The Honors Medals Ceremony is the culmination of a student’s time in the UConn Honors Program. This annual event began in 2004 as a way to celebrate those students who have completed the rigorous Honors curriculum and are graduating as Honors Scholars or University Scholars. Founded in 1964, the Honors Program offers intellectually gifted and highly motivated undergraduate students the opportunity to obtain the richest possible collegiate experience. Working with every school and college, the Honors Program promotes challenging coursework and encourages intellectual independence through research and creative activities. Students form personal relationships with faculty and staff through Honors classes, regular contact with advisors, and the close supervision that comes with conducting the Honors thesis. Students make life-long friends and enhance their talents by living in Honors residential communities, attending Honors events, and joining Honors student organizations. Honors students also contribute significantly to the greater campus culture of UConn through their academic engagement, leadership, and involvement.

This rite of passage marks the end of our students’ undergraduate careers and the beginning of their next stage in life. They have spent their time in Honors knowing they were part of a community: living, learning, and building relationships they will take with them for decades to come. It is important to note that their successes were not accomplished alone. Much of their development depended upon a wider support system. Honors faculty and advisors worked closely with our students to guide their studies and broaden their minds. Parents and family have supported their scholar, offering any assistance required for them to blossom into adults. And the Honors alumni and donors extended helping hands to move our students forward, giving of their time, their wisdom, and their own success to aid our students’ journeys. As we gather to commemorate the close of the 2022-2023 academic year; the joy, pride, and gratitude we celebrate as an Honors community remains a constant in paying tribute to our graduating scholars.
Welcome
Jennifer Lease Butts, Associate Vice Provost, Enrichment Programs and Director, Honors Program

Special Performance by Rubyfruit

Remarks
Radenka Maric, President

Introduction of Student Speaker
Jeanine Gouin ’87, Board of Trustees, Vice Chair of Academic Affairs Committee

Honors Scholar Address
Nour Al Zouabi ’23, UHL Scholar

Honors Faculty Member of the Year Award Recipient
Jane Pryma, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Dr. Lynne Goodstein and Dr. Peter Langer Award Recipient
Richard N. Langlois, Professor of Economics

Presentation of Medals and Gifts to University Scholars
Nomenclator
Caroline McGuire, Executive Director, Enrichment Programs and Director, Office of Undergraduate Research

Assisted by
Daniel Burkey, Associate Dean, School of Engineering
Indrajeet Chaubey, Dean, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources
Deborah Chyun, Dean, School of Nursing
Kenneth Cormier, Director, Individualized and Interdisciplinary Studies Program
Alain Frogley, Interim Dean, School of Fine Arts
Jason Irizarry, Dean, Neag School of Education
Nora Madjar, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, School of Business
Nathaniel Rickles, Associate Dean for Admissions & Student Affairs, Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Laurie Taylor, Associate University Librarian for Collections & Discovery
Evelyn Tribble, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Presentation of Medals to Honors Scholars and University Honors Laureates
Nomenclator
Jeffrey Shoulson, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Medals to Honors Scholars
Nomenclator
Jaclyn Chancey, Enrichment Programs Director for Curriculum, Assessment, and Planning and Associate Director, Honors Program

Concluding Remarks
Jennifer Lease Butts

The duties of Marshal were performed today by
Jaclyn Chancey
Kaitlin Heenehan, Assistant Director, Honors Stamford
Anne Kim, Assistant Director for Honors Advising
This prestigious and highly competitive program enables talented, motivated, and innovative students to design plans of study geared toward their special interests. Working closely with a committee of three faculty advisors, University Scholars undertake learning opportunities far beyond the typical plan of study and produce significant scholarly and creative projects, such as works of art and research theses. Graduation as a University Scholar is the highest academic honor the University bestows upon undergraduate students. Following is an alphabetical listing of graduating University Scholars, their majors, their project titles, their faculty advisors, and their project descriptions. The principal advisor for each student’s University Scholar project is the first advisor listed.

JANNATUL ANIKA
Biology Education
Understanding and Supporting the Teaching Career Decision Making of Minoritized Students
Advised by: Catherine Little, Jason Irizarry, David Todd Campbell
Teacher diversity continues to be a long-established issue within the US public education system as the student of color population increases while the number of teachers of color remains significantly low. Previous research has explored different reasons for this disparity. However, there is limited research that students of color are simply becoming less likely to pick teaching as a career. This project examines racial and ethnic identities and the implications it has on the perception of the teaching profession. Jannatul will study how college students of color describe the internal and external factors that are influencing their career decision.

MICHICEL ANTONY
Individualized: Community Health and Molecular & Cell Biology
EGFR Family Signaling in the Chondroprogenitor Response to Articular Cartilage Injury
Advised by: Caroline Dealy, Debarchana Ghosh, Rachel O’Neill
Cartilage cells have limited capacity for self-repair and cartilage damage incurred during injury often progresses to post-traumatic osteoarthritis (PTOA), a form of cartilage degeneration that causes severe, incurable disability in otherwise young and active individuals. Michelle’s project explores molecular signaling mechanisms in cartilage healing and narrow the field of candidate growth factors that can activate self-repair by cartilage cells. By identifying growth factors with therapeutic regenerative potential, treatments for patients who have suffered damage to their joints can be optimized.

KATHRYN SEAN ATKINSON
Nutritional Sciences and Individualized: Food Studies
Cenabis Bene: A Culinary Odyssey through Apicius
Advised by: Alexia Smith, Roger Travis, Molia Chea
Kathryn has spent her time at UConn exploring the connections between food and humanity, as everything in life ultimately returns to food. Her thesis focuses on Apicius, the sole surviving cookbook from classical antiquity. She has examined prehistoric, classical, and modern food traditions, and has recreated many dishes, from garum to spiced wine.

POORNA BALAKUMAR
Molecular & Cell Biology and Individualized: Asian Arts, Culture & Feminism
Innovation and Hybridity in Collegiate Raas-Garba
Advised by: Matthew Cohen, Bandana Purkayastha, Elizabeth Kline, Lindsay Cummings
The study of Indian dance has always existed in the aesthetic realm rather than in historical, economic and political discourse. This project explored different representations of gender in the classical Indian dance style, Kuchipudi, and considered issues of transnational identity and tradition in the collegiate competitive raas-garba circuit.

SARAH ELIZABETH BRADSHAW
English
Shakespearean Constellation
Advised by: Charles Mahoney, Gregory Semenza, Evelyn Tribble
Sarah’s thesis explores the importance of collaboration in the production and reception of Shakespeare’s plays. Rather than viewing the playwright as an “individual talent” (T. S. Eliot’s phrase), Bradshaw theorizes Shakespeare, critics, and film adaptors as collaborators creating and influencing a shifting legacy.

ASHLYN ROSE CARTIER
Anthropology
A Zooarchaeological Meta-Data Analysis of Early Animal Domestication in the Neolithic Northern Levant
Advised by: Natalie Munro, Richard Sosis, Sara Johnson
Ashlyn’s project aims to test the notion that animal domestication occurred slowly, in place, and with many trials and errors in the Northern Levant (modern Syria, Lebanon, and parts of southern Türkiye) using a metadata study. The main goal of her work is an analysis of the trends in animal domestication on a regional level using existing data.

SHANE THOMAS CONNOLLY
Biological Sciences
Mechanistic Examination of Protoplast Mediated Plant Growth through the Comparative Development of Medicago Truncatula
Advised by: Daniel Gage, Jonathan Klassen, Robert Bagchi
The role of predatory protists in the rhizosphere and their impact on plant growth have been largely unappreciated until recently. Protists are able to increase plant growth through the release of nitrogenous waste products and shifting soil bacteria communities towards more beneficial groups. The question that still remains is which of those mechanisms is primarily responsible for protist mediated plant growth, especially in legumes. This project aims to answer that question through developmental comparisons of Medicago truncatula in both protist grazed and un-grazed soils. The goal is to highlight the importance that microbivores play in a horticultural setting.
ASHITI DAMANIA
**Molecular & Cell Biology**
Validation of RGC Subtype Markers Across Development to Understand Axon Regeneration
Advised by: Feliks Trakhtenberg, Leighton Core, Akiko Nishiyama
Glucoma is the second leading cause of blindness, for which there are currently no clinical treatments that reverse its effects. Collapsin response mediator proteins (Crmps) were studied for their role on axons after injury to the optic nerve. Findings can potentially contribute to future therapeutic treatments for glaucoma and optic neuropathies.

RAYNA MORRISON ESCH
**Molecular & Cell Biology**
Role of Perimuscular Connective Tissue Injury and Repair in Fibrodyplasia Ossificans Progressiva
Advised by: David Goldhamer, John Redden, David Knecht
Rayna's project explores the effects of fascia injury on the formation of extracellular bone in a disease known as Fibrodyplasia Ossificans Progressiva or FOP, a rare congenital disease that causes muscle and associated connective tissue to turn to bone. Understanding the cellular underpinnings of the disease will hopefully lead to new therapies.

ALEXANDRA ARIELLE GOLDHAMER
**Human Rights and Molecular & Cell Biology**
Exploring the Neural Circuits of Diet-Induced Obesity
Advised by: Natalie Sciolino, Amy Howell, Kathryn Libal
Alex's project focuses on the inhibitory projections from the locus coeruleus to the lateral hypothalamic area, which have been implicated in the pathogenesis of obesity. Her project examines the effects of stimulating this circuit on appetite and food intake with the ultimate goal of developing effective, targeted treatment methods.

LEAH KATHRIN GRAF
**Nursing**
A Structured Life Review Intervention to Improve Life Satisfaction in Home Health Service Patients
Advised by: Juliette Shellman, Millicent Malcolm, Amisha Parekh De Campos
Structured Life Review (SLR) is a recollection of past events. In recent years, life review has been used with older adults to help them process unresolved conflicts from their past. Leah employs the use of SLR to explore how it can be used to increase quality of life and decrease depression in homecare patients at Middlesex Hospital.

SOOHYUN OH
**Exercise Science**
Dynamic Transcriptomic and Proteomic Responses of Circulating Immune Cells in Response to Subsequent Days of Exercise-Heat Stress
Advised by: Elaine Choung-Hee Lee, Anthony Vella, Lawrence Silbart
The overall understanding of gene expression response of cells to exercise is not fully understood. Soohyun's project investigated a genome wide changes in gene expression (mRNA made and present) that occur in circulating immune cells in the blood important for immune defense, in response to 2 subsequent exposure to exercise and heat.

SARAH ELIZABETH SAN VICENTE
**Molecular & Cell Biology**
Defining the Role of TIGIT as an Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor in Ovarian Cancer
Advised by: Andrew Wiemer, Patricia Rossi, Xiuling Lu
While immunotherapy has been a successful breakthrough treatment option for many forms of cancer, ovarian cancer has yet to reach this level of success. Despite prior failures, the complex tumor microenvironment of ovarian cancer provides a multitude of targets for immunotherapeutic drug targeting. Sarah's project aims to determine the relationship between γδ T cells and the novel protein TIGIT in the context of ovarian cancer. She plans to define TIGIT as a potential immune checkpoint inhibitor through the use of anti-TIGIT blockades in cytokine recovery, cancer cell viability, and γδ T cell proliferation assays. If proven successful, this project could facilitate development of an anti-TIGIT immune checkpoint inhibitor drug for use in ovarian cancer.

ELISA SHAHOLLI
**Economics and English**
Religious Identity and Diabetes: A Muslim American Perspective
Advised by: Brenda Brueggemann, Metin Cosgel, Kelley Newlin Lew
The CDC estimates that in the United States alone, around 10% of the population has diabetes. Elisa's project specifically looked at the experience of Muslim diabetics, and how religious identity could impact diabetes care, perspective, and treatment. She divided her project into 3: an Economics data analysis, a Nursing literature review, and an art piece!

JOSHUA H YU
**Molecular & Cell Biology**
Nanoparticle-Mediated Inhibition of Acute Myeloid Leukemia
Advised by: Xiuling Lu, David Knecht, Theodore Rasmussen
Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) is a devastating form of cancer that affects everyone from the young to the elderly. Joshua's project involves the use of nanoparticles to treat AML relapse, with hopes to one day provide a viable clinical treatment.
Honors Scholar and University Honors Laureates

These students have completed a rigorous academic program that culminated in the production of an Honors thesis or creative project. The requirements for graduating as an Honors Scholar include a minimum of fifteen Honors credits in the major (or approved related areas), engagement in the major field outside the classroom, and a total grade point average of at least 3.4. The University Honors Laureate designation recognizes graduating Honors Scholars who have completed depth in the major as well as breadth across the disciplines. In order to earn the University Honors Laureate designation, Honors Scholars demonstrate additional academic achievement and creative productivity, a commitment to community involvement, and leadership. The following list of students are graduating as Honors Scholars and University Honors Laureates, indicating their Honors Scholar majors, their thesis titles, and the faculty advisors for their theses.

SRIVANI AGNIHOTRAM
*Physiology & Neurobiology*
Effects of 4-Aminopyridine on Neonatal Hippocampal Slices of KCNQ2 Knockout Mice
Advised by: Anastasios Tzingounis

FARNAZ TASNEEM AHMAD
*STEM*
*Molecular & Cell Biology*
Caffeine Consumption and Academic Performance Amongst Adolescents
Advised by: Elizabeth Kline

NOUR NEDAL AL ZOUABI
*Individualized: Rights, Health & Refugees*
Refugees’ Post-Resettlement Barriers to Accessing Healthcare Services in the Northeastern United States during COVID-19
Advised by: Elizabeth Holzer

KAREN SUSAN ALEX
*NE/STEM*
*Physiology & Neurobiology*
Effects of the Xlr-3b Gene on Behavior using a Mouse Model
Advised by: Roslyn Fitch

THOMAS JOSEPH AL VAREZ
*English*
What Makes a Salesman: Death of a Salesman and the Politics of Adaptation
Advised by: Robert Hasenfratz

ISABELLA KATHERINE AMATA
*NE/SPL*
*Marketing*
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Karen Lynch
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

MICHELE ANTONY
*Individualized: Community Health*
EGFR Family Signals in the Chondroprogenitor Response to Articular Cartilage Injury
Advised by: Caroline Dealy

MICHELE ANTONY
*Molecular & Cell Biology*
EGFR Family Signals in the Chondroprogenitor Response to Articular Cartilage Injury
Advised by: Caroline Dealy

GREGORY ASCHENBRENNER
*Electrical Engineering*
Digital Framework for Space Vehicle Attitude Control Requirements Verification
Advised by: Bahram Javidi

POORNA BALAKUMAR
*Molecular & Cell Biology*
Caffeine Consumption and Anxiety Levels in Adolescents
Advised by: Sharon Smith

ALESSANDRA GRACE BASSANI
*Molecular & Cell Biology*
The DNA Peptide Cross Link (DpC) Increases Mutagenicity in SOS Induced E. coli
Advised by: Ashis Basu

VIANNA VICTORIA BASSANI
*Animal Science*
The Effects of Poor Maternal Nutrition During Gestation on IgG Concentrations in Sheep Offspring Circulation
Advised by: Sarah Reed

CATHERINE ELISE CANTELMO
*Nursing*
A Case Study in Gestational Cancer
Advised by: Carrie Eaton

ELIZABETH KIRSTEN CARRIZZO
*NE/STEM*
*Biomedical Engineering*
Neuronal Cell Viability in Gelatin Hydrogels to Model Traumatic Brain Injuries
Advised by: Fayekah Assanah

SRIMAYI CHATURVEDULA
*NE/SPL*
*Political Science*
Courts as Agents of Injustice: Dissecting Institutional Culture & Judicial Corruption Around the World
Advised by: Michael Rubin

ERICA AGNES DEAN
*Psychological Sciences*
The Role of Self-identity in Habit Development
Advised by: Blair Johnson

EMILY ANGELA DELL’ORFANO
*General Program in Music*
Mission Statements and the Online Presence of Children’s Choruses: A Content Analysis
Advised by: Cara Bernard

EMILY ANGELA DELL’ORFANO
*Music Education*
Mission Statements and the Online Presence of Children’s Choruses: A Content Analysis
Advised by: Cara Bernard
OLIVIA FRANCES DWIGHT
Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences
The Role of Evidence-Based Practice in the Use of DIR/Floortime for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Advised by: Bernard Grela

LAURA ELIZABETH GALLAGHER NE/STEM
Molecular & Cell Biology
Treatment Success Rate Disparities Between Races/Ethnicities for Smokers versus Non-smokers Lung Cancer
Advised by: Charles Giardina

BIATRIS GAZARYAN B
History
Environmentalism In Great Britain During the Victorian Era (1830-1901)
Advised by: Meredith Rusoff

ZACHARY THOMAS GIGUERE NE
Physiology & Neurobiology
Examining the Role of Pain in Neurobehavior and Neurodevelopment of Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with Respect to the Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Adrenal Axis
Advised by: Sharon Casavant

ALEXANDRA ARIELLE GOLDHAMER B
Molecular & Cell Biology
The Effect of Distinct Monoamine Reuptake Inhibitors on Reversing Tetrabenazine-Induced Motivational Impairments
Advised by: John Salamone

RACHEL COLETTE HAGE B
Nursing
Instilling Parental Confidence Through Text-linked Educational Modules at 6 and 24 Weeks
Advised by: Ruth Lucas

ANNE KATHERINE HOOKER B/H
Molecular & Cell Biology
The Effects of FOXP2 Variation on Gray Matter Structure and Language
Advised by: Nicole Landi

EMILY ROSE HUTCHINSON B
Physiology & Neurobiology
Comparison of Single-Cell RNA Sequencing Between Human Ependymoma and Mouse Models of Human Ependymoma
Advised by: Joseph Loturco

VARSHA IRVATHRAYA NE/STEM
Molecular & Cell Biology
Exploring the Role of CCND1 Amplification on Carcinogenesis
Advised by: Jessica Costa

JEROME SEONG-BIN JACOBS IV/R
Allied Health Sciences
Mental Health Matters: The Link between Depression and Condomless Sex among Malaysian Men who have Sex with Men
Advised by: Roman Shrestha

CAMRYN AALIAH JOHNSON B
English
The DreamWalker: A Novella in Progress
Advised by: Sean Forbes

SUMEET KADIAN SPHD
Molecular & Cell Biology
Analysis of Postnatal Neurogenesis in a Hydrocephalic Mouse Model
Advised by: David Goldhamer

DANIELLE ELIZABETH KATZ NE
Environmental Sciences
Mapping Potential Habitat for the New England Cottontail
Advised by: Chadwick Rittenhouse

BETHANY ALEXA LAFONTAINE B
Medical Laboratory Sciences
The Use of RNA Interference to Modulate Inflammatory Cytokine Expression Pertinent to Sepsis from Covid-19
Advised by: Jessica Malek

DANIELLE ALEXAN LIVINGSTON B
Marketing
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Rosalind Brewer
Advised by: Neil D'Auria

MOLLY MCGUIGAN B
Communication
Beyond the Bechdel: Representation of Women in Popular and Critically Acclaimed Films
Advised by: Kirstie Farrar

UMA MEHTA B/SPHD
Biological Sciences
Diagnostic and Therapeutic Potential of a Novel Splice Isoform of Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor
Advised by: Carolin Dealy

BRYAN JOSE MESQUITA B
Communication
Managing Masculinity: Examining the Role Gender Norms Play in Male Behavior in Female-Dominated Fields
Advised by: Elizabeth Hintz

RILEY LAURYN MORRILL NE/SPL
History
History of the Millstone Nuclear Power Plant
Advised by: Mark Healey

ALLISON JEANNE NEMESURE NE/SPHD
Physiology & Neurobiology
Adolescent/ Young Adult Sleep Trends Over the Past Decade
Advised by: Sharon Smith

KARLA WYNNE PALMA B
Nursing
Understanding the Relationships between Parents’ History of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Chaos in the Household.
Advised by: Eileen Condon

SHREYA PATEL
Physiology & Neurobiology
Solving the Structure of a Tailed Bacteriophage
Advised by: Simon White

SUCIKA PERUMALLA B/STEM
Physiology & Neurobiology
Behavioral Response to Changing Emotional Environment: Effects of Dorsal Hippocampus Inactivation
Advised by: Etan Markus

EMMA RADINI RATNAVEL NE
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Effect of a Perception of God on the Heart Rate of Bereaved Individuals
Advised by: Crystal Park

AYANE REIS DA CONCEICAO
History
Stepping Into Freedom, Three Hundred Years Behind: An Analysis of Second Slavery in Post-Abolition Societies
Advised by: Ricardo Salazar-Rey

MEGAN CAROL RUSSELL a
Nursing
A Qualitative Evaluation of How Individuals Cope with Chest/Breastfeeding Pain
Advised by: Ruth Lucas

ALEXA ISABELLA SCHWARTZ B/SP
Special Education
An Evaluation of A Year-Long Instructional Writing Approach in Relation to the Spelling Skills of Elementary Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students
Advised by: Hannah Dostal

JACOB RYAN SHIFFRIN B
Finance
How Does Early Financial Education Affect Future Financial Behaviors and Outcomes and How Can Financial Literacy Be Taught To Younger Generations
Advised by: Alexander Amati
ASHANTHI RUTH SNELL, STEM
Exercise Science
Exploration of Salivary-omics Analyses for Stress Biomarker Monitoring
Advised by: Elaine Lee

IRENE M. SOTERIOU, BOLD
Cognitive Science
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan: A Psychological and Philosophical Analysis
Advised by: Daniel Pressman

OWEN PATRICK SPAGLIER, B/STEM
Civil Engineering
Feasibility Study for a Continuous Mansfield Hollow State Park Multi-Use Path
Advised by: Manish Roy

TALIA SZOZDA
Allied Health Sciences
The Relationship between Adaptive Functioning and Sensory Symptoms in Individuals with Current ASD, Previous ASD, and Typical Development
Advised by: Inge-Marie Eigsti

KAITLYN THAOVY TRAN
Allied Health Sciences
Impact of Dopamine Blockers on the Parental Care of Burying Beetles
Advised by: Stephen Trumbo

REBECCA ELIZABETH TRIPP, B
Physiology & Neurobiology
Characterizing Neurons Containing Calcium-binding Proteins and Sex Hormone Receptors in the Amygdala of Female and Male Rats
Advised by: Linnaea Ostroff

JACK EMMETT TUBRIDY, B
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Warren Buffet
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ADITH VELAVAN, STEM
Biological Sciences
Reviewing the Ethics of Clinical Research in Emergency Settings
Advised by: Elizabeth Kline

ANANYA VISWANATHAN, NE
Business Administration
Marketing and Managing a Sustainable Fashion Brand
Advised by: Wynd Harris

EMMA ROSE VLAUN, NE/SPPHD
Molecular & Cell Biology
Alterations in the Oral Microbiome Leading to Inflammatory Periodontal Disease
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

BO DEHM WICKLUND
Psychological Sciences
Behavior and Self-Perceptions of Ability in Relation to Peers Associated with Anxiety in School Performance for Children Aged 7-9
Advised by: Crystal Park

ZACHARY BENJAMIN WISNEFSKY, B/SPL
Finance
Breaking Down the Box Office: An Analysis of Film Profitability Trends
Advised by: Lingling Wang

WILLOW YANG, NE
Accounting
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Eric Yuan
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

H - Holster Scholar
Holster Scholars are recipients of this selective enrichment opportunity available only to first-year Honors students. This program awards grants to enable these selected Honors students to pursue in-depth and innovative projects during the summer. All Holster Scholars receive focused guidance from a faculty mentor and present their work in the fall of their sophomore year at the Holster Scholar Symposium.

BOLD - BOLD Scholar
The BOLD program focuses on facilitating opportunities for women’s leadership on campus through scholarship funding, programming, and engagement in service/leadership projects. Utilizing a cohort model, a small group of students are selected to receive scholarships via a competitive application process. This scholar made a 2-year commitment to this program and worked closely with program leadership and mentors to develop individualized projects.

S - Stamps Scholar
The Stamps Scholars Program was founded by E. Roe Stamps and his late wife Penny in 2006, with the purpose of enabling extraordinary educational experiences for extraordinary students. UConn Stamps Scholars receive generous scholarship support with additional funds for enrichment opportunities such as study abroad, academic conferences, and leadership training.

STEM - STEM Scholar
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Scholarship awards awarded to first-year applicants are based on strong academic performance in high school, experience in and commitment to STEM outside of the classroom, and community engagement. STEM Scholars have met annual requirements throughout their undergraduate experience, while also engaging in additional networking and development opportunities.

R - Rowe Scholar
This scholarship and enrichment program began through the generosity of Drs. John and Valerie Rowe to support students from backgrounds underrepresented in the health fields. This program provides Rowe Scholars with scholarship support, robust academic and experiential opportunities, and supportive community to prepare these scholars to take their place as leaders in the health professions community.

B - Babbidge Scholar
These scholars earned a minimum a perfect 4.0 GPA for both spring and fall semesters in the calendar year of 2022.

NE - New England Scholar
These scholars earned a minimum a 3.7 GPA for both spring and fall semesters in the calendar year of 2022.

SPMD - Special Program in Medicine/Dental Medicine
This program provides a path to medical or dental school that offers students a unique opportunity for academic, personal, and social development and enrichment during their undergraduate years. Developed to encourage students to explore diverse opportunities that they might not otherwise consider in a traditional pre-medicine/dental study plan, this academic opportunity has created a more diverse and well-rounded student for entry to professional school.

SPL - Special Program in Law
This program is a unique and highly selective program that supports students throughout their undergraduate years to prepare them for the challenges of law school.

SPE - Special Program in Education
These students are connected to UConn’s Neag School of Education during their first two years of undergraduate study through courses, seminars, research opportunities, and mentorship, all aimed at supporting the achievement of curricular and career goals. The purpose of this program is to nurture a diverse group of highly motivated students who are interested in working in areas of teaching shortages in the State of Connecticut.

SPPH - Special Program in Pharmacy
This program offers talented students who are focused on a career in pharmacy the opportunity to combine pharmacy instruction and training. The program’s purpose is to nurture a diverse group of highly motivated students to succeed with more flexibility and enrichment in their undergraduate and professional studies. This six-year program links two years of pre-requisite and general education coursework with four years of professional pharmacy education resulting in two degrees: a BS in Pharmacy Studies and Pharm.D.
These students have completed a rigorous academic program that culminated in the production of an Honors thesis or creative project. The requirements for graduating as an Honors Scholar include a minimum of fifteen Honors credits in the major (or approved related areas), engagement in the major field outside the classroom, and a total grade point average of at least 3.4. Following is a list of students graduating as Honors Scholars, their Honors majors, their thesis titles, and the faculty advisors for their theses.
KIARA BALLIJ
Political Science
Readings In Human Rights: The Right to Education and Mental Health in the United States
Advised by: Jennifer Sterling-Folker

ABIGAIL BAR
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
Variation in Phytopathogen Host-Specificity across a Tropical Rainfall Gradient
Advised by: Robert Bagchi

MATTHEW BARNWELL IV
Communication
Marketing Strategies in Professional Sports
Advised by: Thomas Meade

QUINN BARON
Psychological Sciences
Evaluating Well-being during the Regional Student Campus Transition
Advised by: James Chrobak

SARAH BELLIZZI
Physiology & Neurobiology
Cues Guiding Postnatal Neuron Migration in Mouse and Human
Advised by: Joanne Conover

JOAO BENITES
Business Data Analytics
Predicting Match Results in the Peruvian Primera División
Advised by: David Wanik

NICHOLAS FRANK BENVENUTO
Chemical Engineering
Investigating RIN Valuations of Anaerobic Co-Digestion Biogas: Advancing Renewable Energy through Science-Based Policy Choices
Advised by: Jeffrey McCutcheon

ROSS SCOT BERNSTEIN
Physiology & Neurobiology
Primary Outcomes of VTE Prophylaxis after Elective Spine Surgery
Advised by: John Redden Special Program in Medicine

SHELYIAN BERRIOS
Human Development & Family Sciences
Analysis of the School-to-Prison- Pipeline, Policies, and Future Implications
Advised by: Laura Donorfio

RAHUL N BHAGWAN
Computer Science & Engineering
Anomaly Detection in Machine Audio using Machine Learning
Advised by: Dongjin Song

ANDREW SAM BOGATZ
History
Social Diagnosis: Clinical Social Work's Founding Charter
Advised by: Christopher Clark

KATHERINE ROSE BOHNER
Molecular & Cell Biology
Loading and Localization of Iodine Nanoparticles (INPs) in Advanced Patient Derived Xenograft (PDX)
High-Grade Gliomas (Glioblastoma Multiforme, GBM) with Closed and Open Blood-Brain Barriers (BBB)
Advised by: Henry Smilowitz

NAHAAL BOLURIAAN
Marketing
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Reed Hastings
Advised by: Nell D'Auria

SHAKTHI BOOBALAN
Physiology & Neurobiology
Single-Cell Time Lapse Imaging Analysis Reveals that Erythropoietin does not Impact Fate Determination of the Megakaryocyte Erythroid Progenitor
Advised by: Joanne Conover

ALEXANDRIA ELISABETH BOUTIN
Animal Science
Effects of Oxytocin on Reproductive Health, Milk Composition, and Caregiver Interactions in Cows
Advised by: Steven Zinn

BRENDAN MICHAEL BRAATZ
Biomedical Engineering
In Vitro Model for Traumatic Brain Injuries and Clinical Applications
Advised by: Kazunori Hoshino

SARAH ELIZABETH BRADSHAW
English
Shakespearean Constellations
Advised by: Charles Mahoney

ALEXANDRA ELAINE CARLOS
Physiology & Neurobiology
Anatomical Identification of Electrode Placement via Histological Analysis in Rats
Advised by: John Salamone

XAVIER GUSTAV BRAUN
Physics
Investigating the Thermal Evolution of Young Stellar Objects in the Galactic Center
Advised by: Cara Battersby

DANICIA MABLE BROWN
English
Black Femininity in America and Germany
Advised by: Briona Jones

JALYN MICHELLE BROWN
Political Science
Let Freedom Ring: Comparing the Speeches of Black and Indigenous Political Thinkers of the Civil Rights Era
Advised by: Jane Gordon

RYAN WILLIAM BROWN
Computer Science & Engineering
Demonstrating Real-Time Inference Using a Microcontroller
Advised by: Caileen Ding

GARY VINCENT BROWNBILL
Anthropology
A Review of the Influence of Smoke Exposure on Oxygen Isotope Fractionation and the Oral Microbiome Communities in Rats
Advised by: Gideon Hartman

LEAH RUBY BURSTEIN
Nursing
The Impact of Birth Plans on Patient Experience
Advised by: Carrie Eaton

JORDAN NICOLE BUSLEWICZ
Environmental Engineering
Lithium Monitoring via Ion Selective Membranes and Recovery via Capacitive Deionization
Advised by: Baikun Li

KAYLA NICOLE CAMERON
Historical Studies
The Role of Ketone Bodies in Delaying Neurodegeneration Caused by Traumatic Brain Injuries in the Drosophila melanogaster model
Advised by: Geoffrey Tanner

KAYLA NICOLE CAMERON
Physiology & Neurobiology
Investigating the Effects of Cannabinoid Agonists and Phosphodiesterase Inhibitors on Migration Inhibition of U87 Glioblastoma Cell Line via Wound-healing Assay
Advised by: Henry Smilowitz

GRACE MADDI CANCIAN
Molecular & Cell Biology
Detection of Constitutive Copy Number Variants Previously Identified in Chromosomal Microarray
Advised by: Stephen Lanno
ASHLYN ROSE CARTIER NE Anthropology
A Zooarchaeological Meta-Data Analysis of Early Animal Domestication in the Neolithic Northern Levant
Advised by: Natalie Munro

ANNA ROSE CASINGHINO SPL Political Science
The Effects of Wealth and Conflict on Power Dynamics
Advised by: Matthew Singer

CARINA DANIELLE CASSANO B/SPPh Doctor of Pharmacy
Characteristic and Health Behavior Differences Between High and Low Intuitive Eaters in a College Population
Advised by: Valerie Duffy

SHARANYA CHANDU NE Health Care Management
A Systematic Literature Review of Telehealth for Health Equity in Pediatric and Women's Health Care: Promise vs Reality
Advised by: Shane Murphy

SHARANYA CHANDU NE Physiology & Neurobiology
Effects of Creative Movement & Play Based Interventions on Motor Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial
Advised by: Sudha Srinivasan

ALEXANDER CHANDY STEM Computer Science
Automatic Identification of Jetting Behavior in 3D Printing with Binary Classification and Anomaly Detection
Advised by: Qian Yang

PETER WILLIAM CHARDAYOVNE B Electrical Engineering
Passive Solar Lumber Drying Kiln
Advised by: Sung Yeul Park

ERIK CHOI H/NE Physiology & Neurobiology
Understanding the Fate of Stem Cells in FOP after Knockout of the Sox9 Gene
Advised by: David Goldhamer

SAMANTHA CHOW NE Doctor of Pharmacy
Review of the Pharmacology and Place in Therapy of Vortioxetine in the Treatment of Major Depressive Disorder
Advised by: Kristin Waters

KARA KOEHLER CHRISTENSEN NE/SPMD Molecular & Cell Biology
Cellular Pathogenesis of Glioblastoma and Potential Treatments
Advised by: Kenneth Campellone

CAMERON CIANCI NE/STEM Physics
Fourier Acceleration in the Linear Sigma Model
Advised by: Luchang Jin

SILAS DAVID CIANCI History
The Northern Territories Dispute: Japan's National Museum of Territory and Sovereignty
Advised by: Victor Zatsepine

MARISSA CICCARINI NE Molecular & Cell Biology
The Genetic Implications of Language Acquisition
Advised by: Sarah Hird

RACHEL MARIE CIEPLAK NE General Program in Music
De Profundis: Exploring the Liturgical and Compositional Development of Music in the Roman Catholic Church
Advised by: Eric Rice

HANNAH ELIZABETH CLARK Mathematics
Project Social Perception: An Examination of Texturism Across Ethnicities
Advised by: Nairan Ramirez-Esparza

ALEX CLONAN Molecular & Cell Biology
A Physiologically Inspired Model for Speech Recognition in Noise
Advised by: Monty Escabi

HANNAH RITA COLMAN Exercise Science
Investigating Force Production Variables as Markers for Performance in Collegiate Basketball Athletes
Advised by: Julie Burland

BAILEY CONKEY SPPh Doctor of Pharmacy
Analysis of Medication-Related Problems Among Cambodian-Americans with Depression and Risk for Diabetes
Advised by: Christina Polomoff

SHANE THOMAS CONNOLLY NE Biological Sciences
Mechanistic Examination of Protoplast Mediated Plant Growth through the Comparative Development of Medicago Truncatula
Advised by: Daniel Gage

RYAN THOMAS CONRAD B Physiology & Neurobiology
Effort-Related Effects of the Dopamine D3/D2 Partial Agonist Cariprazine
Advised by: John Salamone

YESENIA CONTRERAS NE/S/STEM Allied Health Sciences
Feasibility Study on Medication Reconciliation Application Feedback from the Pharmacy Team's Perspective
Advised by: Sean Jeffery

TESS COOK NE/SPPh Psychological Sciences
Exploring the Relationship Between Language Abilities of Children with ASD and Parenting Stress
Advised by: Deborah Berger

JESSICA LYNN COOPER NE Elementary Education
Autism, Gender, and Identity in College Students
Advised by: Catherine Little

LINDSEY ROSE COWDEN NE Animal Science
Proteomic Profiling of Edwardsiella tarda in Response to Oxygen Nanobubbles
Advised by: Abhinav Upadhyay

LINDSAY FAITH DALY Psychological Sciences
The Influence of Attachment Style on Worry Conversations between Emerging Adult Friendships
Advised by: Kimberli Treadwell

ASHITI DAMANIA NE/STEM Molecular & Cell Biology
Role of Developmentally Regulated Factors in Retinal Ganglion Cell Survival and Axon Regeneration after Optic Nerve Injury
Advised by: Feliks Trakhtenberg

ALYSSA MARY DANIELS B/BOLD Psychology & Neurobiology
Understanding the Associations between Social and Emotional Expression, Communication, and Relationships in Individuals with Eating Pathology
Advised by: Amy Gorin

VINAYAKA V DESAI Physiology & Neurobiology
Changes in Vascularization in a Murine Model of Supratentorial Ependymoma
Advised by: Joseph Loturco

ELANNAH FAITH DEVIN B Political Science
Testing the Limits: Exploring Regime Response to Solidarity, Adaptation, and Domestic Protest Movements
Advised by: Daniel Pressman
HANNAH CATHERINE FORTUNE b
Animal Science
Decreasing Stress by Improving Gut Microbiota: Feeding Probiotics to Yorkshire Pigs to Reduce Stress Using Weight as a Biomarker
Advised by: Amy Safran

SOUMYA L GANTI b
Political Science
The People vs Company: Exploring the Effects of Consumer Boycotts on Corporate Social Responsibility in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Advised by: Daniel Pressman

NITANTA BASAVARAJ GARAG NE
Biomedical Engineering
The Relationship of Novel Human Genes to 3D Genome Organization and Function
Advised by: Jelena Erceg

AGRON GEMAJLI NE
Computer Science
Container Security in the Cloud: Comparative Analysis of the Different Cloud Systems
Advised by: Kriti Bhargava

CASSANDRA FAITH GEORGE NE
Molecular & Cell Biology
Analyzing Disorder and Structure of HPV Early and Late Stage Proteins via In Silico Conformation Analyses
Advised by: Brian Aneskievich

ADRIAN STRICKLER GIBSON STEM
Electrical Engineering
Light Intensity Modulator Design
Advised by: Sung Yeul Park

LAUREN ERICA GOBLER
American Sign Language Studies
Community Engagement Experience at the American School for the Deaf
Advised by: Linda Pelletier

GRACE ANN GOETZ b
Biomedical Engineering
Development of a Novel hiPSC-derived 3D ALI Tri-Culture Model to Investigate SARS-CoV-2 Infectivity in the Lung
Advised by: Patrick Kumavor

JASON GOGUEN
Mathematics/Actuarial Science
Study, Redesign, and Construction of UConn Baseball Scouting Reports
Advised by: Stephen Camilli

WENQI GONG NE
Economics
Family Economics and Mental Health
Advised by: Tianxu Chen

ANDREA GONZALEZ
Communication
Media Multitasking, Social Media, and its Effect on College Student’s Mental Health
Advised by: Anne-Marie Basaran

JACQUES MAURICE GOosen
Computer Engineering
Ultrawide Bandgap Material Identification for High Power, High Temperature, and High Frequency Applications
Advised by: A. Anwar

ZARYAH KAYDENCE GORDON R
Biological Sciences
Possible Motivations Behind Vaccine Hesitancy Among Black Americans During the Covid–19 Pandemic and the Importance of Cultural Competency
Advised by: Martina Powell

DANIEL ADRIAN GORMAN
Mechanical Engineering
Optimization of Wire-Rope Drum for Use in Theatrical Settings
Advised by: Hongyi Xu

MANDIRA GOWDA R
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Effect of Pitch Control on the Performance of a Low Flow Vertical Axis Turbine
Advised by: Georgios Matheou

TIJHUAN ABIGAIL GRANT-CHRISTIE
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Localization of Cytochrome P450s in Drosophila Antennae
Advised by: Karen Menuz

HAYLEY ELIZABETH GRAYSON b
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Role of Srp in Programmed Cell Death in the Drosophila Ovary
Advised by: Jianjun Sun

LEROY ANTHONY GRIFFITHS JR R
Physiology & Neurobiology
Effects of Ketogenic Diet on Fertility and Larval Development in Drosophila Melanogaster (Canton S Strain)
Advised by: Geoffrey Tanner

OLIVIA ROSE GUINNESS NE
Molecular & Cell Biology
Oncolytic Virus Immunotherapy: Development and Potential for Cancer Treatment
Advised by: Joerg Graf

MEGHANA ANJALI GUNNAMREDDY
Physiology & Neurobiology
Acute Effects of Yoga on Adults with Cognitive Impairment: A Meta – Review
Advised by: Linda Pescatello

CHRISTIAN ANTHONY GURRIERI
Mechanical Engineering
The Effect of Pitch Control on the Performance of a Low Flow Vertical Axis Turbine
Advised by: Georgios Matheou

LIU LI
Exercise Science
The Effects of Tai Chi on Cognition in Cognitively Impaired Adults
Advised by: Linda Pescatello

ERIC CHRISTIAN HABIAN
Physics
Direct Measurements of Electron Density, Temperature, and Chemical Abundance of HII Regions in NGC 4254
Advised by: Christopher Faesi

DEEMA HAIDAR
Allied Health Sciences
Dentistry on TikTok
Advised by: Sherry Pagoto

NICHOLAS HALL b
Economics
Stringency in Occupational Licensing Requirements: Explanations and Effects
Advised by: Mikhail Shor
JENNIFER CAITLYN HALPERN NE Digital Media & Design Camp Hemlock Advised by: Heejoo Kim

HAILEY ANN HAMILTON

Physiology & Neurobiology Effort-Related Motivational Effects of the Atypical Dopamine Uptake Transporter Inhibitor MK-33: Effects on Fixed Ratio Schedule Performance and Progressive Ratio/Chow Feeding Choice Performance Advised by: John Salamone

SARAH ELIZABETH HANNA B/SPMD Individualized: Health & Public Policy The Impact of Adolescent Maternal Age on Neonatal Outcomes and Neurodevelopment Advised by: Sharon Casavant

WILLIAM NICHOLS HAWES Economics Freeing the Songbird: Optimizing Organizational Formalization for Entrepreneurial Businesses Advised by: TaliaBar

KATHERINE MAE HAYWARD Individualized: Global Health The Intersection of Pesticide Policy, Exposure, and Student Health at UConn Advised by: Eleanor Ouimet

JAYDE HERNANDEZ B Psychological Sciences Development of ToM in Autistic Youth: The Potential Impact of Language Advised by: Letitia Naigles

JOHN ELLIOTT ROSS HIGGINS B Political Science Arming Abuse: Examining Inconsistencies in U.S. Arms Transfer Policy in Relation to Human Rights Advised by: Evan Perkoski


EMMA CAROLE HODGES NE Cognitive Science Does Listening Equal Learning? An Examination of the Effect of Attention on Adaptation to Novel Speech Advised by: Rachel Theodore

SERENA JEAN HOGAN NE/STEM Computer Science & Engineering Hardware Acceleration for Natural Language Processing in Real-time Systems Advised by: Caïwen Ding

GAVIN JACOB HOLBROOK Physics Advised by: Frederick Lee

GAVIN JACOB HOLBROOK Philosophy

MASON HOLLAND Political Science What the Hell do you have to Lose?: The Spectacle and False Consciousness among Black Male Trump Supporters Advised by: Matthew Singer

LAUREN TAMSYN HONE Electrical Engineering Development of a Manufacturing Machine to Produce Copper Bonding Mesh Advised by: Necmi Biyikli

VIC 'TOR MINN HTUT NE Finance Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Rose Marcario Advised by: Nell D’Auria

MOHAMMED MUSA B/NE Hussain Political Science A Moral Wage: Exploring Republican Presidential Administrations’ Moral Framing of the Minimum Wage Advised by: Matthew Singer

SARAH DANIELLE IBRAHIM Allied Health Sciences Predictors of Vaccine Hesitancy in Unvaccinated Adults in the United States Advised by: Jessica Malek

ABIGAIL MARIE INTERRANTE NE Molecular & Cell Biology Obesity-induced Metabolic Dysfunction and Inflammation in the CETP-ApoB100 Transgenic Mouse Model Advised by: Ji-Young Lee

LI ZZETTE IVELISSE IRIZARRY Latino & Latin American Studies How the Instructional Structure of a Class Shapes or Influences the Sense of Belonging and Cultural Identity of Hispanic Students in Middle School Advised by: Anne Gebelein

NIHA IRSHAD Physiology & Neurobiology Threat Appraisal as a Moderator between PTSD Symptoms, Perceived Control, and Cardiovascular Reactivity in Women who have Experienced Unwanted Sexual Contact Advised by: Crystal Park

PAUL J ISAAC N/SPMD/STEM Diagnostic Genetic Sciences Optimizing a Bioinformatic Pipeline for Detecting Bacterial and Fungal Outbreaks Advised by: Stephen Lanno

MELONIE JESSICA JACKSON STEM Mathematics/Actuarial Science Using Videogame Pity Systems as a Basis for Rewarding Insurance Policies with Favorable Risk Performance Advised by: Jeyaraj Vadiveloo

CASEY LYNN JAYCOX B Psychological Sciences Implications of Schedule Control in the Relationship between School and Work Conflict for Student Workers Advised by: Janet Barnes-Farrell

KATHERINE ANNE JENNINGS NE Biological Sciences Selfish Genetic Elements in Actinobacteriophages Advised by: Johann Gogarten

CONNOR JEWELL NE Chemistry Quantitative Analysis of the Proteomic Selectivity of Acidic Reductive Alkylation of Peptides Advised by: Xu dong Yao

JULIA RACHAEL JOHNSON B Cognitive Science Cats Say Meow: Parent Use of Generics Reflected in Child Language Level Advised by: Letitia Naigles

MAHITHA JUTTU Physiology & Neurobiology SOWANDAREYA KALAIA RASU NE/STEM Molecular & Cell Biology Side Effects following Topical Corticosteroids Usage in Pediatric Atopic Dermatitis Advised by: Sharon Smith

ROSE YASAMIN KARVANDI B/NE Physiology & Neurobiology Exploring the Moderators of the Relationship between Sleep Impairment and Cortisol Levels in Cancer Survivors Advised by: Crystal Park
JACKSON DAVIS KASZAS
Materials Science & Engineering
Metal Recovery from E-waste and Subsequent Waste Treatment
Advised by: Fiona Leek

JULIA KATSOVICH NE
Political Science
Tuned In and Sworn In: Examining Senators’ Preferences during Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings over the Ages of Television and Polarization
Advised by: Kimberly Bergendahl

MICHAEL J KATZ NE
Biomedical Engineering
Optimization of Reagent Absorption in a Microfluidic Chip through Cyclic Vacuum Flow
Advised by: Patrick Kumavor

OLIVIA MARIE KENNEDY
Allied Health Sciences
Acceptability and Feasibility of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Two-way Short Message Service (SMS) Text Message Reminders in Communities of People who Inject Drugs (PWID)
Advised by: Roman Shrestha

AALIYAH VANESSA KERR NE
Political Science
The Tale of Two Cities: The Connection Between Racist and Discriminatory Housing Policies and Access to Quality Food in Urban Communities.
Advised by: Virginia Hettinger

ONDREA JANELLLE GLORIA KERR NE
Physiology & Neurobiology
Effect of Ketogenic Diet on Length of Drosophila (Model Organism) Developmental Cycles
Advised by: Geoffrey Tanner

SHIHAB KHALFALLA NE
Computer Science & Engineering
Active Search for Autonomous Annotation of Sensing Data in Advanced Manufacturing
Advised by: Sheida Nabavi

TAAMIR AIDEN KHAN
Computer Science
BERT for Financial Sentiment Analysis
Advised by: Phillip Bradford

VENKATANATHAN KIDAMBI NE
Biomedical Engineering
Light Sheet Microscopy Incubation and Long Duration In-Vivo Imaging
Advised by: Kazunori Hoshino

PETER ANDREW KIERNAN B
Physiology & Neurobiology
Reproducibility and Time Course of Postexercise Hypotension during Exercise Training Among Adults with Hypertension
Advised by: Linda Pescatello

AUSTIN MYUNGHOOON SEAMUS KIM
Economics
The Impact of Health Resources on COVID-19 Patient Recovery
Advised by: Min Seong Kim

JENNIFER KIM NE/STEM
Biomedical Engineering
Numerical Identification of Chaos in Dynamical Nonlinear Models using COPASI
Advised by: Pedro Mendes

ANDERS ROBERT KLEINBECK
Molecular & Cell Biology
The Evolution of Methicillin Resistance in Staphylococcus aureus
Advised by: Andrei Alexandrescu

CAMERON KLEMME
Individualized: Law, Justice & Society
The Misrepresentation of America’s Civic Voices: How Internalized Racial Stereotypes Influence Democratic Participation
Advised by: Jamie Kleinman

NATALIE JEAN KLIMASZEWSKI B
Physiology & Neurobiology
Implications of the Synaptic Organizing Agents Neurexin and Neuroligin on Autism Spectrum Disorder
Advised by: Joseph Crivello

CECELIA RAE KLOTZER NE/SPL
Human Rights
Marxism and Human Rights
Advised by: Phoebe Godfrey

MANOGNA REDDY KOMMA STEM
Biomedical Engineering
Combining Negative Pressure Wound Therapy and Microneedle Arrays into a Smart System for Chronic Wounds
Advised by: Ali Tamayol

JONATHAN TIMOTHY KORSUNSKYI NE/STEM
Biological Sciences
An Overview of How HGPS Progeria Cells Effect Lamin A to Inhibit DNA Damage Repair
Advised by: Kenneth Campellone

NEAL KRISHNA H/NE/SPMD
Physiology & Neurobiology
Environmental Dependence of Star Formation Efficiency in Spiral Galaxy NGC 4254
Advised by: Christopher Faesi

MORPHY KUFFOUR
Computer Science & Engineering
Creating Reproducible Environments with Nix for Scientific Computing
Advised by: Clay Tabor Stamps

BETHANY ALEXA LAFONTAINE B
Medical Laboratory Sciences
The Use of RNA Interference to Modulate Inflammatory Cytokine Expression Pertinent to Sepsis from COVID-19
Advised by: Jessica Malek

CHLOE SARAH LAFOSSE NE
Psychological Sciences
Possible Effects of Sexual Health Education on Health Behaviors and Indicators
Advised by: Felicia Pratto

ANTHONY AYMAM LATIF
Molecular & Cell Biology
Association of Insurance Status and the Ability to Schedule Orthopedic Appointments in Connecticut
Advised by: Sharon Smith

CORA BELLE LAUFFER NE
Psychological Sciences
Meaning in Life as a Moderator of Distress Following a Traumatic Event
Advised by: Crystal Park

ALEXANDER LAWSON
Computer Science & Engineering
The Aggregate Questionnaire System (AQS): A Desktop Application for Efficiently Administering and Scoring Multiple Overlapping Questionnaires Assessing Converging Constructs
Advised by: Jinbo Bi

RICHMOND JESSE LE
Health Care Management
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Indra Nooyi
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

DANIEL FORD LEAF
Political Science
Essays on International and Human Security
Advised by: Matthew Singer

JOHN PATRICK LEAHY
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Warren Buffett
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

JONATHAN KAR LEE
Mathematics-Actuarial-Finance
The Impact of COVID-19 on the Insurance Industry
Advised by: James Trimble
Advised by: Beth Lawrence
ROBERT THOMAS LINIAK
Acting
Empowering Individual Expression: An Investigation of Selected Acting Techniques to Encourage Unique Expression in People with Autism and Other Disabilities
Advised by: Jennifer Scapetis-Tye

EMILY LINZ
Physiology & Neurobiology
Optimization of High-Performance Liquid Chromatography for Evaluating Efficacy of Triple Reuptake Inhibitors
Advised by: John Salamone

BRENDA S LITUMA SOLIS
Allied Health Sciences
Perceived Food Environment and Diet Quality of Spanish Speaking Individuals from Low-income Communities
Advised by: Valerie Duffy

ANNA LIU
Doctor of Pharmacy
Investigating Microbial Metabolism of Garcinia mangostana by the Human Gut Bacterium Clostridium sporogenes
Advised by: Marcy Balunas

EMMANUELA LIVSHIN
Statistics
Understanding the Relationship between Sleep, Physical Activity, Diet, and BMI to help Young Woman make Intentional Choices to form Healthy Habits
Advised by: Elizabeth Schifano

BRITTANY LOGAN
Psychological Sciences
Literature Review: Effects of Physical Symptoms on Mental Illness
Advised by: Matthew Heinly

PAIGE ELISABETH LONG
Psychological Sciences
Approach Bias for Food Stimuli in Undergraduate Students
Advised by: Robert Astur

WALTER JOSEPH LUCIANO
Digital Media & Design
Don't Break Your Controller, a Game Designed to Address Gamer Rage
Advised by: Mathew Worwood

CHASE ETHAN MACK
Environmental Sciences
How do Sediment Additions to Submerging Saltmarshes Alter Methane Dynamics?
Advised by: Beth Lawrence

MAURICE MAITLAND
History
Family, Race, and Migration: The Legacy of Eugenic Immigration Policies
Advised by: Jason Chang

AMRITA NAARESH MAKMHIJANI
Health Care Management
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Robert Herjavec
Advised by: Nell D'Auria

STEPHANIE RAMSBY MAKOWSKI
Molecular & Cell Biology
Current Treatment and Prevention Measures for Hospital Acquired Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (HA-MRSA) Infections
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

SEBASTIAN MARTIN MALESPINI
Molecular & Cell Biology
Expanding Understanding of Regioselective Control in Ring-Opening Reactions with Flow Chemistry
Advised by: Kerry Gilmore

SUDIKSHA EDATHIL MALLICK
Political Science
The Cycle of Inequality: Understanding the Impact of White Flight on Educational Inequality
Advised by: Bhoomi Thakore

NOELLE KRISTEN MALONEY
Pathobiology
Deconvoluting the Protective Antibody Responses to Whole Cell Pertussis (wP) Vaccines in a Mouse Intranasal Challenge Model
Advised by: Paulo Verardi

JULIA MARCH
History
The Establishment vs. the People: Los Angeles and Paris, 1968-1978
Advised by: Joanne Conover

THOMAS JOHN MCGRATH
Mathematics/Statistics
Using Dynamic Graphics in Teaching Statistical Concepts
Advised by: Haim Bar

PORTER THOMAS MEAD
Engineering Physics
Renewable Microgrid Design for Camp Hartell and AASF
Advised by: Junbo Zhao

EMILY MENARD
Human Development & Family Sciences
Nonresident Fathers and Attachment Style: How the Paternal Relationship Affects Attachment Style in the Adult Child's Relationships
Advised by: Kari Adamsons

MEGAN LISETTE MENDOZA
Nursing
The Importance of Reading to Infants in the NICU
Advised by: Sharon Casavant

MARIA NEKTARIA MENOUTIS
Biomedical Engineering
Biophysical Differences in the Anterior Talofibular Ligament based on Activity Levels and Types, for Investigation of Parameters Relevant to Personalization of Suture Anchors for Use in the Brostrom Procedure
Advised by: Krystyna Giello-Perczak

SHAYNA LYNN MARTIN
Communication
Concert Livestreaming Platforms: User Experience on Social Media versus Built-for-Function Streaming Platforms
Advised by: Thomas Meade

SARAH MARZE
Music
Elements of a Successful Clarinet Concerto in Practice
Advised by: Kenneth Fuchs

DEREK DAVID MASON
Special Education
Special Education Teachers’ Stress and Stress Management in the Era of COVID-19
Advised by: Catherine Little

THOMAS JOHN MCGRATH
Mathematics/Statistics
Using Dynamic Graphics in Teaching Statistical Concepts
Advised by: Haim Bar

PORTER THOMAS MEAD
Engineering Physics
Renewable Microgrid Design for Camp Hartell and AASF
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Biophysical Differences in the Anterior Talofibular Ligament based on Activity Levels and Types, for Investigation of Parameters Relevant to Personalization of Suture Anchors for Use in the Brostrom Procedure
Advised by: Krystyna Giello-Perczak

AMELIA INES MEZGER
Physiology & Neurobiology
Surface Integrity Analysis of the Ventricular-Subventricular Zone in Post-infectious Hydrocephalus
Advised by: Joanne Conover

JULIA ZUZANNA MICHNOWICZ
Anthropology
How Dunbar's Number has shaped Society
Advised by: Richard Sosis
AGNIESZKA MIKLASZEWICZ
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Elon Musk
Advised by: Nell D'Auria

GABRIEL MILLAN GARCIA
Mechanical Engineering
Torsional Rigidity for FSAE Frame: Computational Simulation and Validation for Merit Metrics
Advised by: Julian Norato Escobar

STEPHANIE MILlickER
Mathematics Education
An Examination of Elementary School Students’ Opinions about Mathematics
Advised by: Del Siegle

SONA MISRA
Financial Management
Understanding and Mitigating Operational Risk within the Foreign Exchange Market
Advised by: Katherine Pancak

AKASH BIJU MOLEKUDY
Allied Health Sciences
Analyzing the Downstream Effects of siRNA Targeting in an HD11 Model
Advised by: Jessica Malek

ALEXA MONRIC
Molecular & Cell Biology
The Gut Microbiome’s Impact on Cardiovascular Disease
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

ATHANASIOS JAMES MONTEMARANO
Molecular & Cell Biology
Computational Investigations into Antibody Binding for the SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein
Advised by: Eric May

MANUELA MONTOYA
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Hamdi Ulukaya
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ABIGAIL MORAN
Physics
Measuring the Acceleration of the Milky Way with Pulsar Timing
Advised by: Chiara Mingarelli

JASMINE MORRIS
Animal Science
The Usage of Animal-assisted Therapy in Educational Settings
Advised by: Jennifer Nadeau

SARAH ELIZABETH MOYNIHAN
English
Unpacking Dragons and Mermaids: Monstrosity, Perversity, and Power in the Crime Fiction of Stieg Larsson and Val McDermid
Advised by: Pamela Bedore

HANNAH MARIE MULCAHY
Allied Health Sciences
Characteristics of Unsheltered and Chronic Homeless in the Longitudinal CHESS Evaluation: A Cross-Sectional Analysis of Baseline Data
Advised by: Justin Nash

RYAN MUNASINGHE
History
Riots, Routes, and Unlawful Assemblies: Boston’s Urban Laboring Classes in the American Revolutionary Era (1760-1776)
Advised by: Christopher Clark

CULLEN BELLE MURPHY
Marketing
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Brian Chesky
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

SEAN ROBERT MURPHY
Philosophy
Is Determinism Compatible with Blameworthiness?
Advised by: William Lycan

CATHERINE GRACE MYDOSH
Exercise Science
A Cross-Sectional Study—Working Hours, Sleep, and Burnout among Athletic Trainers employed in College Athletics
Advised by: Stephanie Singe

NIDHI JAYAKUMAR NAIR
Economics
Financial Literacy among Connecticut Undergraduates: Assessing Knowledge & Confidence
Advised by: Delia Furtado

MEERA NEELATI
Applied Mathematical Sciences
Change of Measure in the Context of Stochastic Processes with Financial Applications
Advised by: Oleksii Mostovyi

SAVANNAH LYNN NGO
Physiology & Neurobiology
Interventions for Music Performance Anxiety
Advised by: Geoffrey Tanner

KAITLYN PHAM NGUYEN
Human Development & Family Sciences
Immigrant Bullying: Justifications and Ratings based on Teacher Responses and Acceptance
Advised by: Alaina Brenick

NADINE MARY NOUJAIM
Allied Health Sciences
Social Perception of Primary Characteristics
Advised by: Nairan Ramirez-Esparza

BENJAMIN DAVID NOWACKI
Mechanical Engineering
Design and Development of a Programmable Lithium-Ion Battery Tester
Advised by: Chao Hu

MARIA ISABEL OCASIO LOPEZ
Biological Sciences
Warming-induced Changes in Body Size and Abundance of the Copepod Acartia Tonsa during the 21st Century
Advised by: Hans Dam Guerrero

CHARLES TERENCE O’COIN
Mathematics Education
Higher Education Burnout: The Effect of Burnout on Students and Methods of Mitigation
Advised by: Del Siegle

MADELEINE LOISE O’CONNOR
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Effects of an Atypical DAT Inhibitor MK-36 on Effort Related Choice Behavior in Rats
Advised by: John Salamone

JESSICA LIANE ORTEGA
Pathobiology
Cancer Stem Cells, Collagen, and Iodine Nanoparticle Labeling of Orthotopic Human Triple Negative Breast Cancer and its Brain-Homing Homolog in Athymic Mice
Advised by: Henry Smilowitz

SANDRA OSEI-BOASIako
Nursing
The Effectiveness of Symptom Management in Oncology Patients
Advised by: Tiffany Kelley

BRENDAN MICHAEL O’SCHAUGHNESSY
Electrical Engineering
Energy Consumption and Efficiency Initiatives for Building 274
Advised by: Liang Zhang

SAMUEL PAUL LAZARUS OSLOVICH
Computer Science & Engineering
Security Analysis of Semiquantum Key Distribution
Advised by: Walter Krawec

JULIA ETHEL OUDIZ
Animal Science
Delivery of CRISPR/siRNA Ribonucleoprotein Complex to Cells
Advised by: Young Tang
ROSE VALERIE PACIK-NELSON  
*Cognitive Science*  
A Critical Review of Mental Health Symptomatology in Children’s Literature  
Advised by: Jamie Kleinman

ZACHARY PALANZA  
*Molecular & Cell Biology*  
Acute Kidney Injury in the Aging Population  
Advised by: Dong Zhou

CINDY PAN  
*Philosophy*  
Counterfactual Conditionals, Possibility, and Impossibility  
Advised by: Keith Simmons

MICHIELLE PAN  
*Management Information Systems*  
The Impact of Virtual Reality Meditation Intervention on Young Adults with Generalized Anxiety Disorder  
Advised by: Jonathan Moore

IVAN TARAS PANCHYSHYN  
*Biomedical Engineering*  
Biomechanical Analysis of Suture Anchor and Shaft Inserter System  
Advised by: Krystyna Gielo-Perczak

YAMINI PANT  
*Psychological Sciences*  
The Contribution of Self-compassion to Anxiety and Mood in Daily Life  
Advised by: Kimberli Treadwell

ISHITA PANWAR  
*Finance*  
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Indra Nooyi  
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

EMMA PARKES  
*Psychological Sciences*  
How Do People of Different Racial Identities Recall Information about Perpetrators and Targets of Racism?  
Advised by: Kimberly Chaney

OLIVIA MICHELLE PASCION  
*Marketing*  
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Jean-Paul Agon  
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

AYUSHI ASHOK PATEL  
*Molecular & Cell Biology*  
Understanding the Relationship between B Chromosomes and Nondisjunction in Drosophila melanogaster  
Advised by: Stacey Hanlon

JENIKA PATEL  
*Chemistry*  
Observation and Magnetic Modulation of Exciplex Emission  
Advised by: Tomoyasu Mani

KRISHA B PATEL  
*Management Information Systems*  
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Mary Barra  
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

MILAN TRUSHARHKUMAR PATEL  
*Physics*  
Modeling Accurately Matters: Characterizing Optimal Use of NOE Restraints for Molecular Dynamics Simulation of Small Proteins and Peptides  
Advised by: Eric May

RADHA HITESH PATEL  
*Molecular & Cell Biology*  
Awareness and Utilization of Healthcare Services and Resources in Underserved Communities of Connecticut  
Advised by: Elizabeth Kline

GABRIELLA LYN PATTAVINA  
*Political Science*  
Who Do You Trust?: A Look into the Effects of Political Polarization on One’s Trust in the Federal Government  
Advised by: Jeffrey Ladewig

FRANK JOHN PERGOLA  
*Marketing*  
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Jason Robins  
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

JOCELYN W PHUNG  
*Chemical Engineering*  
Monitoring PM2.5 Pollution in North Hartford, CT  
Advised by: Kristina Wagstrom

JOSEPH KRYSSTOPHER PICCOLO  
*Political Science*  
Covert Regime Change: An Exploration of Russia’s attempted Election Interference in the 2016 and 2020 Presidential Elections and how it violated International Law  
Advised by: Matthew Singer

SLAWOMIR ANDREW PIELA  
*Chemistry*  
Microcystins in Connecticut: An Analysis of Local Waterbodies during a Growing Season  
Advised by: Anthony Provatas

CASSANDRA CLARE POTTER  
*Accounting*  
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ANGELIA SIMONA PRIP  
*Accounting*  
Quadrophobia: A Follow-Up  
Advised by: Wei Chen

SARAH PROPP  
*Political Science*  
Accommodation or Assimilation?: How Well are the Needs of Native and Heritage Spanish Speakers in the United States being Met?  
Advised by: Jennifer Sterling-Folker

MONICA PYDIPATI  
*Finance*  
Exploring the Viability of Gold Jewelry as a Diversifying and Safe Haven Investment  
Advised by: Liping Gru

ANIKA QAZI  
*Psychological Sciences*  
The Self-Regulatory Benefits of Combat Sports within the Youth and the Impacts on Development  
Advised by: Augusto Buchweitz

SKYLLAR JAE RABOUCIN  
*Physiology & Neurobiology*  
Survey of Mental Health and Stressors among Pre-Medical Students at the University of Connecticut  
Advised by: John Redden

JAMES JOSEPH RADCLIFF  
*Chemical Engineering*  
Julia Modeling of Thermal Evaporator for Multi-Effect Distillation of Brine  
Advised by: Matthew Stuber

HARRISON JACK RASKIN  
*Urban Studies*  
21st Century Political Agronomy: Scarcity in the World System  
Advised by: Stacy Maddern

SHAWN ROBERT RE  
*Animal Science*  
Effects of Poor Maternal Nutrition on Offspring Muscle Cross-Sectional Area and Lipid Content  
Advised by: Kristen Govoni

ARDEN D’ELIA RICCIARDO  
*Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences*  
Speech Perception after Mild Traumatic Brain Injury  
Advised by: Emily Myers

JACK MICHAEL RIGGOTT  
*Civil Engineering*  
The Utilization of Unmanned Surface Vehicles and Unmanned Underwater Vehicles in Disasters Management  
Advised by: Jin Zhu

CHRISTOPHER RINALDI  
*Mechanical Engineering*  
The Life Cycle Analysis of the Lake Mark – Economical Hydropower Generation for Small Dams Project  
Advised by: Horea Ilies
Advised by: Guillermo Risatti

CHESEY MAE ROMER
Pathobiology
Bioinformatics Analysis of West Nile Virus
Advised by: Guillermo Risatti

GAVIN JOHN RUBLEWSKI
Mathematics/Actuarial Science
UConn Baseball Batting Order Optimization
Advised by: Stephen Camilli

MONIKA RYDZEWSKI
Philosophy
Look at the Screen!: Gossip in the Digital Age
Advised by: Lynne Tiran

KARUS A SABIO
Political Science
My Hair Does Not Define Me: Whether You See it or Not
Advised by: Beth Ginsberg

MENATALLA M SALAMA
Allied Health Sciences
Flourishing in Relation to Nativiy among U.S. Children who have Experienced the Death of a Parent
Advised by: Molly Waring

MADISON MARIE SALVATORE
Digital Media & Design
The Bacchus is Dead!
Advised by: Kenneth Thompson

SARAH ELIZABETH SAN VICENTE
Molecular & Cell Biology
Defining the Role of TIGIT as an Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor in Ovarian Cancer
Advised by: Andrew Wiemer

ANGELA LEI SANG
Doctor of Pharmacy
Disruption of Circadian Rhythm and the Effects on Chronotherapy
Advised by: Xiaobo Zhong

JACOB J SAUERHOEFER
Physics
Statistical Determination of Individual Photon Characteristics from Cadmium [Cd] Red Line Visibility Data
Advised by: Gayanath Fernando

JESSICA JAYNE SAVAGE
Pathobiology
Diseases of Backyard Chickens from 2017-2022: A 5-year Epidemiological Profile
Advised by: Guillermo Risatti

AREEJ SAYEED
Physiology & Neurobiology
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as an Intervention for Cannabis Use Disorder in Undergraduates
Advised by: Robert Astur

STEPHANIE LEIGH SCHOFIELD
Molecular & Cell Biology
Impact of DNA Damage Repair Timing on Delafloxacin Persistence in Escherichia coli
Advised by: Patricia Rossi

YASMIN SCHROM
Psychological Sciences
Tapping the Endocannabinoid System to Treat Postsurgical Pain
Advised by: Steven Kinsey

DYLAN SHAH
Mathematics-Actuarial-Finance
Predicting NCAA Player Development
Advised by: Andrew Niedzielski

ELISA SHAHOLLY
Economics
Religious Identity and Diabetes: A Muslim American Perspective
Advised by: Brenda Brueggemann

DYLAN SHANE
Computer Science
Cryptographic Game Theory
Advised by: Walter Krawec

MICHELLE REBECCA SHA VNYA
Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences
The Impact of Personality on Non-Native Speech Sound Perception
Advised by: Emily Myers

PATRICK TIMOTHY SHEA
Real Estate & Urban Economics
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Steve Jobs
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

PATRICK HENRY SHERIDAN
Ecology & Environmental Biology
Effect of SARS-CoV-2 Lockdowns on the Distribution of Anthropogenic Material in Eastern Bluebird Nests
Advised by: Sarah Knutie

CAITLYN ANN SHETLAND
Molecular & Cell Biology
HPV Vaccine Initiation and Follow-through
Advised by: Sharon Smith

LINDSAY CATHARINE SICKINGER
Animal Science
Effects of Probiotic Supplementation in Post-Weaning Swine
Advised by: Amy Safran

SLAWOMIR KRYSTIAN SIEK
Mechanical Engineering
The Effectiveness of Aluminum and Nickel Based Alloys Compared to Titanium when Creating Fracture Surfaces using the MIT Method
Advised by: Vito Tanner

KAYLA THERESA SIMON
English
Recovery Period: Poems
Advised by: Sean Forbes

PRANAV SINGH
Physiology & Neurobiology
Testing the Effect of Adenosine Antagonist Administration Timing, Sex, and Prenatal Condition on Cognitive Outcomes in Premature Infants
Advised by: Geoffrey Tanner

MAGGIE ROSE SINGMAN
Individualized: Environmental Health
The Invaluable Impact of the Nexus between Art and the Environmental Movement
Advised by: Eleanor Ouimet

NEEHARIKA SISTU
Individualized: Global Health
Living and Dying in 'Cancer Alley': Using Human Rights Law and Environmental Justice to Create a Litigation Framework for Marginalized Communities
Advised by: Audrey Chapman

CAMERON SLOCUM
Digital Media & Design
Material World: Design for a Healthful and Equitable Future
Advised by: James Coltrain

ETHAN GREGORY SMITH
Mechanical Engineering
Investigation of Eddy Current Damping using an Electro-Magnetic Acoustic Transducer (EMAT) on a Beam Structure
Advised by: Jiong Tang

KATHERINE ELIZABETH SMITH
Political Science
Private Matters: Comparing the Supreme Court’s Protection of Informational and Decisional Privacy Claims
Advised by: Kristin Kelly

RORY NANCY SMITH
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Sheryl Sandberg
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

ALLIANA ELIZABETH SNEAD
Chemical Engineering
Comparing Air Pollution with Socioeconomic Status at Public Schools across the United States
Advised by: Kristina Wagstrom
ALEXANDER VLADIMIROVITCH
SOLOD
Computer Science
A Review of Quantum Machine Learning Techniques
Advised by: Walter Krawec

NINA FRANCESCA BALANON SORIANO
Pathobiology
Genetic Characterization of West Nile Virus using Next-generation Sequencing
Advised by: Guillermo Risatti

SARAH BETH SPRACKLIN
Diagnostic & Genomic Sciences
Evaluation of Methylxation Specific Multiplex Ligation-Dependent Probe Amplification (MS-MLPA) Testing for MGMT Promoter Methylxation in Glioblastoma as a Predictive Biomarker
Advised by: Stephen Lanno

NATHAN ALEXANDER STEINBERG
Allied Health Sciences
The Effect of Range of Motion on Patterns of Hypertrophy in the Vastus Lateralis using Near-infrared Spectroscopy
Advised by: Jacob Earp

PRAJITH MICAH STEPHEN
Physiology & Neurobiology
Treating the Liver with a Potential siRNA Drug, Cemdisiran, for Immunoglobulin A Nephropathy (IgAN)
Advised by: Xiaobo Zhong

ANNA MAY STEWART
Political Science

ANNA STOWE
Doctor of Pharmacy
Reducing the Cognitive Burden of the Medication List
Advised by: Stephanie Gernant

CLAIRE ELIZABETH SULLIVAN
Physiology & Neurobiology
The Role of Olfactory Receptors in Behavioral Response to Ammonia in Drosophila melanogaster
Advised by: Karen Menuz

BRADY R SWEENEY
Animal Science
The Effect of Parasitic Load on the Skin and Hair Condition of Horses in a University Program
Advised by: Jenifer Nadeau

OLIVIA MARIE TABOLA
Allied Health Sciences
What People with Type 1 Diabetes and their Caregivers Share on TikTok: Types of Posts and Consistency with Clinical Recommendations
Advised by: Molly Waring

PRANAV N TAVILDAR
Computer Science
Analyzing the Correlation Between Twitter Sentiment and Stock Market Trends of Fossil Fuel Corporations
Advised by: Seung-Hyun Hong

JARED ALEXANDER THOMAS
Mathematics/Statistics
Students for Workers Movement: Free Risk Management Services for Small Businesses Owned by Marginalized Groups
Advised by: Jeyaraj Vadiveloo

LAURA ELIZABETH THURBER
Biomedical Engineering
Nanomaterials in the Central Nervous System: In Vitro Modeling, Drug Delivery, and Material-Brain Interactions
Advised by: Yupeng Chen

GAVIN TILL
Mechanical Engineering
Scalability and Performance Profiling of a Compressible Reacting Flow Solver with Automated Mesh Refinement
Advised by: Xinyu Zhao

KAYLA TOLLIVER-VAN WRIGHT
Mechanical Engineering
Comparing the UConn Cogeneration Plant to a Geothermal Power Plant
Advised by: Jason Lee

JOHAIRIS TORRES
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Sheryl Sandberg
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

SETH MICHAEL UTTER
Mechanical Engineering
Effects of Tempering Temperature on Gas Turbine Engine Fan Cases
Advised by: Vito Moreno

CHRISTOPHER SPIRO UYAR
Allied Health Sciences
Designing a mHealth Intervention to Serve the Underrepresented Needs of Malaysian MSM who partake in Chemsex: Data from Focus Group Discussions
Advised by: Roman Shrestha

CHELSEA VALDEZ
Human Development & Family Sciences
Experiences of Distress among Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Parental Daily Diary Study
Advised by: Rachel Tambling

JULIA DIANE VAMPATELLA
Nursing
Understanding the Effect of Prenatal Care and Education on the Postpartum Health of Mothers and Newborns in Tanzania: An Interpretive-Humanistic Ethnography
Advised by: Carrie Eaton

JOSHUA VAUGHN
Allied Health Sciences
Barriers to Dental Care for Young Children from Low-Income Families
Advised by: Valerie Duffy

ESAI VAZQUEZ-MARENTES
Finance
Responsible Investment: An Analysis of ESG in Private Equity
Advised by: Alexander Amati

SAMANTHA RAQUEL VECZKO
Chemistry
Next Generation of Vaccines: Investigating the Adjuvancy of Different Nucleic Acid Nanoparticle Surface Modifications to allow for Successful Delivery of Encapsulated mRNA
Advised by: Jessica Rouge

BRANDON URIEL VELEZ
Marketing
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Reed Hastings
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

REBECCA VILLANUEVA
Mechanical Engineering
Engineering Durable Polymer-Matrix Moisture Barrier Structures
Advised by: Kyungjin Kim

JULIAN JOHN VIVENZIO
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Mark Cuban
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

KIMLYN VO
Allied Health Sciences
Exploring Racial Disparities on Activity-based and Location-based Food Environments and their Associations with Cardiometabolic Health
Advised by: Ran Xu

CHAOYANG WANG
Economics
Martingale Optimal Transport and Asset Pricing: A Study of the Application of Multi-Marginal Martingale Optimal Transport
Advised by: Chih-hwa Kao

CHAOYANG WANG
Finance
Martingale Optimal Transport and Asset Pricing: A Study of the Application of Multi-Marginal Martingale Optimal Transport
Advised by: Chih-hwa Kao

JARED ALEXANDER THOMAS
Mathematics/Statistics
Hedging RILA Products with Inverse Exchange-traded Funds
Advised by: Bin Zou

CHRISTIE BAISHAN WANG
Journalism
To Be Real or not to Be Real?: Authenticity in Social Media, Advertising, and Journalism
Advised by: Marie Shanahan

PHOENIX LING WANG
Biological Sciences
Exploratory Research Identifying Culturable Gut Microbes from Peruvian Bird Species
Advised by: Sarah Hird

CAROLINE WEBB NE
Environmental Sciences
Integrative Network Physiology and Translational-omics Considerations in Research Design Investigating Biological Sex Differences in Stress Response and Adaptation
Advised by: Elaine Lee

DEVANTE WEBSTER S
Accounting
The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Mergers and Acquisitions in the Technology Industry
Advised by: Todd Kravet

RASHANA WEERASINGHE
Business Data Analytics
An Analysis of the Effectiveness of Virtual Reality in Distance Learning
Advised by: Jonathan Moore

ZOYE MORGAN WEISMAN NE/STEM
Animal Science
The Effects of Poor Maternal Nutrition in Ewes on the Growth and Development of Offspring
Advised by: Steven Reed

MACKENZIE ANGELA WENG NE
Nursing
Assessing Anti-Inflammatory Properties of Cannabinoids
Advised by: Steven Kinsey

REBEKAH XIN WESLER NE
Political Science
Critical Analyses of Success in Counter-insurgency and Human Security
Advised by: Jennifer Sterling-Folker

BRENDA ADAM WHITE NE
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Steve Ballmer
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

WILLIAM WHITNEY
Mathematics/Statistics
Analysis of How Contract Extensions Affect the Performance of Professional Athletes
Advised by: Andrew Niedzielski

JULIE-ANN MCKENZIE WILLIAMS NE/R/STEM
Cognitive Science
Learning Words in a Malevolent World: Partial Word Learning from Low Informative Input
Advised by: Sumarga Suanda

CATHERINE GRACE WINDOVER SPL
Political Science
Woman vs Woman: Examining the Impact of Gender in Media Coverage of the 2022 Gubernatorial Races
Advised by: Virginia Hettinger

SHOSHANA HAIWAN WU
Finance
Assessing Leadership in Business: A Critical Investigation of Whitney Wolfe Herd
Advised by: Nell D’Auria

KATARINA GRACE YACUK NE
Physiology & Neurobiology
Establishing the Role of Dilp8 in Drosophila Female Reproduction
Advised by: Jianjun Sun

HELEN YANG B
Communication
Exploring Weight Loss Intentions during COVID-19
Advised by: Elizabeth Hintz

MENGTONG YAO NE
Finance
The Theory and Method of Quantitative Investment Analysis
Advised by: Liping Qiu

ANDREA FAITH YBANEZ
Psychological Sciences
Implications of COVID-19 on Students attending Higher Education Institutions
Advised by: Matthew Heinly

KAITLYN YEARWOOD
Allied Health Sciences
Dehydration’s Effect on Cognition using an ANAM Battery
Advised by: Robert Huggins

CHARLI MARIE ZARETSKY NE
Mechanical Engineering
Probabilistic Machine Learning for Battery State of Health Prognostics
Advised by: Chao Hu

SAM JULIAN ZELIN
History
Comparing the Daily Campus Student Newspaper to Regional Publication The Hartford Courant: A Look into the Value of College Journalism and its Place in the Historical Newspaper Record
Advised by: Melanie Newport

FANXIN ZENG
Finance
The Impact of State-owned and Private Ownership of Land on Real Estate
Advised by: Jeffrey Cohen

TINNA ZHENG
Allied Health Sciences
Qualitative Analysis of Barriers and Facilitators to Healthy Dental Behaviors in Young Children
Advised by: Valerie Duffy

VICTORIA ANDREA ZUCO B
English
Agrarian Individualism and Food justice Perspectives in Contemporary Multi-ethnic Literature of the United States
Advised by: Alexander Menrisky
Honors Faculty Member of the Year Award Recipient

**Jane Pryma** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Connecticut. Professor Pryma enjoys teaching social theory and topical courses on the sociology of gender and health, mental illness, and science, knowledge and technology. She especially appreciates the opportunity to work with Honors students as they pursue their own sociological research interests. Professor Pryma's own research examines how national politics, medical technologies, and legal regulation affect the ways that individuals and institutions make sense of pain, illness, and disability. Her work has appeared in the *American Sociological Review, Social Science, Medicine and the Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy*. Professor Pryma received her PhD and MA in Sociology from Northwestern University, and her BA from Kenyon College.

**Dr. Lynne Goodstein and Peter Langer Award Recipient**

**Richard N. Langlois**, Professor of Economics, has been a member of the UConn faculty since 1983. A native of northeastern Connecticut, he was educated at Williams, Yale, and Stanford. He has been a visiting Senior Fellow at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; an Adjunct (Honorary) Professor at the Copenhagen Business School; and a Distinguished Professor in the School of Economics and Business Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Professor Langlois's research has garnered the Newcomen Prize in Business History and the Schumpeter Prize of the International Joseph A. Schumpeter Society. He has received the Provost's Research Excellence Award from the University of Connecticut (2006); the Faculty Excellence Award in Research (Humanities/Social Sciences) from the University of Connecticut Alumni Association (2007); and the Research Excellence Award (Social Sciences) from the UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (2015). His most recent book, *The Corporation and the Twentieth Century: the History of American Business Enterprise*, will appear from Princeton University Press in June.

**Honors Student Keynote Speaker**

**Nour Al Zouabi** is a double major graduate with a Bachelor of Arts as an Individualized Major in Rights, Health and BS in Molecular and Cell Biology, and Refugees and minoring in Chemistry and Human Rights. Her thesis, funded by the IDEA Grant, addresses refugees' post-resettlement barriers to accessing healthcare services in the U.S. during COVID-19. She aspires on pursuing a career in the medical field and is passionate about incorporating public health education into practice. On campus, Nour serves as the vice president of team development of CLAS SLB, Pack Leader, president of Tri-Alpha, Multicultural and Diversity Senator in USG, president of Minds Beyond Borders Initiative and vice president of Net Impact Undergrad. She is also a Health Professions Peer Ambassador and FIRST mentor and member of Dr. Lu research lab. At the Stamford campus, she was the president of the Biology Club, treasurer of the Muslim Student Association, treasurer of the Anthropology Society, and worked as a STEM tutor at the Student Support Services office. Outside of school, Nour is a member of the Center for Research Engagement (CRE) Cancer Subcommittee at Yale Cancer Center and an active member of the American Red Cross Disaster Action Team. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading books in Arabic, and meeting new people. She also has a passion for photographing flowers on the side of the street, sunset and sunrise, and mushrooms.
Special Performance by Rubyfruit

Songs performed today:

**Evergreen** by Yebba
Soloists: Catherine Windover and Zoe Raposo
Vocal Percussion: Audrey Rivetta

**Helplessly Hoping** by Crosby Stills Nash and Young
Performed without soloists or vocal percussion

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Rubyfruit is an all-female a cappella group from the University of Connecticut. This amazing collective of women, known as the “Rubies” were founded in 1999 with a clear mission to promote women’s empowerment through music.

The Rubies perform a wide variety of music both on and off campus. The group has most recently performed the national anthem at a New York Rangers game in Madison Square Garden. Additional credits include, performing as an opening act for the Radio City Rockettes in Radio City Music Hall and for the Miss Connecticut Pageant. They just finished recording their ninth professionally recorded album that will be coming out on all streaming platforms this summer. Most importantly, this is a group of lifelong friends who love to sing together and encourage women’s empowerment through music!

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The Honors Program is grateful to all the Rubies for their performance today.

Paige Booth ’25/Mezzo/Environmental Science
Hailey Calder ’26/Alto/Pre-Teaching
Kelly Goodwin ’26/Soprano/Biomedical Engineering
Micaela Guzman ’26/Soprano/Music Education
Isabella Iglesias ’24/Alto/Sports Management
Lexie LaCross ’24/Mezzo/Psychology
Linda Nelson ’24/Soprano/Music Education
Zoe Raposo ’24/Mezzo/Psychology
Gillian Regan ’24/Soprano/Speech Language and Hearing Sciences
Audrey Rivetta ’23/Alto/Mechanical Engineering
Isabella Rubio ’24/Alto/Biological Sciences
Sabrina Russotto ’26/Soprano/Music
Stephanie Syracuse ’23/Soprano/Nursing
Catherine Windover ’23/Alto/Political Science & Economics
Student Speaker Finalist Speech Excerpts

The selection of the Honors Medals Ceremony student speaker is always so difficult, given the number of highly qualified applicants. The 2022 student finalists graciously have allowed for this publication to share excerpts from their prepared speeches.

**Honors Student Keynote Speaker Finalists**

Sarah Adlassnig  
Isabella Amata  
Safa El-Mouwfi  
Aryanna Fontanez  
Katie Hooker  
Abigail Interrante  
Jackson Kaszas  
Abigail Moran  
Dylan Shah

*Although this program is largely defined by its prestigious academic and networking opportunities, it is more largely defined by its ability to connect the most empathetic, driven, and passionate people that I have come to know.*

*During the first few days of our college experience, we began to understand the Honors Program’s vision: “Honors students will value knowledge at the broadest level while achieving distinction in their field of study. They will be prepared for leadership in their chosen professions and will serve their communities as responsible local and global citizens.”*

*Our personal growth, achievements, and success often stem less from who we naturally are and more from who we are expected to be by our teachers, coaches, and peers. From the beginning, the Honors program expects its constituents to be exceptional, and it was these expectations that catalyzed my success as a UConn student.*

*Whatever our path may be, we all have one unique thing in common, which is that the Honors Program has helped develop our skills and expanded the boundaries of our academic potential. This will help us become leaders and thinkers in fields that have significant impact on society.*

*I have been given so many opportunities to excel and chase my ambitions on my own terms, and Honors has supported me every step of the way. It has been my honor to be part of such a community. So even now, I cannot pinpoint exactly why we call it Honors, but to me it means being a part of something greater. A community and opportunity for students not just to excel in academics, but to come together and drive the meaningful change we want to see in the world.*
The Honors Board of Associate Directors

The Honors Board of Associate Directors includes faculty members, Honors Program staff, and students from the Honors Council. The Board advises and assists with the work of the Honors Program.

Johnny Banks, Academic Advisor
James Chrobak, Psychology
Laura Donorfio, Human Development & Family Studies
Travis Grosser, Management
Virginia Hettinger, Political Science
Claudia Koerting, Marine Sciences
Catherine Little, Educational Psychology
Erika Williams, English & Africana Studies
Beth Lawrence, Natural Resources & Environment
Richard Luddy, Physics
Deborah Chyun, School of Nursing
John Richardson, School of Fine Arts
Brian Aneskievich, Pharmacy
Judy Brown, Institute for Systems Genomics, School of Nursing
Patrick Kumavor, Biomedical Engineering
Jamie Caruso, BGS & Non-Degree Programs
Rachel O’Neill, Molecular & Cell Biology

Annamarie Csizmadia, Human Development & Family Science
Melissa Manning, Academic Advisor
Isaac Ortega, Natural Resources and Environment
Eric Schultz, Senate C&C
Jennifer Lease Butts, Honors & Enrichment Programs
Jaclyn Chancey, Honors & Enrichment Programs
Patricia Szarek, Honors Program
Kaitlin Heenehan, Honors & Enrichment Programs
Anne Kim, Honors Program
Fiora Lena, Class of 2025
Nidhi Jayakumar Nair, Class of 2023
Kayla Audrey Obolo Njoh Sam, Class 2026
Catherine Jhong, Class of 2024
Vidhisha Thakkar, Class of 2026
Joey Macary, Class of 2026