12 Students to Represent Cal State L.A. in Statewide Research Competition

Research to focus on lost settlements, robotics, railway history, fuel cell, more

Covering research topics ranging from adolescent methamphetamine exposure to supersonic rocket design, 12 Cal State L.A. students will represent the University at the 27th Annual CSU Student Research Competition at Cal Poly Pomona on May 10-11, 2013. Sponsored by the California State University (CSU) Office of the Chancellor, the statewide competition will consist of 10 discipline categories in the undergraduate and graduate levels. Each student will have 10 minutes to present an oral presentation to an audience and jury who will then have five minutes to ask questions. The following Cal State L.A. students, who were recently selected from the Cal State L.A. Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, are competing in the research competition:

Robert Brown (Los Angeles resident, political science major) - mentored by Professor Emily Acero. Title: “The Path to Immigration: A Comparative Analysis of Afghanistan, Colombia, and Angola.”

Wendy Dorenbush (Glendale resident, anthropology major) - mentored by Professor James Brady. Title: “Lost Settlements: Rediscovering the Maya Settlement Landscape of Cahal Pech, Belize.”


Andrea Herrera (Alhambra resident, biology major) - mentored by Professor Katrina Yamanaka. Title: “Determining the mechanism of inhibition of mitochondrial Ca2+ overload by the cocoa flavanol (-)-epicatechin as a means of conferring cardioprotection during ischemiareperfusion.”

Michael Martinez (Long Beach resident, chemistry major) - mentored by Professors Krishna Foster and Matthias Selke. Title: “Identification of Benzo[a]pyrene-Diones as Novel Sensitizers of Single-Cell Oxygen.”

Krystal Messer (Los Angeles resident, history major) - mentored by Professor