



RESEARCH EXPERIENCE PROGRAM AWARDS 2020-2021

REX 2020-2021 may have looked different from previous years, but our amazing mentors and mentees worked hard to create and discover despite the odds. Congratulations to all of our amazing winners!

MENTORS OF THE YEAR

Connor Bevington

"...He is very successful in his career but was humble and patient enough to break it down to us and wanted to see us succeed. It is people like him that make me want to give back to my community as well and I hope I get the chance to one day."

Harmony Martell

"...Seeing her as a strong woman in academia, her dedication to her work and to her family, is inspiring me to pursue research. Taking part in the REX program has been an incredible experience thanks to Dr. Martell..."

Peter Grant

"...He was incredibly supportive, gave in-depth feedback every step of the way, and even went out of his way to get input from his colleagues on our work multiple times.... I've never had a mentor before, and I'm so incredibly happy to have had Peter to guide my group through this REX program..."

GROUP OF THE YEAR

Kai Leong, Tanya Wu, Ria Bhatt

"...Kai, Tanya and Ria have been phenomenal mentees and have shown tremendous progress as undergraduate researchers...they always made themselves available for our weekly meetings – Tanya even called in from Singapore at 5am local time! I am truly astounded by the growth of this team and their ability to embrace and retain extremely challenging physiological concepts and advanced research methodologies. Without any background knowledge of spinal cord injury, or cardiovascular autonomic control, this team was able to perform a literature review independently, compose their own research questions and hypotheses and ultimately design an incredibly intricate study to delineate how spinal cord injuries affect the nervous system's control of the heart..."

DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC PROJECT AWARDS

Land and Food Systems and Forestry:

Examining the Impact of Whole Dietary Approaches on Type 2 Diabetes

Mentor: Hadis Mozaffari

Mentees: Rana Madani Civi, Clover Lee

Life Sciences, Health and Kinesiology:

Investigating the Targets of Differentially Expressed miRNAs in Renal Cell Carcinoma

Mentor: David Cohn

Mentees: Arell Bryski, Brian Low, Francesca Ferraresso

Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science:

How to Beat Random Forest Regression: Choosing XGBoost Hyperparameters for Hydrological Datasets

Mentor: Joseph Janssen

Mentees: Divya Bilollikar, Aishwarya More

Political Science, Society, and Economics:

Accessible Banking: The Missing Piece to Latin America's Puzzle?

Mentor: Idaliya Grigoryeva

Mentees: Alvin To, Karina Ontaneda, Semeion Wong, Sam Tong

Psychology, Philosophy, Literature, Education:

Comments Tell the Story: A thematic analysis examining comment sections in media coverage of the overdose crisis in British Columbia between 2016 - 2020

Mentor: Andrew Ivsins

Mentees: Prableen Sandhu, Karambir Singh Dhaunsi, Azlina Tima, Kelly Zhang