Students Graduating with a Major in MCB Honors
Ashley Akrami
Karen Back
Yoonje Cho
Eva Cormann
Evan Dray
Bindu Edupulapati
Dev Gandhi
Joshua Gille
Olivia Gough
Maaz Haji
Niraj Lawande
James Lopez
Alfredo Martinez Ruiz
Britney Naohlu
Jill Patel
Aashna Prakash
Rithva Ramesh
Priya Rao*
Ravi
Rahul Reddy
Sandra Samborski
Blanca Savant
Muskaan Sawhney
Madison Scaggs
Angelina Wilton
Eileen Zheng

Distinction for Excellence in Academics
Joshua Adisumarta
Ashley Akrami
Sammy Alhayek
Darya Asoudegi
Javan Baker
Jacqueline Blenduga
Diana Brown
Matthew Carroll*
Anna Carter
Mati Chaudhery
David Chen
Yoonje Cho
Victoria Chu
Eva Cormann
Evan Dray
Myra Esmail
Chime Ezenekwe
Chase Fincham
Joshua Gille
Olivia Gough
Rachel Habbal
Deanna Hargberg
Gavin Haege
Lin Hua
Lina Issa
Imad Khan*
Megan Klode
Niraj Lawande
Jason Liu
Parker Bierhe
Britney Naohlu
Ivie Osagiede
Rithva Ramesh
Rahul Reddy
Alexander Wang
Matthew Wattele
Angelin Wilton
Jeongi Won
Isabella Wrobel
Shirley Yang
Yiming Zhao

High Distinction for Excellence in Research
Sammy Alhayek
Darya Asoudegi
Evan Dray
Niraj Lawande
Rithva Ramesh
Angelin Wilton
Yiming Zhao
Dr. Steven Blanke
Dr. Supriya Prasanth
Dr. Daniel McKim
Dr. Catherine Christian-Hinman
Dr. William Brieher
Dr. Hee Jung Chong

Distinction for Excellence in Research
David Chen
Yoon Min Cho*
Neal Dadani*
Deguille Dai*
Jeong Won Han
Harish Kesavan*
Shreyaa Khanna
Laura Kilkevicius
Alfredo Martinez Ruiz
Carolyn Oh
Aashna Prakash
Veronica Pronitcheva*
Priya Rao*
Ravi
Yiting Song
Srishti Tiwari
Dr. Supriya Prasanth
Dr. Jay Ko
Dr. Sayee Anak
Dr. Yong-Su Jin
Dr. Kai Zhang
Dr. Hee Jung Chong
Dr. Harish Kesavan
Dr. gene Robinson
Dr. Mary Schuler
Dr. Jonathan Sweedler
Dr. Huanyu Qiao
Dr. Justin Rhodes
Dr. Mary Schuler
Dr. Steven Blanke
Dr. Steven Blanke
Dr. Erik Nelson

MCB GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS & HONORS

Outstanding Teaching Assistant in Molecular & Cellular Biology
Sabra Abdulla
Julie and David Mead Graduate Fellowship
Lucy Chou Zheng
Outstanding Teaching Assistant in Molecular & Cellular Biology
Deborah Frederick
Quyan Ma
Xiyu Ge
James Nguyen
Nicole Godellas
Alexander Poldore

Jenner Family Research Fellowship
Shivang Bhaskar
DebAnnangannattu Prasanth
William Dai
Dr. Daniel Llano
Mingyi Ma
Dr. Xinzhu Yu
Isaiah Lopez
Dr. Wilfred van der Donk
Neha Ramachandran
Dr. Milan Bagchi

School of MCB Summer Undergrad Research Fellowship sponsored by Dr. Keith Westcott
Austin Douglas
Dr. Daniel Llano

School of MCB SURF sponsored in part by Frank Witney
Nathan Carmichael
Hunter Carroll
Dr. Paul Hergenrother

School of MCB Undergraduate Research Fellowship sponsored in part by Dr. Keith Westcott
Austin Douglas
Dr. Daniel Llano

School of Molecular & Cellular Biology
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Awards Ceremony
May 5, 2022

Biochemistry
Cell & Developmental Biology
Microbiology
Molecular & Integrative Physiology

This program contains an unofficial list of award recipients for December 2021, May 2022 and August 2022. Due to printing deadlines, names of some award recipients may not appear, while names of some students who have not yet completed all degree or award requirements may be included.
**BIOCHEMISTRY AWARDS**

**BIOC Undergraduate Awards & Honors**

**Highest Distinction**
- Adam Balutowski  
  - Dr. Rutilio Fratti
- Kevin Ingram  
  - Dr. Bo Wang
- Haolin Luo  
  - Dr. Taras Pogorelov
- Sarah Matatov  
  - Dr. Auinash Kalsotra
- Maureen McCoy  
  - Dr. Lin-Feng Chen
- Madeline Melzer  
  - Dr. Jonathan Sweedler

**High Distinction**
- Jessica Hindenberg  
  - Dr. Vivian Tang

**Distinction**
- Le’Mark Russell  
  - Dr. Rachel Smith-Bolton
- David Van Wazer  
  - Dr. Satish Nair

**Outstanding Student Award**
- Adam Balutowski  
  - Dr. Rutilio Fratti

**William T. and Lynn Jackson Senior Best Thesis**
- Sarah Matatov  
  - Dr. Auinash Kalsotra

**William T. and Lynn Jackson Senior Merit Award for Outstanding Thesis**
- Adam Balutowski  
  - Dr. Rutilio Fratti
- Kevin Ingram  
  - Dr. Bo Wang
- Haolin Luo  
  - Dr. Taras Pogorelov
- Maureen McCoy  
  - Dr. Lin-Feng Chen
- Madeline Melzer  
  - Dr. Jonathan Sweedler

**Biochemistry Summer Research Scholarship**
- Madison Ardagh  
  - Dr. Hong Jin

**H. Edward Conrad Summer Research Scholarship**
- Albano Toska  
  - Dr. Lin-Feng Chen

**William T. and Lynn Jackson Scholars in Biochemistry**
- Zhuoran Zhong  
  - Dr. Jefferson Chan

**Padbury Family Scholarship in Biochemistry**
- Isaiah Lopez  
  - Dr. Wilfred van der Donk

**Graduate Student Awards & Honors**

- **Robert L. Switzer Award for Teaching**
  - Arpita Chakravarti  
    - Rachel Martini
  - Chris Hawk  
    - Kritika Mehta
  - Andrea Hernandez Garcia  
    - Gilberto Padron
  - Iris Lyu  
    - Adrika Raybarman

- **2021 Anne A. Johnson Work Award for Excellence in Graduate Studies**
  - Surbhi Jain  
    - Dr. Huimin Zhao

- **Dr. Michael A. Recny Graduate Fellowship in Biochemistry**
  - Santanu Ghosh  
    - Dr. David Shapiro

- **2021 Colin A. Wraight Memorial Award in Biochemistry for Outstanding Paper**
  - Ullas Valiya Chembazhi  
    - Dr. Auinash Kalsotra

- **William T. and Lynn Jackson Graduate Student Fellow in Biochemistry**
  - Wenhao Ouyang  
    - Dr. Nicholas Wu

- **2021 Biochemistry Trust of Urbana for Excellence in Graduate Studies**
  - Waqar Arif  
    - Dr. Auinash Kalsotra

**CELL & DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY AWARDS**

**Undergraduate Awards & Honors**

- **Biochemistry Research Achievement Award**
  - David Chen  
    - Dr. Supriya Prasanth
  - Alfredo Martinez Ruiz  
    - Dr. Mary Schuler
  - Priya Rao  
    - Dr. Mary Schuler
  - Saahil Rastogi  
    - Dr. Mary Schuler

- **Undergraduate Outstanding Research Achievement**
  - Darya Asoudegi  
    - Dr. Supriya Prasanth
  - Rithva Ramesh  
    - Dr. William Briher

- **Roderick MacLeod Award for Academic Excellence**
  - David Chen  
    - Dr. Supriya Prasanth

- **Tom and Cynthia Cucyota Research Scholarship**
  - Jay Sonalikar  
    - Dr. Supriya Prasanth

**Graduate Student Awards & Honors**

- **Tom and Cynthia Cucyota Research Scholarship**
  - Neha Chivukula  
    - Dr. Andrew Belmont

- **Tunji Toogun Research Excellence Award**
  - Qinyu Hao  
    - Dr. Kannanganattu Prasanth

- **Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**
  - Allison Boss-Kennedy  
    - Dr. Jie Chen

- **Graduate Student Platform Presentation Award**
  - Pradeep Kumar  
    - Dr. Andrew Belmont

**MICROBIOLOGY AWARDS**

**Undergraduate Awards & Honors**

- **Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Microbiology Scholarship - Summer Research**
  - Neha Arun  
    - Dr. Collin Kieffer
  - Abdullah Mubarak  
    - Dr. Douglas Mitchell
  - Olivia Rodriguez  
    - Dr. Steven Blanke
  - Faisal Zaider  
    - Dr. Steven Blanke

**Graduate Student Awards & Honors**

- **Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Microbiology Scholarship - Achievement**
  - Joshua Adisumarta  
    - Dr. Steven Blanke
  - Sammy Alhayek  
    - Dr. Steven Blanke

**MATHEMATICAL & BIOPHYSICAL SCIENCES AWARDS**

**Undergraduate Awards & Honors**

- **Mr. Chinoree T. and Mrs. Kimyo Enta Fellowship - Accomplishment**
  - Lucy Chou Zheng  
    - Alexander Poldore  
    - Dr. Asma Hatoum-Aslan
  - Dr. William Metcalf

**MOLECULAR & INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY AWARDS**

**Undergraduate Awards & Honors**

- **Howard S. Ducoff Award for Outstanding Senior Thesis**
  - Niraj Lawande  
    - Dr. Catherine Christian-Hinman

- **C. Ladd Prosser Outstanding Achievement Award**
  - Angelina Wilton  
    - Dr. Hee Jung Chung

**Graduate Student Awards & Honors**

- **Outstanding Thesis Award**
  - Liqian Ma  
    - Dr. Erik Nelson

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS RANKED AS EXCELLENT BY THEIR STUDENTS**

For Molecular and Cellular Biology and Biochemistry Courses Taught in Spring and Fall 2021

- Jacob Beal  
  - Colin Lee†
- Andrew Blake  
  - Qianqiao Liu†
- Allison Boss-Kennedy†  
  - Moeen Meigooni
- Tori Boyle†  
  - Jesus Moreno Castillo
  - Arpita Chakravarti
  - Krishna Narayan
- Yanheng Chen†  
  - Aatiq Nawaz
- Lucy Chou Zheng  
  - Teak Jung Oh
- Molly Crowder†  
  - Alex Phillips†
- Cathryn Cutia†  
  - Jack Przybyla†
- Angela Dean†  
  - Adrika Raybarman
- Daphne Eglemen†  
  - Roy Rodriguez Carrero†
- Amanda Erdanson†  
  - Ruben Sanchez-Nieves†
- Katie Frye†  
  - Ami Seeger
- Kevin Gill  
  - Jaishree Sharma
- Rachel Gonzalez  
  - Ryan Shaw
- Brittney Gorman  
  - Eric Shin†
- Christopher Hawk  
  - Matthew Sinclair
- Maxine He  
  - Surabhi Sonam
- Marinos Kalafatis†  
  - Shukun Yang†
- Collin Kaufman  
  - Tianjong Yao†

† The instructor ratings were outstanding.