Winter 2024 was productive as the CRFs continued to coordinate activities in support of undergraduate research. They hosted mentorship and leadership events, as well as mentored and supported student engagement in undergraduate research opportunities at UC Riverside.

engage.ucr.edu/research/chancellor_fellowship
Winter 2024 CRF Events

**Mentorship**

Mastering Interviews

FEB. 27TH @ 11-12 PM
STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING 2201

Join us for tips, advice, and feedback to succeed in interviews for jobs, internships, graduate school, and academic opportunities!

This workshop focused on helping students better understand how to tackle interviews, giving them tips and tricks as well as having them partner up and practice interview skill with one another.

**Leadership**

Demystifying STUDY ABROAD

Feb 13th @ 11-12 PM
Location: Student Services Building 2201

Come learn from experienced students how to plan, prepare, and succeed abroad (travel, geography, language, and academic opportunities and funding)

This event highlighted the range of study abroad opportunities available to students. Panelists included three past students who shared their experiences and advice as well as resources for study abroad programs.

The CRFs are passionate about sharing resources and advice. Their dedication resulted in 10 total workshops during winter quarter, an increase from last quarter!

engage.ucr.edu/research/chancellor_fellowship
Winter 2024 CRF Events

Networking

Thank you to Nobel Laureate, Dr. Richard Schrock for meeting with the CRFs and speaking about his journey in science and how he succeeded as an alumnus of UC Riverside.

Socializing

The CRFs and Mentees took some time to relax and have fun, doing teambuilding exercises and social activities.
Congratulations to the CRFs who spent time and effort applying to graduate and professional schools, post-graduate awards, fellowships, and jobs. We can’t wait to post the results in our final newsletter!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highlights - Presentations &amp; Publications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Science</strong> Publication Contributor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chloe Georgiou</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th year majoring in Computer Science and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Mentor: Dr. Marek Chrobak, Computer Science and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chemical Education</strong> Publication Contributor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Angie Lopez</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd year majoring in Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jack Eichler, Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Western Psychological Association (WPA) Conference Presenter</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dora Nguyen</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd year majoring in Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kalina J. Michalska, Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) Presenter</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alyssa Fundal</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th year majoring in Environmental Sciences &amp; Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ye Li, Management</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Congratulations to the CRFs for sharing their research outcomes through conferences & publications!**

engage.ucr.edu/research/chancellor_fellowship
Angie Lopez, Incoming Senior CRF

**Project:** Three-Dimensional Learning Strategies in Organic Chemistry Courses

- **3rd year** majoring in Chemistry
- **Faculty Mentor:** Dr. Jack Eichler, Chemistry

**How has the CRF helped you grow?**

Being a CRF has been the most impactful experience during my time here at UCR due to the growth that I have made as a researcher, student, and person. Being selected as a CRF served as a reminder that I’m capable of doing research at a degree of excellence. This new realization led to my eagerness to agree to different opportunities that I wouldn’t have previously considered.

For example, with the encouragement of Gladis, I applied to the Barry Goldwater Scholarship. During my writing sessions, I was able to reflect on my journey as a student and make plans to continue as a researcher which helped me feel more confident moving forward. Something that I was able to discuss with Jennifer and Gladis was that my lack of confidence in pursuing research never stemmed from the belief that I didn’t have the skills necessary, but because I had not been encouraged to pursue research since it is very uncommon to see Latinas as STEM researchers. With support from Jennifer, Gladis, and other CRFs I gained the confidence to identify as a scientist and a chemistry researcher. My newfound sense of confidence was critical to my Goldwater interview, which led to being nominated as a Goldwater representative for UCR and would have not been possible without the CRF.

Attending the workshops hosted by the CRFs and meeting with inspiring faculty also helped me become a more well-rounded person. I have gained better insight on how to handle situations. For example, when Dr. Louie Rodriguez mentioned how his identity as a Latino shaped his role as a Vice Provost, I felt like I could relate to my role as a Latina scientist. Overall, being a CRF has contributed the most to the growth I have made over this past year.
Dora Nguyen, Incoming Senior CRF

**Project:** Effect of Maternal Overcontrol on Child Irritability and Anxiety in Latina Girls

- **3rd year** majoring in Psychology
- **Faculty Mentor:** Dr. Kalina J. Michalska, Psychology

How has the CRF helped you grow?

Becoming a Chancellor’s Research Fellow has allowed me to foster tremendous growth in both my professional and personal life. This fellowship has given me the opportunity to connect with peers from diverse disciplines who share a common passion for research. Engaging with this community has allowed us to share our stories of struggles and success, and foster a collaborative environment to create new ideas and solve problems.

Throughout this journey, I have specifically seen the most growth in communication skills and willingness to ask for help. I have come to realize that like with most things, research is not a simple journey. There are many obstacles that come along, such as navigating IRB approval, recruiting participants, and managing project funds. However, I recognized that communication is a crucial key to success and that I should not fear disappointing others or feeling like a burden. Through the Chancellor’s Research Fellowship, I have recognized the importance of communicating both the highs and lows of my journey to celebrate accomplishments and gain insight on how to solve problems.

This realization became particularly evident during my quarter abroad in the fall, where I had to balance my desire to explore a foreign country with my academic commitments on top of the keeping track of different time zones. I admit that my absence, among other factors, contributed to the slower progression of my project. However, my eagerness to advance the project allowed me to actively seek assistance from my faculty mentor, graduate students in the lab, and peers through the use of Slack, email, and Zoom meetings. This approach has allowed me to foster growth in communication and highlight the idea that seeking help is not a sign of weakness or failure. Instead, it is a courageous opportunity for continuous learning and growth.
CRF UCR Experience Highlights

Favorite Building or Place on Campus?

- Student Success Center
- Orbach Library
- Student Rec Center
- Old UCR School of Business Building
- Materials Science & Engineering
- HUB Lawn
- Chemical Sciences Building
- Winston Chung Hall
- Multidisciplinary Research Building
- Lawn between Watkins Hall and Rivera Library

Best Food in Riverside?

- Juju Bar
- Sushi Times
- East Coast Bagels
- Back to the Grind
- Georgie’s Mediterranean Cuisine
- Sushi R91
- El Patron
- The Barn
- Hibachi-San
- Pho Ha #7
- Hong Kong Express
- The Old Spaghetti Factory
**CRF UCR Experience Highlights**

### Favorite Riverside Landmark or Spot?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Mountain behind Pentland</th>
<th>The Botanical Gardens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sycamore Highlands Park</td>
<td>Tio’s Tacos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mission Inn</td>
<td>Mount Roubidoux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bell Tower</td>
<td>California Citrus State Historic Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Riverside</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Fun experience you have had at UCR?

- Randomly walking to lab and seeing donkeys on the other side of the road eating grass.
- Got stung by a bee for the first time in my life while watching the solar eclipse on campus!
- Trying out dragon boat.
- Walking into the wrong lab section on the first day of Fall quarter after the pandemic.
- A professor overheard my friends and I talking stressfully after his midterm, and he chimed in too.
- Someone fell asleep during the final and was snoring.
- Burning electrical boards in EE lab.
- The professor for one class had to bring his kid to class since child care wasn’t open late enough. His kid educated us on Godzilla and had us rate his drawings during class breaks.
- Getting followed by donkeys in my neighborhood.
- Scooterling to lot 30 with 5 different bags with my friend trying to not fall (lunch bag, gym clothes, lab clothes, actual backpack, my friend’s birthday gift).
CRF UCR Experience Highlights

Favorite class you have taken at UCR?

CS 178A/B with Dr. Salloum
CBNS 126 - Learning and Memory
BIEN 138 - Wound Repair
BCH 100H - Biochemistry

HIST 030 - Global History of the Greeks
BPSC 031 - Spring Wildflowers
BIEN 136 - Tissue Engineering
CS 100 - Software Construction
CBNS 116 - Human Neuroanatomy: Structure-Function Relationships
BIEN 167 - Medical Diagnostics
BCH 185 and 188 - Epigenetic in Development and Disease and Fundamentals of Genomic Technologies

Advice you would give to your first year self?

- Take the first step.
- Look for opportunities early. I missed a lot of opportunities because I found out about them too late.
- Don't be afraid of rejection. Rejection results in learning experiences and opportunities for growth.
- Branch out and get involved!
- Be bold and make your dreams a reality. When you look back, it will all be worth it :)
- You are so much more than you think. Don't be scared of taking the opportunities that come your way. You can truly do anything you set your mind to.
- Don't rush and don't be the one rejecting yourself from an opportunity.
- Get involved early on!!!
- Failure is a necessary step to success.
- Get out and attend more campus events and workshops and meet more people!
- Relax a little, get more involved in fun activities, and enjoy the campus and college life more.
- Get started on minor requirements early!
- Don't be shy to network and get to know more members in all the clubs and organizations you join. This will help you connect with more individuals on campus who share similar interests as you and find mentors who can guide you starting from your first quarter of college. Finding mentors who are already far along in their career journey and whose career interests and goals align with yours is so important and helpful!

engage.ucr.edu/research/chancellor_fellowship
Upcoming Spring CRF Events

**Mentorship Committee**

- **Public Speaking Series III: How to Present at a Symposium**  
  April 22nd @ 11 am-12 pm in SSB 2201  
  Are you presenting at the Symposium? Come learn tips on presenting and engaging with your audience.

- **Highs and Lows of Undergraduate Research**  
  May 16th @ 12-1 pm in SSB 2201  
  Learn how undergraduates succeeded in research and what they learned from the highs and lows of their experience.

We hope to see you there!

**Leadership Committee**

- **Journey of Resiliency: UCR Latinas Growing Professionally through International Experiences**  
  April 15th @ 11 am - 12 pm in Humanities 1500  
  Come learn how two UCR students are using their undergraduate experiences to pursue international opportunities.

- **Cancel Culture, Conversation, and Civility: PBK Panel**  
  April 17th @ 2-3 pm in Honors 381M Skye Hall  
  A panel led by Boston College Law Professor discussing how cancel culture is impacting conversations & civility.

- **Establishment and Free Exercise in Public Schools: Kennedy V. Bremerton**  
  April 18th @ 9:30 am in Student Success Center 335  
  Learn about the legal case of a football coach who led a prayer before each game. Is this appropriate for a public school?

- **The Impact of AI on Higher Education: Professor Panel**  
  May 15th @ 2-3 pm XCITE, 1st Floor Rivera Library  
  A faculty panel discussing their perspectives on the use of AI in education.

Thank you from the newsletter editing team.