

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Great Minds in STEM Research Poster Competition Winners

**Montebello, CA** – The GMiS Research Poster Competition provides a premiere, national forum for traditionally underserved and underrepresented STEM undergraduate and graduate students to showcase their technical research talent. The competition challenges students to communicate their research with a balanced technical/lay audience perspective to stimulate interest in scientific and technical research. Therein, it increases public awareness of the relevance of STEM research and its benefits to society.

Due to COVID-19, the 2020 GMiS Research Poster Competition hosted 64 presentations, virtually from October 6 - 7, during the 2020 GMiS Conference. Students presented their abstract and poster before panels of judges, who evaluated the abstract and presentation on the merit of the research and the student's technical knowledge.

The abstracts, posters, and videos of the presenters are available at the Research Posters Exhibit Hall located at <https://gmisconference.org/rpc.html>. Additionally, the Exhibit Hall showcases 43 posters from students, who are part of the Virtual Research Experience for Undergraduates (vREU) hosted by the Computing Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institutions (CAHSI). CAHSI vREU students held a separate competition.

GMiS thanks The Boeing Company, NASA, American Petroleum Institute and the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory for sponsoring this competition.

A big congratulations to the following winners:

### Graduate Category

First Place: \$800

*X-ray Computed Tomography of Vertical Bubble Column*

Angel Rodriguez, Doctoral Student, Mechanical Engineering

University of California, Berkeley

Second Place: \$650

*Techno-Economic Assessment for the Plasma Assisted Production of Acetic Acid from Methane and Carbon Dioxide*

Marco Avendano, Doctoral Student, Chemical Engineering

Georgia Institute of Technology

Third Place: \$500

*Application of Smart Irrigation Scheduling to Improve Water Use Efficiency for Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific Island of Guam*

Joseph Casila, Masters Student, Chemistry/Biology/Mathematics

University of Guam

## Undergraduate Computing Category

First Place: \$600

*Using Flashcards Via a Voice Assistant*

Fariha Pia, Sophomore, Information Technology  
Kean University

Second Place: \$500

*High-Fidelity Calibration and Characterization of a Hyperspectral Computed Tomography System*

Isabel Gallegos, Junior, Computer Science  
Stanford University

Third Place: \$400

*Investigating the Security and Privacy Issues of IoT Devices*

Yoham Martinez, Senior, Computer Science  
University of Nevada - Reno

## Undergraduate STEM Category

First Place: \$600

*CFD Analysis of the Mitigation of Aerodynamic Uplift Loads Using Roof Integrated Wind Turbines for Reduced Wind Damage and Power Supply Production*

Briana Canet, Senior, Mechanical Engineering  
Florida International University

Second Place: \$500

*Physical System Identification Study of Flapping-Wing Micro-Air-Vehicle (FWMAV)*

Kevin Huang, Senior, Aerospace Engineering  
University of California, Irvine

Third Place: \$400

*Development of a Virtual Reality (VR) Platform for Visualization of Molecular Data for Biomedical Research and Classroom Learning*

Nhi Le, Senior, Data Science  
University of Houston - Downtown

## Undergraduate – Conceptual Research Category

First Place: \$300

*Understanding the Impact of COVID-19 on Traffic Accidents*

K. Xavier Doh, Senior, Computer Science  
Kean University

# Press Release

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Second Place: \$200

*Creation of a Bioluminescent Reporter for Detection of 2,4-DNT*

Isabella Elmore, Freshman, Mechanical Engineering

George Washington University

Third Place: \$100

*Integrating Computer Vision into an Education-Based Mobile Application*

Jacquelyn Johnson, Senior, Computer Science

University of Houston - Downtown

## About Great Minds in STEM

Great Minds in STEM™ is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers, especially in underserved communities. Established in 1989 and based in the Los Angeles area, the organization's national programming focuses on STEM educational awareness from pre-college through college, and on recognizing and documenting the world-class contributions of Hispanic STEM professionals, who serve as role models for the next generation of American engineers and scientists.

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