



GRAD  
SLAM

UCLA

2022

# QUALIFYING ROUND

[grad.ucla.edu/gradslam2022](https://grad.ucla.edu/gradslam2022)

## JUDGES

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Abdallah Daboussi, *Senior Transportation Planner*, Events & Transportation

Alexander Patananan, *Medical Communications Manager*, Biochemistry and Biochemistry

Amy Mutchnick, *Director of Academic Affairs*, Economics/MQE

Brian Stefans, *Professor*, English

Dana Cairns Watson, *Continuing Lecturer*, UCLA Writing Programs and  
HSSEAS Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Daniel Kaufman, *Professor*, Molecular & Medical Pharmacology

Jennifer Pike, *Associate Professor*, Psychiatry

Jenny Lee, *Academic Case Manager*, Graduate Division

Kari Graham, *Integrated Product Team Lead*, Aerospace

Kelly Kistner, *Assistant Director*, Undergraduate Research Center, Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Laura Abrams, *Professor*, Social Welfare

Leon Ferder, *Librarian Emeritus*, Research Library

Linda Ercoli, *Health Sciences Professor*, Psychiatry

Mithun Mitra, *Assistant Project Scientist*, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology

Nicole Bramstedt, *Legislative Counsel*, Luskin School of Public Affairs

Pamela Miller, *Senior Nurse Scientist*, Center for Nursing Excellenc, UCLA Health

Randi Greenberg, ,

Richard Tran, *Operations Research Analyst*, Statistics

Ross Fenimore, *Fellowship Analyst*, Graduate Division

Seth Dorfman, *Assistant Researcher*, Physics and Astronomy

Stewart Moses, *Retired Engineer*, Northrop Grumman



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## PRESENTERS

- Ashley Binnquist**, PSYCHOLOGY - *Cross-Ideological Communication*
- Ashley Fletcher**, ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING - *Quantum Biology: Understanding How Quantum Phenomena Affect Our Everyday Lives*
- Ashton Pemberton**, EDUCATION - *The Color of Accusal: Black Men's Perceptions of Intra-racial Sexual Violence*
- Brandon Tsai**, HUMAN GENETICS - *Breaking the Rules to Fight Cancer*
- Breona Leonard**, PHYSICS AND BIOLOGY IN MEDICINE - *Adaptive Radiotherapy: Artificial Intelligence and the Prostate*
- Briley Lewis**, ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS - *Finding Planets in a Forest of Speckles*
- Collin Roberts**, MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING - *Everything is Made of Something: Titanium, Computers, and the Future*
- Deepak Singla**, BIOENGINEERING - *Walking aka Gait Cycle: Can it Help in Parkinson's Disease?*
- Elizabeth Burnette**, NEUROSCIENCE - *What E.Coli Endotoxin can Tell us About Addiction*
- Graham Straus**, POLITICAL SCIENCE - *What are the Effects of Two Party Competition in the United States?*
- Icy Zhang**, PSYCHOLOGY - *Watching a Hands-On Activity Improves Students' Understanding of the Shuffle Function in R*
- Ishani Ghosh**, EAST ASIAN STUDIES - *Complexities of Appropriation*
- Jacob Green**, HISTORY - *Anesthesia and Religious Experience*
- Jacob Kohlhepp**, ECONOMICS - *Why Do We Do What We Do?*
- Jenna Wahbeh**, BIOENGINEERING - *Total Disc Replacements: How Can We Better Help the Patient?*
- Jessie Stoolman**, ANTHROPOLOGY - *Black and Jewish: The Social Life of Archives in North Africa*
- Jonathan Brand**, BIOENGINEERING - *Spatially Selective Vagus Nerve Stimulation*
- Judah Van Zandt**, ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS - *Finding the Connection Between Close-In Small Planets and Distant Giants*
- Junbo Wang**, ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING - *CubeSat Antennas Connecting Humanity: Towards a Better World for Everyone*
- Katherine Taylor-Hasty**, Architecture - *These are Monuments Too*
- Kelsi Rutledge**, BIOLOGY - *The fluid dynamics of smell: a stingray's perspective*
- Kshitija Shah**, CIVIL ENGINEERING - *Zero Waste (water treatment)!*
- Kyle Winterboer**, PUBLIC POLICY - *Seeds of Consolidation: from the farm to the city*
- Lance Hall**, PUBLIC HEALTH EMPH - *Deeper Stories, Better Outcomes*
- Lauren Chiang**, EDUCATION - *Time Is Not Money - The Relationship Between Parental Stress & Family*



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- Mary Jo Madda**, EDUCATION - *The Science Behind Bad PowerPoints: Why No One Remembers What You Said*
- Mariana Harris**, BIOMATHEMATICS - *Detecting Adaptation in Genomic Data*
- Michael Fischella**, GEOGRAPHY - *Investigating Ecogeomorphic Interactions in Drylands: Aeolian Processes*
- Mostafa Abuseada**, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING - *Solar-thermal production of hydrogen and graphite*
- Nathaniel Anderson**, HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT - *Measuring Child Well-Being Among the U.S. Population*
- Nicole Zeltser**, HUMAN GENETICS - *How much do your genetics impact your health?*
- Paul Vander**, MOLECULAR, CELLULAR, AND INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY - *Suspended Animation as Medicine - Science or Fiction?*
- Pavan Holur**, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING - *Conspiracy Theories and How to Find Them*
- Phillip Sundin**, BIostatISTICS - *Stepped Wedge Designs: Stair Climbers of Clinical Trials*
- Poorva Garg**, COMPUTER SCIENCE - *Model Your World*
- Rachel Hodge**, MOLECULAR BIOLOGY - *Spilling Your Guts*
- Rajashree Bhattacharya**, MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING - *New Materials for Fuses that Work in Space*
- Rosemary He**, COMPUTER SCIENCE - *Graph Embedding Methods to Study Neural Degeneration in Alzheimer's Patients*
- Samantha Stein**, ANTHROPOLOGY - *Calling Bologna in Biomedical Research*
- Sangmin Lim**, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING - *Bacteria Robot Simulation: Helping Nanobots in Precision Medicine*
- Shomik Ati**, PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCE - *Sex Differences in Feeding Behavior*
- Shruti Indiresan**, CIVIL ENGINEERING - *Wetlands and Wildfires: How Microbes Maintain Balance*
- Sihwan Yang**, ECONOMICS - *Dominant Currency Paradigm with Input-Output Linkage*
- Tanner Waters**, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY - *Unlocking our Ocean's Secrets Through Fish Dandruff*
- Thomas Newhall**, ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES - *Buddhism as a Way of Life*
- Toni Boltz**, HUMAN GENETICS - *Can a drop of blood predict your risk for mental illness?*
- William Hayes**, MANAGEMENT MBA - *Kelvi's Digital Transformation*
- Yash Jain**, ORAL BIOLOGY - *Is Your Jaw Decaying?*
- Yifan Gao**, CIVIL ENGINEERING - *Mighty But Mini Particles Can Clean the World*
- Ziqi Wang**, ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING - *ViWatch: A Robust Smartwatch Interaction Interface Using On-body Tapping*