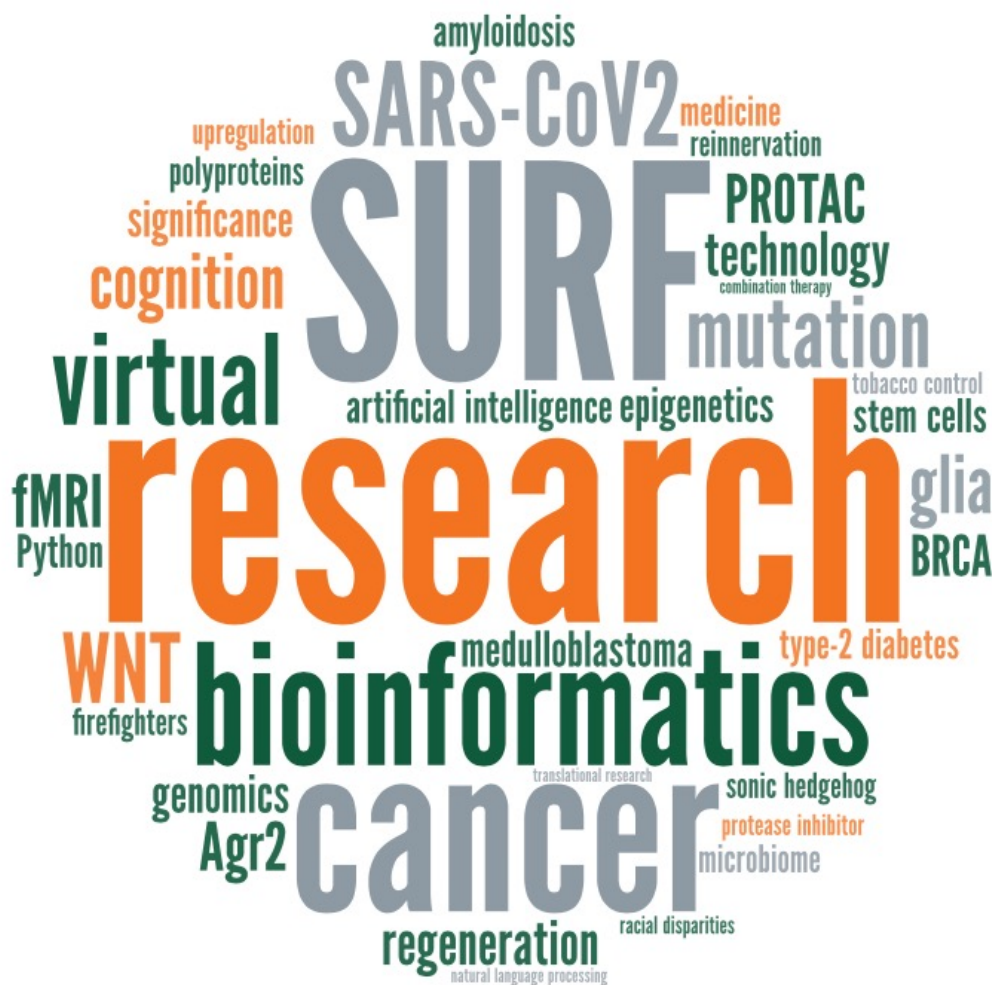


# Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium

Friday, July 24, 2020



# Symposium Agenda

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

University of Miami Summer 2020

---

## **Morning Session**

---

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM	Opening Remarks from Dr. Priyamvada Rai
9:00 AM – 9:15 AM	Leadership Remarks from Dean Henri Ford
9:15 AM – 9:30 AM	Leadership Remarks from Dr. Carl Schulman
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Leadership Remarks from Dr. Stephen Nimer
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Student Oral Presentations <b>See Next Page for Presenters</b>
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break

## **Afternoon Session**

---

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Student Oral Presentations <b>See Next Page for Presenters</b>
2:30 PM – 2:50 PM	Break
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	Awards & Closing Remarks from Dr. R. Grace Zhai

# Symposium Agenda

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

University of Miami Summer 2020

---

## Student Oral Presentations

---

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	<b>Peyton Coady</b> "IDENTIFICATION OF PREDICTIVE SYNERGISTIC DRUG COMBINATIONS IN TREATMENT OF MEDULLOBLASTOMA" <i>Mentor: Dr. Nagi Ayad</i> <i>Department of Psychiatry &amp; Behavioral Sciences</i>
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Sandy St-Hilaire</b> "BRCA HAPLOINSUFFICIENCY IN FALLOPIAN TUBE EPITHELLIA AND HIGH-GRADE SEROUS CARCINOMA" <i>Mentor: Dr. Sophia George</i> <i>Department of Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology</i>
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	<b>Larissa Dixon</b> "INFLUENCE OF TOBACCO POLICY ON FLORIDA FIREFIGHTER SMOKING STATUS AT ONSET OF CANCER DIAGNOSIS" <i>Mentor: Dr. David Lee</i> <i>Department of Public Health Sciences</i>
10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	<b>Qetsia Etienne</b> "MICROBIAL DYSBIOSIS DURING PROGRESSION OF PANCREATIC CANCER" <i>Mentor: Dr. Sulagna Banerjee &amp; Dr. Santanu Banerjee</i> <i>Department of Surgery</i>
11:00 AM - 11:15 AM	<b>Russell Perkins</b> "VISUALIZING AND COMPARING MICROBIAL POPULATIONS AMONG MICE UNDERGOING AGR2-BASED APPENDAGE REGENERATION" <i>Mentor: Dr. Sandra Rieger</i> <i>Department of Biology</i>
11:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<b>Veronica Rodriguez</b> "MÜLLER GLIA: LEARNING RETINAL REGENERATION FROM FROGS" <i>Mentor: Dr. Daniel Pelaez</i> <i>Department of Ophthalmology</i>

# Symposium Agenda

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

## University of Miami Summer 2020

---

### Student Oral Presentations

---

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM	<b>Will Snyder</b> "CONNECTIVITY STATES OF THE HUMAN DORSAL ANTERIOR INSULA ACROSS THE LIFESPAN" <i>Mentor: Dr. Lucina Uddin</i> <i>Department of Psychology</i>
1:15 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>Sofia Perez</b> "GENOMIC AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF SARS-COV-2 COMPONENTS AND THEIR EVOLVING VARIANTS" <i>Mentor: Dr. Daniel Isom</i> <i>Department of Pharmacology &amp; Molecular Biology</i>
1:30 PM - 1:45 PM	<b>J'Zaria Simpson</b> "INVESTIGATING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CLASSIFIERS FOR THE UNDERLYING AMYLOIDOSIS IN PATIENTS WITH T2D AND CI" <i>Mentor: Dr. Delia Cabrera DeBuc</i> <i>Department of Ophthalmology</i>
1:45 PM – 2:00 PM	<b>Bryan Weselman</b> "PREPARING ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE ON NERVOUS SYSTEM REGENERATION AND REINNERVATION" <i>Mentor: Dr. Sanjoy Bhattacharya</i> <i>Department of Ophthalmology</i>
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM	<b>Antanisha Parks</b> "NEUROLOGICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF COVID-19 IN THE HISPANIC POPULATION" <i>Mentor: Dr. Ayham Alkhachroum</i> <i>Department of Neurology</i>
2:15 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Olivia Perez</b> "STRUCTURE-BASED MOLECULAR SIMULATION STUDIES TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADERS FOR SARS-COV2" <i>Mentor: Dr. Stephan Schürer</i> <i>Department of Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology</i>

# Student Participants

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

University of Miami Summer 2020

---



**Peyton Coady**

James Madison University

*Mentor: Dr. Nagi Ayad*

*Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral  
Sciences*

**Larissa Dixon**

University of South Florida

*Mentor: Dr. David Lee*

*Department of Public Health Sciences*



**Qetsia Etienne**

Bowdoin College

*Mentors: Drs. Sulagna Banerjee & Santanu Banerjee*

*Department of Surgery*



# Student Participants

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

University of Miami Summer 2020

---

## **Antanisha Parks**

University of Missouri, St Louis  
*Mentor: Dr. Ayham Alkhachroum*  
*Department of Neurology*



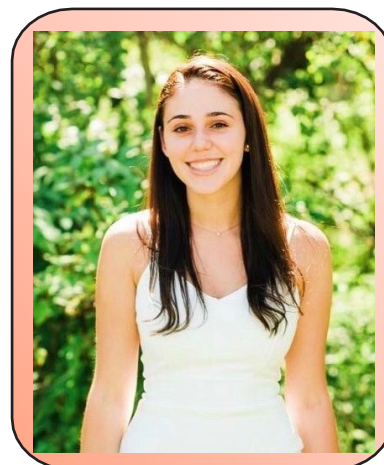
## **Olivia Perez**

University of Notre Dame  
*Mentor: Dr. Stephan Schürer*  
*Department of Molecular & Cellular Pharmacology*



## **Sofia Perez**

University of Notre Dame  
*Mentor: Dr. Daniel Isom*  
*Department of Molecular and*  
*Cellular Pharmacology*



# Student Participants

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

University of Miami Summer 2020

---

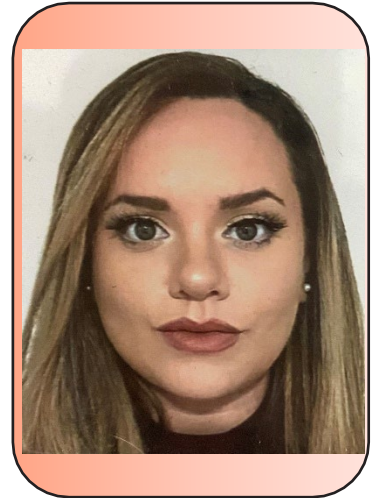


## **Russell Perkins**

University of Oklahoma

*Mentor: Dr. Sandra Rieger*

*Department of Biology*



## **Veronica Rodriguez**

Florida International University

*Mentor: Daniel Pelaez*

*Department of Ophthalmology*



## **J'Zaria Simpson**

Savannah State University

*Mentor: Dr. Delia Cabrera DeBuc*

*Department of Ophthalmology*

# Student Participants

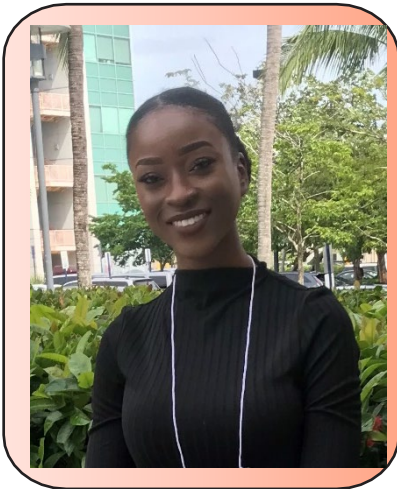
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF)

University of Miami Summer 2020

---

## **William Snyder**

Bucknell University  
*Mentor: Dr. Lucina Uddin*  
*Department of Psychology*



## **Sandy St-Hilaire**

Florida International University  
*Mentor: Dr. Sophia George*  
*Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology*

## **Bryan Weselman**

College of William and Mary  
*Mentor: Dr. Sanjoy Bhattacharya*  
*Department of Ophthalmology*



# Thanks and Acknowledgements

---

*We wish to thank all of the faculty mentors and their lab personnel for providing guidance and inspiration to the SURF students for the past ten weeks.*

*In addition, we are extremely appreciative of the time and effort provided by our Bioinformatics information session, weekly Career Development seminar presenters and symposium judges: Drs. Nagi Ayad, Anthony Griswold, Daniel Isom, Aristeidis Telonis, Ruixuan Ma, Tae Kyoung Lee, Peter Larsson, Coleen Atkins, Vlad Slepak, Scott Welford, Pedro Salas, Arun Malhotra, Feng Gong, Sandra Lemmon, Kurt Schesser, David Robbins, Adina Sanchez-Garcia, Stephen Symes, Nirupa Chaudhari, Erietta Stelekati, Luisa Cimmino, Michael Gaines, Roderick King, Sophia George, Hassan Al-Ali, Stephen Nimer, Sapna Deo, Helen Bramlett, Kerry Burnstein, A. Craig Lockhart, George Grills, Nagaraj Nagathihalli and Nadine Kerr.*

*We are grateful to our postdoctoral fellows, Drs. Emily Huang, Kanchana Ayyar, Madelen Diaz, Rachele Sangaletti, Priyanka Maiti and Balaji Thas Moorthy, and our graduate trainees, Clara Troccoli, Brett Colbert, Rolando Lyles, Duneia McManus, Afoma Umeano, Tyler Cunningham, Rosmely Hernandez, Liliana Garcia Martinez, Linda Robayo and Kathryn LaPorte, for generously committing their time and efforts to assist our SURFers with critical reading of literature, for providing them advice and information about academic careers and for helping them with their abstracts and presentations.*

*We would also like to thank Mr. Charles Lowman, Mr. Matthew Brandon and Ms. Vaughn Edelson for their roles in administrative support and event coordination.*

*Finally, we are extremely grateful to Dean Henri Ford and Drs. Carl Schulman, Stephen Nimer, Kerry Burnstein, David Lee, and R. Grace Zhai for their strong support and investment in this valuable training experience for our future researchers and physician-scientists.*

*The SURF team*

*Dr. Priyamvada Rai (Program Director), Mr. Santos Cayetano, Ms. Sarah Sandiford, Ms. Theresa Votolato, Ms. Rositsa Kalinova, Ms. Maya Kono*

## Sponsors and Contributors

---



Office of Graduate  
Studies

