The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

@ Florida State University

proudly presents the

2024 Student Awards Ceremony

May 3, 2024
3:30 p.m. in FLH 275
UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

General Chemistry Award
Dylan Bernowitz  Lillian Wirstiuk  Amber Lilly  Andrew Fredericks
Courtney Weintraub  Hannah Schemmel  Aashutosh Pokharel

Katherine Blood and Harold H. Hoffman Scholarship in Chemistry
Peyton Bunting  Cassidy King  Hannah Provost  Javion Walters
Ainsley Winstead

The Russell H. and Dorothy P. Johnsen Scholarship in Chemistry
Jahbari Bowen  Ethan Lindsay

The Charles A. Brautlecht and Louise I. Brautlecht Scholarship
Sophie Boglaev  Darius Agollari

The Howard W. Smoyer Endowed Scholarship Fund in Chemistry
Samantha Bell  Camila Roman  Laura Zelter
The Jack Saltiel Undergraduate Research Award
Scott Conrad
The Philip Schlenoff Endowment for Excellence in Undergraduate Research
Brielle LeBrun
The Skipper Family Scholarship in Chemistry
Mia Cohen  Fiona Dininger  Julia Giarelli
Susan Li  Isabella Minderman  Shyann Parker-Evans
Alexander Perez  Madison Sigler  Caitlyn Stringfellow

Undergraduate Senior Awards

Outstanding Senior Award  Mary Katherine Gelasco
Service & Citizenship Award  Elee Siev
Undergraduate Research Award  Gia Rivers
Academic Excellence in Chemistry  Thomas Suarez
Academic Excellence in Biochemistry  Kate Lohrey
Phi Beta Kappa Invitees

Julia Giarelli  Brielle LeBrun  Skylar Alonzo
Jens Cuba  Kimberly Hoang  Tori Miller
Gerald Ciani  Joshua Loewenstern  Thomas Suarez

American Chemical Society Division Awards

Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry  Elizabeth Bernate
Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry  Gia Rivers
Undergraduate Award in Organic Chemistry  Thomas Suarez
Undergraduate Award in Physical Chemistry  Elee Siev

Graduating Summa Cum Laude

Skylar Alonzo  Mary Katherine Gelasco  Kate Lohrey
Tori Miller  Thomas Suarez

Honors in the Major Thesis

Darius Agollari  Victor Atanassov  Mary Katherine Gelasco
Caitlin Parvizi  Gia Rivers  Thomas Suarez

Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Kayla Spinner  Rene Walsh

GRADUATE AWARDS

Department Awards

Graduate Teaching Excellence Award

General Chemistry  Bella Bertini  Erica Knorr
Organic Chemistry  Kristen Weeks  Kevin Little

Dean’s Award for Doctoral Excellence

Milo Adams  Doreen Addo-Yobo  Joshua Davis  Ryan Harbit
Sarriah Hassoun  Yael Medley  Yusuf Muhammed  Colette Sullivan

Howard W. Smoyer Graduate Service Award

Catherine Fabiano  Zana Singleton
Russell H. Johnsen Dissertation Award
   Jason Kuszynski
Johnsen Award for Excellence in Analytical Chemistry
   Joseph Frye-Jones
Johnsen Award for Excellence in Biochemistry
   Yu Harry Xue
Johnsen Award for Excellence in Inorganic Chemistry
   Miguel Gakiya
Johnsen Award for Excellence in Materials Chemistry
   Grace McLeod
Johnsen Award for Excellence in Physical Chemistry
   Jason Kuszynski
Zachary Tolchin Memorial Award for Excellence in Organic Chemistry
   Courtney Leo
Joseph M. Schor Fellowship in Biochemistry
   Sonia Kiran
Philip Schlenoff Graduate Travel Awards
   Vitalii Basisty  Selin Donmez  Courtney Leo  James Kimball
ChemiMoles Travel Award
   Jaehoon Jang & Amir Zarei
Wilder Scholarship
   Leah Kuhn  Sonia Kiran  Erica Truong  Sandugash Yergeshbayeva
Crowell Tatum Dawkins Graduate Fellowship
   Courtney Leo & Sonia Kiran
Rmaile and Usher Award
   Joshua Davis
Cheryl and Joel Rosenfield Endowment Award
   Milo Adams & Madeline Jeffes
Katherine Blood Hoffman Excellence Award
   Kaira Mayberry & Caitlin Padgett
SPEAR Fellowship
   Andrew Cantrell  Kimberley Christopher  Laura Deloso  Renee Hoffman
University Awards
Florida State University Legacy Fellowship
   Ethan Lambert
Dean's Doctoral Scholar Award
Renee Hoffman        Ethan Lambert        Justin Phillips
Liam Radeke

COGS Travel Award
John Akintola

3-minute Thesis Competition: People's Choice Award
John Akintola

National Awards

2024 LANL Best Poster Award
Jason Kuszynski

Jarome & Mary Straka Scholarship for the Kosciuszko Foundation
Alexander Piwko

ACM SIGHPC Computational & Data Science Fellowship
Beauty Chabuka

Graduate Student Research & Creativity Award
Tunde Shonde

U.S Navy Funding
John Akintola

ACS General Papers Presentation Award: POLY Division
Courtney Leo

ACS Centennial Best Poster Award: PMSE Division
Nath-Eddy Moody

Eastman/ACS Analytical Summer Graduate Fellowship
Joshua Davis

Travel Grant, Florida Annual Meeting & Exposition
Beauty Chabuka

ACCESS Operation Discover Grant
Beauty Chabuka

DoD SMART Scholarship
Jason Kuszynski        Catherine Fabiano

2024 I-APS Best Poster Award
Colette Sullivan
John Oladimeji Akintola, Advisor: Dr. Joseph Schlenoff  
Dissertation: “Functional Polyelectrolyte Complexes”

Narjes Dridi, Advisor: Dr. Hedi Mattoussi  
Dissertation: “Understanding the Bio-nanointerface and Sensor Design Based on Inorganic Nanoparticle Conjugates”

Blaine Hunter Gordon, Advisor: Dr. Robert Silvers  
Dissertation: "Structural and Biophysical Characterization of La Related Protein"

Zillin Huang, Advisor: Dr. Wei Yang  
Dissertation: “Protein-Ligand Binding Molecular Dynamics Simulations and Large-Scale Lead Identification”

Erica S. Knorr, Advisor: Dr. Kenneth Hanson  
Dissertation: "Influencing Intermolecular Interactions between Metal-Oxide Bound Molecules via Post-Fabrication Atomic Layer Deposition"

Jason Eric Kuszynski, Advisor: Dr. Geoffrey F. Strouse  
Dissertation: “The Role of Semiconducting Electronic Structure on Static Transient Plasmonic Properties”

Marcus Dante Liebenthal, Advisor: Dr. A. Eugene DePrince III  

Tunde Blessed Shonde, Advisor: Dr. Biwu Ma  
Dissertation: “Molecular Sensitization Enabled Organic Metal Halide Hybrids and Complexes for Radiation Scintillation”

*Zachary Tolchin, Advisor: Dr. Joel Smith  

Please Join us to Celebrate the Graduates!  
Please Join us for a Graduate celebration and reception in the Chemistry Sciences Laboratories Building 1005 (CSL 1005). We will have drinks and light hors d’oeuvres.