

2023 Student Scholarship Expo Award Winners

President's Awards

The President's Award for a Graduate Student

Missy Adrian and Kelly Hernandez for their project titled
The relationship among TMJD presentation and jaw biomechanics
under the mentorship of Dr. David Dominguese and Dr. Kyle Cottone, Physical Therapy and Health Science

The President's Award for an Undergraduate

Alexa Boland and Summer Bergmann for their project
Hard to face: Rejection sensitivity and automatic responses to facial expressions
under the mentorship of Dr. Lane Beckes and Dr. Joseph Harris, Psychology

The Susan Brill de Ramirez and Antonio Ramirez Barron Provost's Awards

The Susan Brill de Ramirez and Antonio Ramirez Barron Provost Award for a Graduate Student

Jenson Faulkner and Samuel Farra for their project titled
Medical Billing and Coding for Doctor of Physical Therapy Students Across Two Midwest Universities
under the mentorship of Dr. Jamie Way and Dr. Kristina Latva, Physical Therapy and Health Science

The Susan Brill de Ramirez and Antonio Ramirez Barron Provost Award for an Undergraduate

Brooke Emmert for her project titled
Beyond the Abnormal
under the mentorship of Heather Brammeier, Art and Design

Dean's Awards

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award in the Social Sciences for an Undergraduate

Sydni Adams for her project titled
The Effects of Nature, Mindfulness or Scrolling on Stress
under the mentorship of Dr. Wendy Schweigert, Psychology

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award in the Natural Sciences for a Graduate Student

Natalie Lopez for her project titled
Using DNA Sequencing to Reveal the Diversity of Echinostome Trematode Parasites in Central Illinois
under the mentorship of Dr. John Marino, Biology

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award in the Natural Sciences for an Undergraduate

Seth Stidham, Erica Bailey, and Jacob Weinberg for their project titled
Expression of three putative MUS81 nuclease-interacting proteins during DNA repair and conjugation in Tetrahymena thermophila
under the mentorship of Dr. Naomi Stover, Biology

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award in Computer Science and Mathematical Sciences for an Undergraduate

Matthew Wilder, Alex Mattingly, Christine Helenick, Gerard Lamoureux, and Simfara Ranjit for their project titled
SmartGuide - Scheduling Software
under the mentorship of Dr. Yun Wang, Computer Science and Information Systems

There is a tie for The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award in the Humanities for an Undergraduate.

The first award goes to:

Abbey McComb, Kylan Butler, and Karla Valencia for their project titled
Lavender Graduation: The Necessity of Pride Events on College Campuses
under the mentorship of Dr. Amy Scott, History

The second award goes to:

Nandia Gonzalez for her project titled
Oral HER/HISTories of Latin@s in Peoria
under the mentorship of Dr. Aurea Toxqui, History

Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology

The Caterpillar College of Engineering Award in Mechanical Engineering for an Undergraduate

Heather Martin for her project titled
Resonance in Wire Rings and Flat Plates
under the mentorship of Dr. Shannon Timpe, Mechanical Engineering

The Caterpillar College of Engineering Award in Civil Engineering for a Graduate Student

Naila Mahaveen for her project titled
How to take a systematic approach in addressing solutions for the growing skilled labor shortage in the United States construction industry
under the mentorship of Dr. Saratu Terreno, Civil Engineering and Construction

The Caterpillar College of Engineering Award in Civil Engineering for an Undergraduate

Mitch Thiel for his project titled

Investigation of Flexural Behavior in Bamboo-Reinforced Sulfur Concrete Beams

under the mentorship of Dr. Mahmood Soltani and Dr. Yasser Khodair, Civil Engineering and Construction

The Caterpillar College of Engineering Award in Electrical and Computer Engineering for an Undergraduate

Brandon Adduci, Fate La Haye, and Ben Bachmann for their project titled

Komatsu Haul Truck Payload Estimation Using Machine Learning

Under the mentorship of Dr. Mohammad Imtiaz, Electrical & Computer Engineering

The Drs. Prasad and Sunita Shastry Award for Excellence in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Matthew Kaminski, Justin Strand, Tanner Unruh, and Colin Diercks for their project titled

The Mapping and Sterilizing Autonomous Robot

Under the mentorship of Dr. Suruz Miah, Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Caterpillar College of Engineering Award in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and Technology for an Undergraduate

Yoshi Mei Oberwetter for their project titled

The Art of Animatronics

Under the mentorship of Dr. Ye Li, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and Technology

Foster College of Business

The Foster College of Business Award for a Graduate Student

Ryan Hodgett for his project titled

Nothing to Hide, Nothing to Share: A Call to Reform U.S. Surveillance Practices

under the mentorship of Dr. Jacob Young, Entrepreneurship, Technology & Law

The Foster College of Business Award for an Undergraduate

Naomi Barranco-Figueroa for her project titled

Understanding Sustainable Development in India

under the mentorship of Dr. Rajesh Iyer, Marketing, and Dr. Prasad Shastry, Electrical and Computer Engineering

College of Education and Health Sciences

The College of Education and Health Sciences Award in Health Professions for a Graduate Student

Dustyn Hart and Gabriel Holt for their project titled
Perceptions of Physical Therapists as Resources for Health and Wellness
under the mentorship of Dr. Melissa Peterson, Physical Therapy and Health Science

The College of Education and Health Sciences Award in Family and Consumer Science for an Undergraduate

Grace Bowman, Abby Johnson, and Samantha Toy for their project titled
Evaluation of a Stress Management Program Focused on Creative Journaling Among Employees of a Nonprofit Organization
under the mentorship of Dr. Teresa Drake, Family and Consumer Sciences

Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts

The Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts Award in Communication for an Undergraduate

Shelby Eitenmiller, Abby McLean, and Emily Baughman for their project titled
The Disintegration of the Columbia Space Shuttle: High Reliability Organization Lens
under the mentorship of Dr. Elena Gabor, Communication

The Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts Award in Fine Arts for an Undergraduate

Rachel Rudy for her project titled
Denatured at Big Bad Con
under the mentorship of Quentin Young, Interactive Media

Dean's Interdisciplinary Awards

The Interdisciplinary Award for a Graduate Student

Amanda Tobias, Kenzie Vonk, Nate Rosendale, Kyle Bulseco, Pam Castillo for their project titled
How Environmental Factors Affect Muscle Characteristics During ACL Return to Play Criteria
under the mentorship of Dr. David Dominguese, Physical Therapy and Health Science, and Dr. Kalyani Nair, Mechanical Engineering

There is a tie for The Interdisciplinary Award for an Undergraduate.

The first award goes to:

Seth Metcalfe for his project titled
Hearing vocals in MIDI music reflects knowledge-based perceptual filling-in in the auditory domain
under the mentorship of Dr. Joseph Harris, Psychology

The second award goes to:

Sam Perkins for his project titled

The binding of the 8-Anilinonaphthalene-1-Sulfonic Acid Ligand onto the Bovine Serum Albumin Protein

under the mentorship of Dr. Shannon Timpe, Mechanical Engineering, and Dr. Brian Doyle, Biology

Online Graduate Student Award

The Online Graduate Student Award goes to:

Dawn Kulach for her project titled

A Multi-Component Approach to Weight Loss for Obese Adult Individuals in the Primary Care Setting, A Quality Improvement Project

under the mentorship of Dr. Kelly Fogelmark, Nursing