than just mechanics, design or a great career. For her, it is also a unique opportunity to celebrate Hispanic women and women of color who strive for personal and professional success in a male-dominated field. “As a Hispanic woman, I want

nothing more than for other Hispanic women to be included in the dialogue between both male and female engineers to assess the challenges of the field and to further research,” Alayon said. With increasing numbers of women graduating with STEM degrees every year, the question becomes, for Alayon, how Hispanic women and women of color can be supported while they are students and once they have entered the workforce. According to Alayon, “making sure that women feel empowered within these fields is essential.” For Alayon, however, the matter goes beyond mere acceptance: “It’s imperative that we, as a profession and the community at large, encourage and advocate for these engineers. “Currently the secretary of The University of Tulsa’s student chapter of the SHPE, Alayon believes that such organizations are crucial for providing students with “a place of belonging” where they can find others with the same passions.

“Not only do organizations provide campus connections, they enable connections with others across the nation,” noted Alayon. In particular, through SHPE conferences. It’s amazing to see so many other Hispanic females who are studying engineering empower each other and make connections with people of different backgrounds.”

*Article from The University of Tulsa Media*

### Kate Kouplén (OSU)

From article: *OSU Students honored in 2022 Udall Scholarship competition*



Kouplén is a junior biology major and a member of the Delaware Tribe from Jenks, Oklahoma. She came to OSU as a Freshman Research Scholar and member of the President’s Leadership Council. She also has been an OK-LSAMP Scholar.

She is an active member of the Honors College and serves as an undergraduate research assistant for Dr. McKale Montgomery in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, where Kouplén is investigating the ways in which nutrient iron within specific gene mutations

impacts cancer cell progression. “As a young Native American woman, I am grateful to be surrounded by strong Native role models who lead by example every day,” Kouplén said. “Being a member of the Cherokee Nation and the Delaware Tribe of Indians has given me access to many tribal leaders and through their stories and resources, I have found a common line of thinking.

“I believe now is the time we must take care of our people by educating ourselves and becoming less dependent on others. There is no one better to care for Native Americans than other Native Americans.”

Kouplén has been a part of the Native American Student Association (NASA) on campus since her freshman year and now serves as the social media chair and as a student leader for OSU’s Center for Sovereign Nations, she said.

“I quickly recognized the quality leadership and the community impact this organization has at OSU which prompted me to get more involved as an executive member of the group,” she said.

Her passion for medicine has been fueled by the deficits in the health care system specifically related to Natives, she said.

## Isabelle Posey (OSU)

From article: *Meet Isabelle Posey: student, scholar, and researcher*



Nutritional sciences senior Isabelle Posey completed the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Undergraduate Public Health Scholars program, a competitive 10-week leadership program, associated with the Kennedy Krieger Institute.

The program focused on public health nutrition, and Posey learned about social determinants of health, eliminating health disparities and more while gaining experience and networking with other students and nutrition professionals. She presented posters about

food insecurity at the CDC Showcase and Expo in Atlanta and the John Hopkins CARES Symposium as she concluded the experience in July 2021.

Posey shared about her summer internship and her passion for nutrition and public health:

How has this internship prepared you for post graduation plans?

This internship has helped me get a better idea of what a career in public health can look like and how nutrition can be a vital perspective. After graduation, I want to pursue at least a master's and dietetic internship to become a Registered Dietitian (RD). I learned that there are many things an RD can do in public health and it has shown me many avenues that I want to explore. It showed me that my career possibilities are close to limitless! I learned many valuable lessons about professionalism, graduate school preparation, and mentor relationships. I also made many connections with peers who have similar interests and professionals who will be a part of my network for a long time."

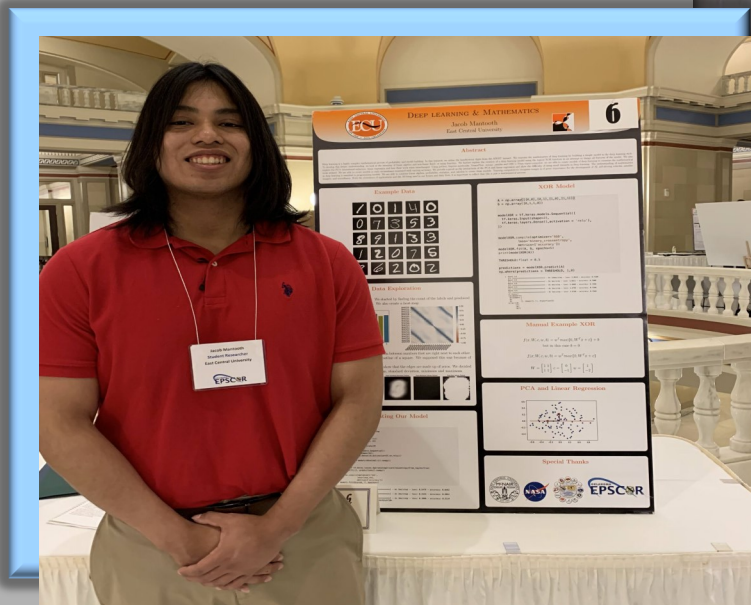
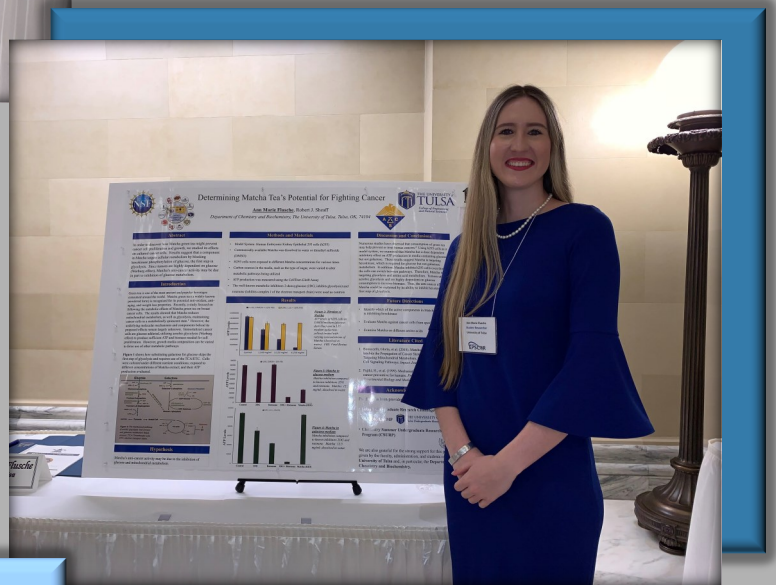
# Research Day at the Capitol

*Students were able to present their undergraduate research at the Capitol on March 29, 2022*



OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

*Improving our future by degrees*





# OK-LSAMP Graduates



Alex Arreola graduated with a B.S. in Microbiology & Cell & Molecular Biology at Oklahoma State University. Alex will be continuing his education at OUHSC, where he is pursuing a graduate program in Biomedical Sciences. (GPiBS). After completing the GPiBS, he plans on further advancing his education with a Ph.D. in Cell Biology.

Isabelle Posey graduated with a B.S. in Nutritional Sciences at Oklahoma State University. Isabelle will be continuing her education at OSU, pursuing a Masters degree as well as obtaining an RD credential.



Makya Stell graduated with a B.S. in Computer Engineering at the University of Oklahoma. Makya will be continuing his education at OU, pursuing a Master of Science in Computer Engineering.

Ashtyn McAdoo graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Ashtyn plans on continuing her education at Vanderbilt University, pursuing a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences through the IGP Program.



Damira Flavors graduated with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Chemistry at Langston University. Damira participated in an internship at Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation this summer in preparation for medical school.

Gabrielle Jones graduated with a B.S. in Entomology at Oklahoma State University. Gabrielle plans on continuing her education at Oklahoma State University, pursuing a Masters degree in Natural Resources and Ecology Management.



Jalen Crutchfield graduated with a B.S. in Physics at East Central University. Jalen will be continuing his education at the University of Oklahoma to pursue a Masters degree in Civil Engineering.

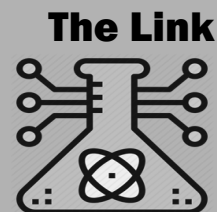


# **Continued Graduates...**

**Aanahita Treaty Irani Ervin  
Alex Xavier Arreola  
Alissa Eberhard  
Andre William King  
Andrew Valentin Gonzales  
Ann Marie Elizabeth Flusche  
Aqeelah Kemi Rufai  
Armando Covarrubias Jr  
Ashtyn Grace McAdoo  
Beth Ali Beker  
Bethany Hope Hatter  
Candelaria Alayon  
Celois Ashonte Moore  
Chandler Jaxon Hummingbird  
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# Upcoming Research Conferences



NCUR 2022 will be held in the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in Eau Claire, Wisconsin from April 13th-15th, 2023.  
<https://www.uwec.edu/ncur/>

**Save the date**

**Oklahoma Research Day**

March 03, 2023

University of Central Oklahoma,  
Edmond, Oklahoma



Oklahoma  
Research Day



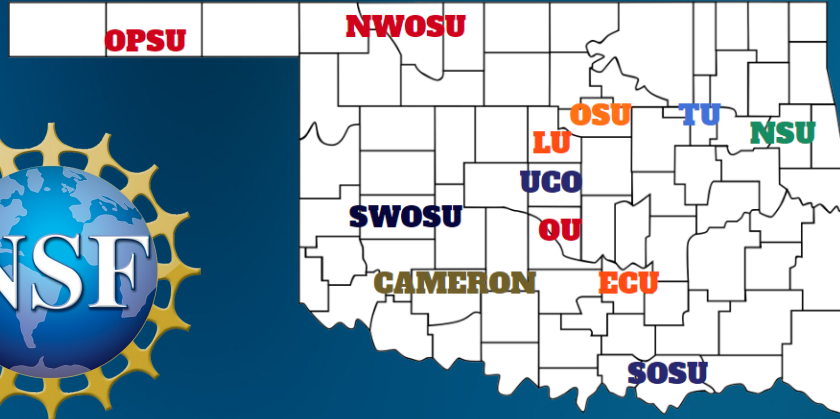
**SACNAS NDiSTEM 2023**

October 26-28, 2023 Portland, Oregon

**Abstract deadline in March**

<https://www.sacnas.org/what-we-do/conference/>

# The Annual OK-LSAMP Newsletter



## Keep Up with Us!



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## What is OK-LSAMP?

The Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP) is designed for students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the LSAMP program began in 1004 when Oklahoma Institutions of higher education joined forces to significantly increase the recruitment, enrollment and retention of underrepresented minority students in STEM disciplines. The LSAMP program is named after retired Ohio Congress Louis Stokes, who is responsible for numerous minority focused programs through the NSF and the National Institute of Health (NIH). The Oklahoma program nurtures and assists students through the undergraduate program while creating opportunities for students to pursue graduate degrees in their selected STEM disciplines. OK-LSAMP scholars are provided with opportunities to interact with faculty and scientists, participate in research activities, present at national conferences, and prepare for the transition into graduate programs and/or become leaders in the STEM workplace.



## The Link



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