The CISER Undergraduate Research Scholars’ presentations are in video format followed by in-person questions to the presenters. This format is part of our newest initiative to give Scholars a presence on the World Wide Web and an opportunity to connect with other researchers globally.

Welcome - Roman Taraban, Ph.D., Psychological Sciences

Kill Those Cancer Cells
Nitish Mittal
Mentor: Dr. Stephanie Filleur
Department: Urology, TTUHSC

Development of Collaborative, Hands-on High School Physics Activities
Rachel Smith
Mentor: Dr. Jerry Dwyer
Department: Curriculum & Instruction, TTU

Blood and Bacteria: Interactions in the Host Environment
Brittany Herrin
Mentor: Dr. Catherine Wakeman
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

Differences in Size, Using Skulls, Between Males and Females in the White-Lined Broad-Nosed Bat
Ashlyn Kildow
Mentor: Dr. Richard Stevens
Department: Natural Resources Management, TTU

Cooperation of Bacteria in Cystic Fibrosis Lungs Through Production of Pyomelanin Pigment
Obadeh Shabaneh
Mentor: Dr. Catherine Wakeman
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

Protein Synthesis and Disease
Kristen Baca
Mentor: Dr. Andrey Karamyshev
Department: Cell Biology and Biochemistry, TTUHSC

The Pricelessness of the Nano Scale: Creating Biofilm-Busting Magnets
Amanda Miller
Mentor: Dr. Dominick Casadonte
Department: Chemistry and Biochemistry, TTU
Crocodiles: Who’s related to who?
Zach Nguyen
Mentor: Dr. David Ray
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

The Influence of Informal STEM Education on Overall Student Interest in STEM
Brianna Crosier
Mentor: Dr. Jerry Dwyer
Department: Education, TTU

Effects of Early Type II Diabetes on Testicular Health
Robin Greer
Mentor: Dr. Jannette Dufour
Department: Cell Biology and Biochemistry, TTUHSC

Difference of Cretaceous Limestones at Comanche Peak
Alex Blizzard
Mentor: Dr. Jerry Dwyer
Department: Education, TTU

Sterol Lipids in Leishmania
James Huffman
Mentor: Dr. Kai Zhang
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

The Competitive Nature of Polymicrobial Interactions in Biofilms
Shawna Gallegos
Mentor: Dr. Kendra P. Rumbaugh
Department: Surgery, TTUHSC

Effects of Acute Stress on Attention in a Mouse Model of Alzheimer’s Disease
Giuliana DiMarco
Mentor: Dr. Brianna Harris & Dr. Paul Soto
Departments: Biological Sciences and Education, TTU

LUNCH BREAK and Invited Speakers
Scholar Service Organization President, Zach Nguyen

NI-07 - The War on Cancer: A Natural Product That Kills Cancer Cells Without Harming Normal Cells
Stacy Galvan
Mentor: Dr. Lauren Gollahon
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU
Assessment of Short Term Memory Changes in a Transgenic Alzheimer’s Mouse Model
Rebekah Salinas
Mentor: Dr. Breanna Harris
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

Bacteria on Bacteria Warfare
Jorge Franco
Mentor: Dr. Mindy Brashears and David Campos, PhD Graduate Student
Department: Animal and Food Sciences, TTU

Radioactive Tin in the Treatment of Arthritis
Aashish Chandra Gupta
Mentor: Dr. Richard E. Wendt III
Department: Imaging Physics, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston

Using Socially Assistive Robots in Autism Therapy
Vijayanta Jain
Mentor: Dr. Wesley Dotson
Department: Education/EPL, TTU

Plant Diversity
Samantha M. Soto
Mentor: Dr. Matt Olson
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

Interesting Intestines: How Pregnancy Changes the Guts of Bats (in absentia)
Gregory Knox
Mentor: Dr. Caleb Phillips
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

Alzheimer’s Transgenic Mouse Model’s Hormonal Stress Response to Predator Odor
Mackenna Wollet
Mentors: Dr. Breanna Harris & Dr. Paul Soto
Department: Biological Sciences, TTU

Galactic Dynamics
Brody Allen Moore
Mentor: Dr. Kevin Long
Department: Physics and Mathematics, TTU

Identifying Microorganism Biodiversity in West Texas Vineyards (in absentia)
Kenia Ascencio
Mentor: Dr. Marie Bugarel
Department: Animal and Food Sciences, TTU
Salty Shrimp: Mutations That Allow Them to Survive in One of the Saltiest Places on Earth (in absentia)
Brittany Gaither
Mentor: Dr. Pablo Artigas
Department: Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics, TTUHSC

Automatic Cell Counting in Microfluidic Analysis Systems
Adrian Falco
Mentor: Dr. Dimitri Pappas
Department: Chemistry and Biochemistry, TTU

Gulf Killifish Invade the Pecos River
Jesus Salazar
Mentor: Dr. Allison Pease
Department: Natural Resources Management, TTU

The Man with the Golden Gun
Colt Cagle
Mentor: Dr. Michelle Pantoya
Department: Mechanical Engineering, TTU