The following students received an outstanding presentation award at the 2012 Cal State L.A. Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities. Congratulations to all!

**Oral Presentations**

**Group 1 – Behavioral and Social Sciences**

**Wendy Dorenbus**  
M.A. Anthropology  
*Lost Settlements: Rediscovering the Maya Settlement and Landscape of Cahal Pech, Belize*  
Faculty Mentor: James Brady

**Group 2 – Behavioral and Social Sciences**

**Tony Ye**  
M.A. Psychology  
*Cognitive Inflexibility After Adolescent Methamphetamine Exposure*  
Faculty Mentor: Alicia Izquierdo

**Group 3 - Engineering and Computer Science**

**Garth Herman**  
M.S. Electrical Engineering  
*Hybrid Routing Algorithms for Navigation Control of a Semi-Autonomous Robotic Platform*  
Faculty Mentors: Charles Liu and Helen Boussalis

**Group 4 - Engineering and Computer Science**

**Azizkhan Pathan**  
**Joseph David Wells**  
**Benjamin Liu**  
B.S. Mechanical Engineering  
*Experimental Sounding Supersonic Rocket Design* Faculty Mentor: Darrell Guillaume

**Usama Tohid**  
M.S. Mechanical Engineering
Parametric Analysis of a Direct Methanol Fuel Cell in Single-phase and two-phase Regimes
Faculty Mentor: Arturo Pacheco-Vega

Group 5 - Biological Sciences

Kathy Trang
B.A. Psychology and B.S. Biology
Alternative Splicing: Sexual Differentiation at the Transcriptome
Faculty Mentor: Houng-Wei Tsai

Andrea Herrera
M.S. Biology
Determining the mechanism of inhibition of mitochondrial Ca2+ overload by the cocoa flavanol (-)-epicatechin as a means of conferring cardioprotection during ischemiareperfusion
Faculty Mentor: Katrina Yamazaki

Group 6 – Humanities and Letters

Krystal Messer
M.A. History
Taken for a Ride: How General Motors Drove the Pacific Electric Railway Out of Business
Faculty Mentor: Choi Chatterjee

Robert Brown
M.A. Political Science
The Path to Insurgency: A Comparative Analysis of Afghanistan, Colombia, and Angola
Faculty Mentor: Emily Acevedo

Group 7 – Biological and Chemical Sciences

Michael Martinez
B.S. Chemistry
Identification of Benzo[a]pyrene Diones as Net Sensitizers of Singlet Oxygen
Faculty Mentors: Krishna Foster and Matias Selke
**Poster Presentations**

**Behavioral and Social Sciences**

Ana Fonseca  
Phoebe Lee  
Sibella Salazar  
Liana Kostaudyan  
M.A. Psychology  
*Maintenance of Latino Culture among Latino Young Adults and Parents*  
Faculty Mentor: Jessica Dennis

Guadalupe Gutierrez, B.A. Psychology  
Sandy Wang, M.A. Psychology  
*Parenting Behavior and School-Aged Bullying Experience: Association with Self-Esteem in Young Adults*  
Faculty Mentors: Munyi Shea and Robert Kennison

**Biological and Agricultural Sciences**

Oswaldo Escobar  
B.S. Microbiology  
*Improvement of Polarization of Human Bronchial Epithelial Cells Grown at Air-Liquid Interface with Retinoic Acid*  
Faculty Mentor: Edith Porter

Natalie Rodriguez  
M.S. Biology  
*Epistatic Analysis of Candida albicans Yck2Δ/Δ Strain: Implications of gene expression profile on mutant morphology and stress response*  
Faculty Mentor: Hyunsook Park

Jazma Tapia  
B.S. Microbiology  
*The Role of Antimicrobial Lipids: Potential Novel Innate Immune Factors Preventing Intrauterine Infections*  
Faculty Mentor: Edith Porter
**Engineering and Computer Science**

**Anahis Rincon**  
B.S. Biochemistry  
*Optimization of Centrifugal Microfluidic Disc Design for Separations via Monolithic Silica discs*  
Faculty Mentor: Frank Gomez

**Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Sciences**

**Eileen Gonzalez**  
B.S. Microbiology  
*Mitochondrial Dynamics in the Type 2 Diabetic Heart*  
Faculty Mentor: Katrina Yamazaki

**Physical and Mathematical Sciences**

**Mary Arrastia**  
B.S. Chemistry and Math  
*Design and Development of a Novel Microfluidic Direct Methanol Fuel Cell*  
Faculty Mentor: Frank Gomez

**Maria Ortega**  
M.S. Chemistry with Biochemistry option  
*Fabrication and solvent studies of thiolene optical adhesive 81 microfluidic chips and their use in chemical separations and reactions*  
Faculty Mentor: Frank Gomez