CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

GRAD SLAM
THREE-MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION

2022

HOSTED BY

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BAKERSFIELD

EVENT BROCHURE

Sponsored by:

CSU The California State University
California State University, Bakersfield is proud to host the second annual CSU Grad Slam/3MT competition on May 6th, 2022.

This event showcases and celebrates the wide array of excellent research and creative activity taking place at the graduate level across the CSU. Participating CSU campuses nominate two graduate students to compete for a chance to win cash prizes and bragging rights.

During the competition, participants are allowed 3 minutes and one PowerPoint slide to present their research to a non-expert audience.
WELCOME REMARKS

DR. LYNNETTE ZELEZNY, PRESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

DR. JOLENE KOESTER, INTERIM CHANCELLOR OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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FINAL ROUND JUDGES

GANESH RAMAN, PH.D., ASSISTANT VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH AT THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

ROSSITZA WOOSTER, PH.D., DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY AND PRESIDENT OF THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS

KRISTAL RAYNES, SENIOR AT CSU BAKERSFIELD AND MEMBER OF THE CSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINAL ROUND JUDGES

Margarita Melendez, M.Ed., Education Program Specialist with the United States Department of Education and Program Lead for Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans Program

Brent Foster, Ph.D., Assistant Vice Chancellor and State University Dean for Academic Programs at the California State University Office of the Chancellor
CSU BAKERSFIELD EMCEES

DEBRA JACKSON, PH.D., ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

LUI S VEGA, PH.D., INTERIM DEAN FOR GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
CSU Bakersfield

CSU Bakersfield’s campus spans 375 acres and was previously agricultural land before being converted to its current state. The school’s mascots, roadrunners, still roam the campus.

Competitors

Autumn Corrow
Finalist

The effects of fire on bat activity in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park
Advisor: Dr. Anna Doty

Isabella Ozuna

Flashy Fluorescence
Advisor: Dr. Amber Stokes

Judge
Anna Jacobsen, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
CHICO STATE IS HOME TO THE EXOTIC "CORPSE FLOWER" THAT BLOOMS ONLY EVERY 4 YEARS, REACHES HEIGHTS OF 6+ FEET, AND EMITS A PUTRID SMELL SO STRONG IT CAN BE DETECTED ACROSS CAMPUS AND MORE THAN AN 1/8TH OF A MILE AWAY.

Competitors

CHEYENNE COLLINS
FINALIST

Modeling Scavenging Patterns within the Willamette Valley of Oregon: Informing Search Structure in Medicolegal Investigations

Advisor: Ashley Kendell

SANDRA SCHOLTEN

Crisis targeted pregnancy centers: Crisis pregnancy centers locate near planned parenthood clinics and in low-income areas

Advisor: Dr. Lori Webber
CSU Dominguez Hills

CSU DOMINGUEZ HILL’S 346 ACRES WERE ONCE A SECTION OF THE FIRST PRIVATE LAND GRANT IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA--THE RANCHO SAN PEDRO BELONG TO THE DOMINGUEZ FAMILY. THE SITE CHOSEN FOR THE UNIVERSITY WAS KNOWN AS THE DOMINGUEZ HILLS, NAMED AFTER THE FAMILY.

Competitors

LAMIYA HOQUE

Public School Leadership During a Pandemic: Three Case Studies
Advisor: Dr. Rui Sun & Dr. Hugo Asencio

JENNIFER ROBBINS

Occupational Justice For Women Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence
Advisor: Dr. Sheryl Ryan

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Fresno State was the first U.S. university to establish a commercial winery.

Competitors

Jorge Jacinto

Carina Villegas

Recycling the Trash in Your Brain

Advisor: Dr. Joy J. Goto

DNA Lego – Assembly Required

Advisor: Dr. Cory Brooks
CSU Fullerton

CSU FULLERTON’S MASCOT IS AN ELEPHANT NAMED TUFFY THE TITAN. THE ELEPHANT WAS ADOPTED AFTER AN ACTUAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ELEPHANT RACE WAS HELD ON CAMPUS IN 1962, DUBBED THE “DUMBO DOWNS.”

Competitors

MANDY TAYLOR

Cherwell’s Labyrinth: Gamified Onboarding Training For CSUSB Instructional Designers
Advisor: Dr. Debra Ambrosetti

REMUS MITCHELL

Attitudes Towards Learning Disabilities Scale Construction and Validation
Advisor: Dr. William Marelich

Judge

ROB SAGE, BUSINESS LIBRARIAN

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Cal Poly Humboldt became Northern California’s first polytechnic university in 2022.

Competitors

HANNAH JOSS
Monitoring Bull Kelp at High Resolutions
Advisor: Dr. James Graham

ANNE HOWARD
Counter-Mapping Literature
Advisor: Dr. Janelle Adsit
Dr. Maulana Karenga, a professor of Africana Studies at CSU Long Beach, created the first Pan-African holiday, Kwanzaa.

Advisor: Dr. Connie Ireland

Dual-tasking reduces fall risk among older adults
Dr. Young-Hee Cho
Cal State Los Angeles is the only university in Southern California to have a campus Metrolink rail station; other than Union Station, it is now Metrolink’s busiest L.A. station.

Competitor

SEAN LYON

Leveraging bird specimens to quantify the historical effects of urbanization on avifauna in Los Angeles

Advisor: Dr. Eric Wood
CSU Monterey Bay is built on a former army base. The campus borders 8,000 acres of pristine oak woodland and savannah in the Fort Ord National Monument and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Competitors

Juliana Cornett

As Oxygen Declines in a Local Estuary, How Will Juvenile Flatfish Respond?
Advisor: Dr. Cheryl Logan

Connie Machuca

Save Our Streams: A Microscopic Solution to Pollution
Advisor: Dr. Nathaniel Jue
CSU Northridge currently has 377,233 alumni.

Competitors

JESSICA GONZALEZ
FINALIST

What is the Relationship between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Romantic Relationship Satisfaction in Young Adults?
Advisor: Dr. Judith DeBonis

VELIA NUNEZ

Systolic Blood Pressure is Associated with Carotid Intima-Media Thickness (CIMT) Independently of Type 2 Diabetes Predisposition in Minority Adolescents
Advisor: Dr. Claudia Toledo Corral

Competitor

DION CHANG

Transglutaminase treatment of Rice Protein for improved functionality in gluten-free pasta

Advisor: Dr. Yao Olive Li
HOME TO MORE THAN 3,500 TREES, SAC STATE IS A TREE CAMPUS USA, HAVING HELD THE DISTINCTION SINCE 2013.

Competitor

KRISTIN MILLS

Psychedelic Leadership: Expanding Consciousness, Connection, and Profit

Advisor: Dr. Mickel & Dr. Riolli
LEGEND HAS IT THAT CSU SAN BERNARDINO’S WILD SONG SCULPTURE DEPICTING THE CSUSB MASCOT, THE COYOTE, POSSESSES A LUCKY PAW, WHICH HAS TURNED GREEN FROM THE MANY STUDENTS WHO RUB IT BEFORE FINAL EXAMS.

Competitors

ALEXIA MARTINEZ

Unapologetically Her: A Nomadic-Intersectional Case Study Analysis on Lizzo and Jillian Michaels

Advisor: Dr. Mariam Beltemidze

CAMERON FRASER

Demonstration of Therapeutic Potential of C3aR1 Targeting CAR T Cells

Advisor: Dr. Laura Newcomb and Dr. Aileen Anderson

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In 1963, just months before he was assassinated, U.S. President John F. Kennedy gave the commencement address at San Diego State College. President Kennedy received the university’s first honorary doctorate – also the first in the CSU system.

Competitors

Melanie Nicholls
Finalist

Choline Supplementation Mitigates Effects of Prenatal THC Exposure on Spatial Memory in Rats
Advisor: Dr. Jennifer D. Thomas

Karen Thomas

The research to practice gap: Exploring the attitudes toward evidence-based practice in substance use providers
Advisor: Dr. Lianne Urada

San Diego State University

Moderator
Tracy Love, Ph.D.,
Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Judge
John Crockett, Ph.D.,
Senior Director of Research Advancement

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The San Francisco State University mascot is the Gator (alligator). Selected by students in 1931, it was originally spelled with an "er" — Golden Gaters — a play on words to emphasize SF State’s location.

Competitors

Allie Margulies

Combating mass mortality of a valuable native species

Advisor: Dr. Andrew Chang

Dagny Ysaïs

Harbor seal pupping at the Russian River Mouth

Advisor: Dr. Ellen Hines
In 2019, 48% of the master’s degrees in engineering awarded by the CSU system were awarded by San José State University. In fact, 2% of the engineering master’s degrees awarded in the entire United States were awarded by SJSU!

Competitors

Kate Forrest

Fire Tornadoes: The Unicorns of Fire Weather

Advisor: Dr. Craig Clements

Nathaniel Pergamit

Buried Treasure in San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park

Advisor: Dr. Erica Buurman

Judge
PAMELA STACKS, PH.D.
DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Cal Poly SLO is the second largest land-holding university in California and one of the largest land-holding universities in the nation. Cal Poly uses all of its land holdings in active support of the education of its students.

Competitors

JACOB CAMPBELL
FINALIST

Defining Mixed-Race College Students: Examining Graduation Gaps Between Multiracial & Monoracial Undergraduates
Advisor: Dr. Sonia Ramrakhiani

SAVANNAH WEAVER

Additive effects of humidity and temperature on acclimation in a lizard
Advisor: Dr. Emily Taylor

Bob Crockett, Ph.D., Professor of Biomedical Engineering

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Before CSU San Marcos, the campus grounds were home to the Prohoroff Poultry Farm. Nearly 40 years ago, the Prohoroff Poultry Farm workers met with Cesar Chavez, who held discussions to unionize for the workers of the farm.

Competitors

Ciara Sanders

How do antibiotics in the coast affect the transfer of antibiotic resistant genes?

Advisor: Dr. Elinne Becket

Michelle Kang

The Saturation Spectrum of Odd Cycles

Advisor: Dr. André Kündgen
The Sonoma State motto is "Lux Mentis, Lux Orbis" (Light of the Mind, Light of the World).

Competitors

Zane Cooper

Examining the effects of tree structure on wildfire using voxelized terrestrial remote sensing data and computational fluid dynamics fire modeling
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Patrick Bentley

Alyssa Cooper Finalist

Food Fight! Prey Competition between Two Important Marine Predators
Advisor: Dr. Brent B. Hughes

Moderator

Derek Girman, Ph.D., Director of Graduate Studies
Stanislaus State

Judges

KAITLYN DAY, RESEARCH COORDINATOR FOR THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

ASHLEY REEVES HUCKABY, ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST/SPECIALIST IN THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Competitors

TAWINDERJIT KAUR
FINALIST

Breaking Gendered Stereotypes: Second-generation Panjabi Women’s Perspectives of Partnership and Education
Advisor: Dr. Sevaughn Banks

RAIN packet CHELISE
FINALIST

Dare to Play: Co-Creating Inviting Spaces with Adult Learners
Advisor: Dr. Virginia Montero Hernandez

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What is the Relationship between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Romantic Relationship Satisfaction in Young Adults?

Advisor: Dr. Judith DeBonis
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Advisor: Dr. Sonia Ramrakhiani

Food Fight! Prey Competition between Two Important Marine Predators
Advisor: Dr. Brent B. Hughes
Debra L. Jackson, PhD
Debra Jackson is a Professor of Philosophy and serves as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Academic Programs at CSU Bakersfield. She received her B.A. in Philosophy from Middle Tennessee State University and her Ph.D. in Philosophy from Purdue University. Dr. Jackson's research focuses on epistemological issues regarding gender and race, especially with regard to sexual violence against women. She also serves as Principal Investigator for a 5-year, $2,797,950 grant, “Promoting Excellence in Graduate Education and Increasing Hispanic STEM Related Degree Completion,” from the U.S. Department of Education.

Luis Vega, PhD
Luis Vega, Ph.D. is a Professor of Psychology and is currently serving as Interim Associate Dean, Graduate & Undergraduate studies. Dr. Vega has been at CSUB for over 25 years and is a proud product of California's educational system (CCC, CSU, UC). Working at CSUB is his dream job and he sees himself in all our students looking for a better tomorrow.
Martha Manriquez
Martha Manriquez has been working in the Graduate Student Center for 9 years. She is currently a graduate student in the MA in Spanish program. Her favorite thing about CSUB is the campus community. She enjoys traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/csubgsc
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/csubgsc/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/csubgsc
Linktree: https://linktr.ee/CSUBgsc

Adrianne Silva, MBA
Adrianne Silva has been working with graduate students since 2018. She enjoys both being a CSUB student for the MPA program and as staff for the Graduate Student Center, which allows her to guide prospective and current graduate students to achieve their career and educational goals.

She has experience working in several different industries and managing a work/school/life balance, which allows her to understand the needs and issues that can arise for many graduate students. Her goal in every meeting is to help you find the best path to achieve your goals!

Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/in/adriannesilva/
Logan Reifsteck
Logan Reifsteck is a graduate student in the Educational Counseling program. He is also an administrative support coordinator in NSME grants and outreach. Logan is from Illinois and is a big Chicago Bears fan.

Jay Shyamdasani
Jay is currently a senior majoring in Business Administration. In his free time, Jay loves swimming, playing cricket, and traveling. Australia is the next place on his destination list.

He is very passionate about opening his own business right after graduating, and he is confident it will flourish in 5 years.
Mary Killeen Pena
Mary is a first-year graduate student in the English program and a Graduate Student Center student assistant. She is also a mother to two and a postpartum doula - runs her own business (Dyad Parenting Support) in Bakersfield.

Mary plans to teach college writing after graduation from CSUB and eventually pursue a Ph.D.. She is originally from Seattle and enjoys going home for visits when she needs a break from the Bakersfield heat.

Nancy Vargas
Nancy is a third-year graduate student in the Counseling Psychology program. She is also a clinic manager and counselor trainee at the University Counselor Training Clinic which offers low-cost individual, couple, family, and group counseling services to members of the Bakersfield community.

Nancy is originally from Reedley, CA which is a small, agricultural town in Fresno County. In her free time, Nancy enjoys trying out new coffee shops and spending time with her cat.