

## **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=kpndnId3Tu8>.

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 Grisman

**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

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**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.

First Name	Last Name	Major
Bilal	Adra	Mechanical Engineering
Abdul-Rahman	Azizogli	Biology
Thara	Balaji	Biology
Simone	Bishara	Biochemistry
Gabriela	De Carvalho	Biomedical Engineering
Egor	Demidov	Chemical Engineering
Michaela	Dungan	Biology, Concentration: Neurobiology
Aaron	Gibbs	Computer Engineering
Shaikh	Hassan	Biomedical Engineering
Elizabeth	Kowalchuk	Architecture
Jason	Kurzer	Information Technology
Wara	Laura	Computer science
Christopher	Leong	Physics
Jeffrey	Luk	Biology
Alan	Lundi	Civil Engineering
Carlos	Maranon	Electrical Engineering
Stuti	Mohan	Biomedical Engineering
Jason	Ong	Chemistry
Seejal	Padhi	Biomedical Engineering

Sheetal	Padhi	Biomedical Engineering
Nikitha	Pappachen	Biology
Areej	Qamar	Biomedical Engineering
Maryom	Rahman	Chemical Engineering
Lara	Rios	Civil Engineering (minor in Computer Science)
Sreya	Sanyal	Biology & History
Joseph	Schaedler	Computer Science
Esha	Shah	Biology
Vignesh	Sridhar	Mechanical Engineering
Will	Suero Amparo	Biomedical Engineering
Jacob	Swanson	Architecture
SHAFIA	TALAT	Biology, BA
John	Tobia	Biology
Nishita	Vootukuru	Biochemistry
Peggy	Yin	Informatics
Xin	Yin	Environmental engineering

**Congratulations to all student winners and their faculty advisors!**