**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**10:30 a.m.**

**WELCOME**

**Yvette Gullatt**  
Vice President for Graduate and Undergraduate Affairs and Vice Provost for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, University of California, Office of the President

**OPENING REMARKS**

**Michael V. Drake, MD**  
President  
University of California

**GRAD SLAM PRESENTATIONS**

**REMARKS**

**Theresa Maldonado**  
Vice President for Research and Innovation, University of California, Office of the President

**LUNCH RECEPTION**

**1:00 p.m.**

**AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

**Michael V. Drake, MD**  
President  
University of California  
Katherine S. Newman  
Provost  
University of California

**PRESENTATION ORDER**

**Aneelman Brar**  
*From Pollutant to Fuel & New Products: Recycling Carbon Dioxide*  
UC MERCED, CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

**Muhammad Twaha Ibrahim**  
*Lights, camera, surgery!*  
UC IRVINE, COMPUTER SCIENCE

**Annette Hilton**  
*Turning on the Tap*  
UC SANTA BARBARA, BREN SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

**Elissa Monteiro**  
*“School really isn’t built for some kids:” Piloting an executive function screening system*  
UC RIVERSIDE, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

**Brandon Tsai**  
*Next generation COVID-19 vaccines*  
UCLA, HUMAN GENETICS

**Christa Seidl**  
*Silence in Paradise: Fighting extinction and infectious disease in Hawaiian birds*  
UC SANTA CRUZ, ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

**Julia Mouat**  
*Grandmas, Ghosts and Genes*  
UC DAVIS, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

**Shang-En (Sean) Huang**  
*Soliloquizing: A Self-Practice Towards Better Foreign Language Speaking Fluency*  
UC SAN DIEGO, COGNITIVE SCIENCE

**Deepa Rajan**  
*Learning without a brain*  
UCSF, CELL BIOLOGY

**Madison Browne**  
*Shedding Light on Alzheimer’s Disease*  
UC BERKELEY PSYCHOLOGY: BEHAVIORAL AND SYSTEMS NEUROSCIENCE

---

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

Susan Cochran is Professor of Epidemiology in the Fielding School of Public Health and Professor of Statistics in the College of Letters and Science at UCLA. She currently chairs the systemwide UC Academic Senate. Professor Cochran’s scholarly interests focus on the psychosocial determinants of health and health-related behaviors, and the role of social stigma and discrimination in health care access, health behaviors, mental health, and health outcomes.

Mieko Hatano joined the Oakland Symphony in 2018 as Executive Director. She continues to define and execute the strategic vision and values of inclusive, accessible, and innovative artistic programming that is relevant to East Bay audiences and the Oakland community. In 2022, Mieko was named one of San Francisco Business Times “Most Influential Women in Business.” Mieko currently serves as a director on the boards of Visit Oakland and the Association of California Symphony Orchestras as well as in an advisory capacity for Maestro Games, a social purpose corporation working with first responders, research institutions and healthcare providers to develop wellness and resilience technology.

Ana J. Matosantos served as cabinet secretary in the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom. Previously, she was a budget and policy consultant, focusing primarily on issues relating to the state budget, education finance, health care, income inequality, and local government. She was appointed to the UC Board of Regents in July 2022 by Governor Newsom to a term expiring in 2034.

Lanita Pace-Hinton is a media and communications professional with 20+ years of diverse experience in journalism, media education, professional development, program development and operations management. She is currently Director of Development, Research and Impact for CalMatters, a statewide media organization that reports on California state politics and legislative issues. She was the founding director of the Knight Digital Media Center, an internationally recognized digital media leadership and skills training center at the UC Berkeley School of Journalism.

Sergio Sanchez is a senior at Gateway High School. He is a first-generation college student, attending UC Davis in the fall, majoring in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Sanchez joined a program for coding, through Gateway Middle School’s after-school programs, when he was 13. There he learned how to create an app and even a video game. He hopes to pursue a career in the pediatric medical field and hopes to help underserved communities.
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.

Please go to ucal.us/ucan