

Voices in Undergraduate Research

Meet the Panel

STEM & Social/Behavioral Sciences



Lari Smith

Major: Biochemistry
Class Level: Senior/Class of '22
Research Program: RISE
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Erin McCauley
Career Goals: To work in academia
Fun Facts: I enjoy running in my free time



Jason Guerrero

Major: Biochemistry
Class Level: Senior/Class of '22
Research Program: RISE
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Erin McCauley
Career Goals: To work in industry
Fun Facts: I love playing ice hockey every week to distress from academics



Lukas Daniels

Major: Biological Anthropology
Class Level: Senior/Class of '22
Research Program: Transfer to Success
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Sarah Lacy
Career Goals: Professor!
Fun Facts: I enjoy spending time with my dogs, partner, and creating art, especially ceramics



Carlos Zuniga

Major: Ecology & Environmental Science
Class Level: Junior/Class of '24
Research Program: LSAMP
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Justin Valliere
Career Goals: To become a plant ecologist
Fun Facts: In my free time, I train Muay Thai (a form of kickboxing)



Leslie Gomez

Major: Biological Anthropology
Class Level: Senior/Class of '22
Research Program: McNair
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ken Seligson
Career Goals: Global developmentsustainable agriculture and food security
Fun Facts: I enjoy painting, cooking, and hiking



Alex Camarillo

Major: Clinical Science
Class Level: Senior/Class of '22
Research Program: McNair
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Philip Vieira
Career Goals: To pursue a CLS internship program obtain a CLS licensure, and obtain a doctorate in neuroscience or biomedical medicine.
Fun Facts: I enjoy listening to music and going to the beach



Roberto Ortega

Grad Institution: CSU San Marcos
Grad Program: Sociological Practice
Class Level: 2nd Year MA Student
Research Program: McNair
Career Goals: Earn a doctoral degree, become university professor book author
Fun Facts: I enjoy playing soccer, going to the beach, concerts, and a big fan of horror stories



Jason Williams

Grad Institution: UCLA
Grad Program: Chemistry
Class Level: 1st Year Ph.D. Student
Research Program: RISE
Career Goals: Develop or expand natural products research as a professor
Fun Facts: I enjoy weight-lifting, spending quality time with my daughter, and listening to audiobooks