Congratulations to Dr. James F. Innovation Awards Winners!

2021 NJIT URI Undergraduate Summer Research and Innovation Symposium

The 2021 NJIT Undergraduate Summer Research and Innovation Symposium integrated with the Innovation Day was held on July 29-30, 2021. The symposium featured the distinguished keynote talk from Daniel Henderson followed by URI External Advisory Board (EAB) panel to pay a tribute to Dr. James F. Stevenson, recognizing his great contributions and support to the IDS, TechQuest Innovation, and URI programs. One hundred and thirty-four (134) undergraduate students presented 108 projects with their summer research work before the in-person and virtual audience including URI External Advisory Board, faculty and students.

The symposium also featured the inauguration of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) Chapter at NJIT on July 30 from 11.00 AM - 12.30 PM with live streaming on the YouTube. Thirty-two (32) faculty members were inducted as the inventor member to the NAI. In addition, 9 administrators and technology innovation supporters will be inducted as honorary members. The inaugural ceremony featured the keynote talk by Ms. Elizabeth Dougherty, Eastern Regional Outreach Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), and a member of the NAI Board of Directors. The video recording of the NAI Chapter at NJIT Inauguration and Induction Ceremony is available on the YouTube website at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpndnld3Tu8.

The URI External Advisory Board judged all 108 excellent presentations and selected three top project presentations for Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Awards Prizes and 5 Honorable Mentions, one from each of the five research cluster areas: Bioscience and Bioengineering, Data Science and Management, Environment and Sustainability, Material Science and Engineering, and Robotics and Machine Intelligence and Architecture and Design.

**Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: First Prize ($1,000)**

Name: Simone Bishara  
Department: Biochemistry  
Project Title: Observing Compressive Strength of Fibrin Hydrogels of Varying Concentrations  
Faculty Advisor: Jonathan Grasman  
URI Program: McNair Scholar Program

**Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Second Prize ($750)**

Name: Sreya Sanyal  
Department: Biology & History  
Project Title: Opsonization of SARS-CoV-2 to develop a COVID-19 antiviral  
Faculty Advisor: Vivek Kumar  
URI Program: URI Provost Summer Research Fellowship Program
Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Third Prize ($500)

Name: Joseph Schaedler  
Department: Computer Science  
Project Title: Blockchain-enabled Standardized Testing Design  
Faculty Advisor: Jasmine Chang  
URI Program: URI Provost Summer Research Fellowship Program  

Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Honorable Mention - Bioscience and Bioengineering ($100)

Name: Nishita Vootukuru  
Department: Biochemistry  
Project Title: Effects of Osteopontin on Cardiomyocytes as Related to Myocardial Infarction  
Faculty Advisor: Alice Lee  
URI Program: Honors College Summer Research Program  

Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Honorable Mention - Data Science and Management ($100)

Name: Wara Laura  
Department: Computer science  
Project Title: Social Media Misinformation in Covid19  
Faculty Advisor: Cody Buntain  
URI Program: NSF Research Experience of Undergraduate (REU) Program for Computational Data Analytics  

Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Honorable Mention - Environment and Sustainability ($100)

Name: Jeffrey Luk  
Department: Biology  
Project Title: Inactivation of MS2 Bacteriophage for Water Disinfection via Microwave Irradiation in the presence of Microwave-Adsorbing Catalysts  
Faculty Advisor: Wen Zhang  
URI Program: URI Provost Summer Research Fellowship Program  

Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Honorable Mention - Material Science and Engineering ($100)

Name: Christopher Leong  
Department: Physics  
Project Title: Uncooled Mid-wavelength Infrared Photoconductive Photodetectors Based on Silver Selenide Colloidal Quantum Dot  
Faculty Advisor: Dong Ko  
URI Program: NSF Research Experience of Undergraduate (REU) Program for Optics and Photonics
Dr. James F. Stevenson Innovation Award: Honorable Mention - Architecture and Design, and Robotics and Machine Intelligence ($100)

Name: Elizabeth Kowalchuk  
Department: Architecture  
Project Title: Bauhaus Medievalism: Gropius' Medieval Ideals and their Manifestation in Bauhaus Pedagogy  
Faculty Advisor: Louis Hamilton  
URI Program: URI Provost Summer Research Fellowship Program

National Academy of Inventor (NAI) Chapter at NJIT  
Student Innovation and Inventor Club

Based on the recommendations from the URI External Advisory Board, the following students have been nominated for the National Academy of Inventor (NAI) Chapter at NJIT Student Innovation and Inventor Club. Students will receive an email with the details shortly.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
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<td>Bilal</td>
<td>Adra</td>
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<td>Abdul-Rahman</td>
<td>Azizogli</td>
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<td>Balaji</td>
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<td>Egor</td>
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<td>Michaela</td>
<td>Dungan</td>
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Congratulations to all student winners and their faculty advisors!