



GRAD

SLAM

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Friday, May 6, 2022

gradslam.universityofcalifornia.edu

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

11:00 a.m.

WELCOME

Katie Ferrick

Senior Director of Workplace Programs: Community, Sustainability, Food, Travel and Transportation
LinkedIn

OPENING REMARKS

Michael V. Drake, M.D.

President
University of California

GRAD SLAM PRESENTATIONS

INTERVIEW WITH UC REGENT **JOSE HERNANDEZ**

Moderated by Yvette Gullatt

Vice President for Graduate and Undergraduate Affairs and Vice Provost for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

AWARD PRESENTATIONS*

Michael V. Drake, M.D.

President
University of California

Michael T. Brown

Provost
University of California

PRESENTATION ORDER

Wei Gordon

Uncovering the sweet secrets of fruit-eating mammals

UC SAN FRANCISCO **GENETICS**

Amanda Quirk

The Tale of Two Galaxies: Studying how galaxies change over time

UC SANTA CRUZ **ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS**

Justin Lee

Jamming the SARS-CoV-2 copy machine

UC BERKELEY **METABOLIC BIOLOGY**

Meghana Pagadala

GERMTIME: How germline variants can make a difference in cancer immunity

UC SAN DIEGO **BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES**

Alice Dien

Cooling Down with the New Hot Air: The future of drying in agriculture

UC DAVIS **BIOLOGICAL AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING**

Rachel Sousa

Curing cancer with math

UC IRVINE **MATHEMATICAL, COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS BIOLOGY**

Jessica Wilson

CBD: Wonder drug or dud?

UC MERCED **QUANTITATIVE AND SYSTEMS BIOLOGY**

Claire Whitaker

Finishing off food fungus for good

UC RIVERSIDE **BOTANY AND PLANT SCIENCES**

Geoff Meyerhof

The Early Bird Gets the Worm, but the Second Mouse Gets the Cheese: What simple organisms can teach us about our daily rhythms

UC SANTA BARBARA **BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

Kelsi Rutledge

The Fluid Dynamics of Smell: A stingray's perspective

UCLA **ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY**

After the talks, cast your vote for audience favorite at ucal.us/gsvote

* Cash awards generously provided by Thermo Fisher Scientific.

GRAD SLAM IS A RESEARCH COMMUNICATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS DESIGNED TO MAKE THEIR WORK, ITS PURPOSE AND ITS VALUE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC. IN THIS TOURNAMENT-STYLE COMPETITION, GRADUATE STUDENTS SHOWCASE THEIR ABILITY TO PRESENT THEIR RESEARCH IN THREE MINUTES IN A WAY THAT ENLIGHTENS AND ENTERTAINS A GENERAL AUDIENCE. THE UC-WIDE GRAD SLAM FEATURES WINNERS FROM EACH OF UC'S 10 CAMPUSES COMPETING FOR THE SYSTEMWIDE PRIZE.

MEET OUR JUDGES



Jose Hernandez is a UC Regent and President and CEO at Tierra Luna Engineering, an aerospace consulting company. Hernandez is a former NASA astronaut who served on the U.S. space shuttle overseeing the transfer of equipment to the International Space Station and serving as principal robotics arm operator.



Alan Sachs is chief scientific officer for Thermo Fisher Scientific. He leads efforts to maximize growth through investments in research and development that help customers accelerate life sciences research, solve complex analytical challenges, improve patient diagnostics and increase laboratory productivity.



Robert B. Horwitz is chair of the UC Academic Senate and a professor of communication at UC San Diego, where he teaches courses in the areas of law and communication and religion and politics. His scholarship focuses on democracy, communication and political reform.



Nicole Estrada is a senior at Gateway High School who will attend UC Merced in the fall. She is a student government representative, community leader for the LatinX Student Union (LSU), and is captain of the girls varsity soccer team.



Jordan Felder is a senior at San Francisco's Gateway High School who will attend UCLA in the fall. She is active in student clubs including the Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco, where she participated in the 2022 Youth of the Year program.

ABOUT UC GRADUATE STUDIES

The University of California offers outstanding graduate programs across a wide spectrum of fields with more than 735 degree offerings. UC enrolls nearly 65,000 graduate students (master's, Ph.D. and professional school students) across its 10 campuses. Alumni of UC graduate programs are responsible for hundreds of inventions, startups, published research and groundbreaking discoveries every year.

ADVOCATE FOR UC!

The University of California creates public benefits for California, our nation and the world. The UC Advocacy Network works with government officials and policymakers in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., to highlight the impact of UC's contributions. We need your help to spread the word.

Thousands of higher education advocates are already making their voices heard. Together, our letters, emails, phone calls and actions will help shape policies that will ultimately move UC — and California — onward. Please lend your voice to support UC. Together, we are making a difference.

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