PRELIMINARY ROUND A
Tuesday, February 26, 2019 | 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Charles E. Young Research Library, Room 11360

HOST
Joseph Watson – Associate Dean, UCLA Graduate Division

JUDGES
Dana Cairns Watson, Continuing Lecturer, Writing Programs and Electrical and Computer Engineering
Leon Ferder, Librarian Emeritus
Kathleen Micham, Assistant Dean, Physical Sciences
Bill Mitchell, Director Emeriti, UCLA Foundation
Clinton Bench, Director, Fleet & Transit, Transportation
Deanna Evans, Executive Director, Startup UCLA
Mary Miller, Alumni
Harry Yang, Assistant Director, Office of Research Administration

PRESENTERS Listed in order of presentation
Wadie Chalgham, Engineering – Smart Gas Pipeline Leak Detection System
Nyasha Maforo, Biomedical Physics – At The Heart Of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
Kailie Briza, Environmental Health Sciences – Combating Antibiotic Resistance
Tsang-Kai Chang, Electrical and Computer Engineering – Autonomous Robots Inspired By Brains
Ryan Lannan, Biochemistry – What Makes Cells Different
Dahai Yue, Health Policy & Management – Education As A Solution For Rising Health Expenditure
Andrea Gambino, Education – Rethinking Critical Pedagogies: Learning Contexts Across The U.S. & China
Dohyun Kwon, Mathematics – Math Saves Our World
Michelle Flores Espinosa, Materials Science & Engineering – Tiny Helpers: Nanowires Boosting Green Energies
Alina Arseniev-Koehler, Sociology – What Are We Teaching Our Algorithms?
Will Davis, Architecture – Palm Politics: Warfare, Folklore And Architecture
Symone Gyles, Education – Unnatural Disasters: The Reframing Of Science Education Through A Community-Based Environmental Justice Approach
Catherine Schweppe, Neuroscience – Rewiring The Brain After Stroke
Christopher Rorke, Ethnomusicology – Musical Sincerity And Modern Life
Claudia Bautista Perales, Social Welfare – Day Laborer Mental Health In LA County
Javier Rodriguez, Social Welfare – Prison to Schools Pipeline
PRELIMINARY ROUND B

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Boyer Hall, Room 159

HOST

Samuel H. Bersola – Assistant Vice Provost, UCLA Graduate Division

JUDGES

Catherine Bonesho, Assistant Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Culture
Marie Clémot, Postdoctoral Scholar, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology
Grace Dong, Manager of Curriculum and Instruction at Achieve3000, GSEIS
Greg Payne, Professor, Senior Associate Dean, Biological Chemistry/Biosciences
Elizabeth Hessami, UCLA Parents Council
Daniel Low, UCLA Parents Council
Nagendra Mishra, Assistant Researcher/Professor, Harbor UCLA Medical Center
Vahideh Rasekhi, Postdoctoral Fellow, Linguistics

PRESENTERS Listed in order of presentation

Parinaz Abiri, Biomedical Engineering – Keeping Up The Rhythm – The Little Pacemaker That Could
Asif Razee, Physiology – Circuit-Based Understanding Of Learning And Memory In Larval Zebrafish (Danio Rerio)
Allyson Terry, Pharmacology – Securing The Health Of Organ Transplant Recipients
Ife Akinyela, Education – Can Hip Hop Save My Education?
Hongda Wang, Electrical and Computer Engineering – Virtual Histology Powered By AI
Allison Daly, Molecular Biology – Your Immune System, Your Best Friend Or Worst Enemy?
Muhammed Veli, Electrical and Computer Engineering – A Point-Of-Care Platform To Monitor Human Microbiome
Alfonso Molina, Medicine and MPH / Health Policy & Management – Increased Incidence Of Nocardial Infections In An Era Of Atovaquone Prophylaxis In Allogenic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Recipients
Lisa Kawakami, Chemistry – Nanotechnology For Early Stage Cancer Detection
Ken Zhao, Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences – Oceans Melting Greenland From Below
PRELIMINARY ROUND C
Wednesday, February 27, 2019 | 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Charles E. Young Research Library, Room 11360

HOST
Susan Ettner – Associate Dean, UCLA Graduate Division

JUDGES
Tom Belin, Professor, Biostatistics and Psychiatry/Biobehavioral Sciences
Marisela Diaz-Vasquez, Student Affairs Officer, Physiological Science
Kristine Jan Espinoza, Undergraduate and Graduate Advisor, Asian American Studies Department
Faye Peitzman, Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of Education and Information Sciences/ EdTech
Linda Ercoli, Health Sciences Clinical Professor, David Geffen School of Medicine
Leon Ferder, Librarian Emeritus
Annelie Rugg, Director/Humanities CIO, Humanities Technology/IT
Anela Tosevska, Postdoctoral Scholar, Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology

PRESENTERS
Joseph Friedman, Medicine – Ending Medical Segregation In LA
Gerald Higginbotham, Psychology – You Play A Sport, Right? Race Bias In Student Vs. Student-Athlete Categorization
Ayantu Tibeso, Information Studies – To Discover Yourself Not Existing: Archival Erasure In Ethiopia
Xiaofei Lin, Biochemistry – Decrypting The Immune System Code
Aleksandr Gorin, Immunology – Designing An HIV Vaccine
Victoria Sun, Molecular Biology – Creating Cancer-Fighting Cells In A Dish
Katherine Bay, Chemistry – Breaking Bonds To Generate Liquid Fuels
Lionel Levine, Computer Science – What Happens When Your Life Becomes Part Of A Computer Game?
Stanley Harris, Education – District Leadership Best Practices With Innovative Technology Adoption
Katherine Cho, Education – The Perception Of Progress
Pavlo Pinchuk, Astronomy – (Presentation title not disclosed at this time)
Emily Towner, Social Sciences / Psychology – Curiosity And Learning: Curiosity Did Not Kill The Cat
Samantha Morse, English – A Dreadful History
Erika Becker, Social Sciences / Psychology – The Neurotic Spouse
Karime Parodi Ambel, Spanish – Bias Against Women Victims Of Sexual Assault In The Chilean Legal System
Patricia McNeil, Materials Science & Engineering – Energy Saving Windows
PRELIMINARY ROUND D
Wednesday, February 27, 2019 | 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Charles E. Young Research Library, Room 11360

HOST
Robin L. Garrell – Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean, UCLA Graduate Division

JUDGES
Kari Graham, Alumni
Mahdi Hasani, Project Scientist, Bioengineering
Elizabeth Hessami, UCLA Parents Council
Shivani Sharma, Researcher, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine/CNSI
Jaime Balboa, Assistant Vice Provost, Startup UCLA/Summer Sessions
Lynn Dines, Alumni
Vivian Nagy, Alumni
Alexander Patananan, Postdoctoral Scholar, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

PRESENTERS
Comfort Azubuko-Udah, English – Charismatic Spaces of African Literature
Eric Siegel, Anderson School of Management – Mission Control: A Central Approach to Patient Transfers
Hannah (Hsing-Fang) Chang, Integrative Biology & Physiology – Where is the Physical Trace of Memory?
Te-Kang Chao, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering – Help Spinal Cord Injured Individuals Walk Again!
Alex Lee, Molecular Biology – Turning Strengths into Weaknesses: Attacking Brain Cancer with the Immune System
Jennifer Ngo, Biochemistry – Rejuvenating the Human Battery
David Wiss, Public Health – Gut-Based Interventions to Improve Recovery Outcomes
Teruko Mitsuhara, Anthropology – “Feminism Failed Me” Understanding Women’s Conversion to Fundamentalist Religion
Jon Bogard, Anderson School of Management – What Do We Think About Inequality? It Depends How You Ask
Eunjoo An, Nursing – Shouldn’t We All Be Practicing Mindfulness?
Kosuke Inoue, Epidemiology – Opioid and Money
Deniz Turan, Electrical and Computer Engineering – Bringing Terahertz Waves from Laboratory to the Public
Ethan Van Buren, Law – Paying Big Brother: Legal Loopholes in Electronic Monitoring
Kelly Strathamore, Film & Television – Positive Portrayals of Underrepresented Groups in Successful, yet Academically & Critically Overlooked Television Shows
Jessica Shropshire, Psychology – More Than Just A Feminine Face: Observers Use Gendered Facial Cues to Disassociate Women with Male-Dominated Career Fields
Alexander Sercel, Molecular Biology – Recharging the Batteries of Life
Bita Mesri, Psychology – Quality Improvements of Mental Health Services