“Before you can make a dream come true, you must first have one.”

— RONALD MCNAIR
Keegan Bunker – University of Minnesota
Major: Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics with minors in Math, Computer Science, and Astrophysics
“Helmholtz Coil Testbed Design for Hardware-in-the-loop Testing of CubeSat Satellite Attitude Determination and Control Systems”
Mentor: Demoz Gebre-Egziabher, Dept. of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics

Yadira Damazo – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology with a minor in social justice
“Gentrification as Structural Violence: A Critical Literature Review”
Mentor: Yuichiro Onishi, Dept. of African American & African Studies

Mark Dresel – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
“Exploration of Binding Moieties of Lanthanide Complexes and Its Effects on Anion Affinity”
Mentor: Valérie C. Pierre, Dept. of Chemistry

Muzamil Ibrahim – University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
“Playing Indian: Dehumanization or development?”
Mentor: Katie Johnston-Gooodstar, School of Social Work

Kania Johnson – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Getting Close to Inequities: Inequality Experts’ Proximity to the Communities They Serve”
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Dept. of Sociology

Kimberly Knourek – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology with a minor in Family Social Science
“Effects of Parent Stress and Distress on Parenting Quality and Child Behavior”
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Institute of Child Development

Brianna Lundgren – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology with minors in Neuroscience and Family Social Science
“Internalizing, Externalizing, and ADHD Symptoms of Post-Institutionalized Adolescents”
Mentor: Megan Gunnar, Institute of Child Development

Abigail McClendon – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology with minors in neuroscience and leadership
“Reduced Hippocampal Volume in Comorbid Alcohol Use Disorders and Major Depression”
Mentor: William G. Iacono, Dept. of Psychology

Nicolas Mendivil – University of Minnesota
Majors: Kinesiology & Psychology
“The Effect of High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) on Physical Activity Adherence on Low Active Adults”
Mentor: Beth Lewis, School of Kinesiology

Cristal Mercado – University of Minnesota
Major: Special Education
“Commercial Card Games Improve Middle School Students’ Executive Functioning”
Mentor: Keisha Varma, Dept. of Educational Psychology

Julissa M. Molina-Vega – Macalester College
Major: Biochemistry with a minor in Chemistry
“Eicosanoid Regulation of the Nuclear Pore Complex in Breast Cancer”
Mentor: David Potter, Dept. of Medicine, Division of Hematology, Oncology, and Transplantation

Samantha Mussehl – University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
“Innervation Status in Soleus Muscle Post Hemorrhagic Stroke”
Mentor: LeAnn Snow, Dept. of Rehabilitation Medicine

Minh-Uyen Nguyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Biomedical Engineering
“Development of a Single Cell Mechanical Characterization Platform”
Mentor: David K. Wood, Dept. of Biomedical Engineering

Salma Noor – University of Minnesota
Major: Nutrition with a minor in Public Health
“The Role of Prebiotics and Probiotics in the Oral Microbiota”
Mentor: Joanne Slavin, Dept. of Food Science & Nutrition

Luis Ramirez – University of Minnesota
Major: Physiology
“Selective N-Terminal BET-Family Bromodomain Inhibitor Development by Targeting the ZA-Channel of BRD4”
Mentor: William Pomerantz, Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry

Zorbine Atosha Rypa – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology: Law & Crime Deviance
Mentor: Michael Walker, Dept. of Sociology

Sandra Taylor – Carleton College
Major: Psychology with a minor in Neuroscience
“The Effect of Texture in Surround Suppression”
Mentor: Cheryl A. Olman, Department of Psychology

Taylor Westfall-McCoy – University of Minnesota
Major: Animal Science
“Effect of β-Hydroxy-β-methylbutyrate on Proteolysis via Ubiquitination in Equine Skeletal Muscle Cells Using Western Blot Techniques”
Mentor: Marcia R. Hathaway, Dept. of Animal Science

Salamong Xiong – Macalester College
Majors: Physics and Philosophy
“Optical Characteristic Measurements of Crystalline Silicon (c-Si)”
Mentor: Shaul Hanany, School of Physics and Astronomy
Firdavs Abzhabarov – University of Minnesota
Major: Life Sciences, Psychology, Communication Studies
“Creation, Transfection, and Verification of HDAC4-GFP Lentiviral Construct”
Mentor: Kim Mansky, School of Dentistry

Kamilah Amen – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry & Bioprocess Engineering
“Alteration of Oligodendrocyte Functional Mechanics By Neurodegenerative Disease”
Mentor: Patrick Alford, Dept. of Biomedical Engineering

Zack Crowley – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
The Interaction of Economic Inequality and Authoritarianism on Voter Preference During the 2016 Presidential Election
Mentor: Howard Lavine, Department of Political Science

Laura Dédé d’Almeida – University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies
“Learning and Empowerment: A Social Network Analysis of Fellowship Participants”
Mentor: Christopher Johnstone, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development

Brandon C. Hyde – University of Minnesota
Major: Statistics
“Evaluating Methods to Identify Introgressed Regions”
Mentor: Yaniv Brandvain, Dept. of Plant & Microbial Biology

Austin Leikvoll – University of Minnesota
Major: Genetics & Cell Biology and Development
“Developing a Muscle Tissue Construct Using 3D Bioprinting”
Mentor: Angela Panoskaltsis-Mortari, Dept. of Pediatrics

Kayne Lussier – University of Minnesota
Major: Early Childhood Education
“Development of IGDI Assessments for 3-Year-Olds and Review of Literacy Interventions”
Mentor: Scott McConnell, Dept. of Educational Psychology

Nicole A. Lynn – California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Major: Biotechnology
“The Effect of Saturated Fatty Acid on Immune Metabolism in Microglia”
Mentors: Tammy Butterick, Dept. of Food Science & Nutrition; Jill Adler, Dept. of Biological Sciences

Mallory Mintz – Carleton College
Major: Geology
“Tracing Sediment Source Responses to Water Infrastructure Development and Management in Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Montana”
Mentors: Amy Myrbo, Dan Maxbauer, & Mark Shaplen, Department of Earth Sciences

Nahom Mossazghi – University of Minnesota
Major: Neuroscience
“Cranial Prostheses for Chronic, Pan-Cortical Two-Photon Imaging in Behaving Mice”
Mentor: Suhasa Kodandaramaiah, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

Aarinola Esther Okelola – University of Minnesota
Major: Elementary Education Foundations
“Discipline Practices and Racial Equity in Schools: Mapping Restorative Justice in Minnesota Schools”
Mentor: Catherine Squires, Dept. of Communication Studies

Mary K. Onchiri – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science & Psychology
“The Effect of Social Conditions on Psychological Distress in Minneapolis Neighborhoods”
Mentor: Richard Lee, Department of Psychology

Susan Phetsamone – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology & Family Social Science
“Youth: Threats to Communities vs Rising Stars”
Mentor: Teresa Swartz, Department of Sociology

Tyra Reed – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“The Effects of Skin Color on Health: Trends from the General Social Survey”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Jr., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Gao Thor – Macalester College
Major: Psychology
“A Tale of Two Central Graduates 20 Years Apart: A Collaborative Autoethnography on College Access”
Mentor: Na’im Madyun, Dept. of Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development

Chen Vue – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Influence of Parental Involvement on Hmong Children’s Academic Performance”
Mentor: Zha Blong Xiong, Dept. of Family Social Science

Taylor Westfall-McCoy – University of Minnesota
Major: Animal Science & History of Science and Technology
“Cold Plasma for Decontamination of Chicken Breast, Romaine Lettuce, & Stainless Steel Surfaces from Multi-Drug Resistant Salmonella Enterica Serovar Heidelberg”
Mentor: Sagar Goyal, College of Veterinary Medicine

Halimo Yusuf – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“The Relationship between Stress and Academic Performance in Community College Students”
Mentor: Lisa Meredith, Department of Psychology

Fralinda Zazay – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“Resilience in Children Experiencing Homelessness: Preschool Attendance and Later Academic Success”
Mentor: Ann Masten, Institute of Child Development
Karen Bonfil-Ruiz – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
“Healthcare Legal Partnerships Needs Assessment”
Mentor: Eileen Weber, School of Nursing

Javaris Bradford – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
“3 Strikes & Racial Disparities in Incarceration”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Sokamarint Chak – University of Minnesota
Major: Microbiology & Medical Laboratory Science
“Hydrothermal Carbonization Conversion of Agricultural Residues to Value-Added Products”
Mentor: Ken Valentas, Biotechnology Institute

Danielle B. Cotton – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Intersections of Racialized Experiences and Psychosocial Development for Black Undergraduates at a Predominately White Institution”
Mentor: Tabitha Grier-Reed, Department of Family Social Science

Corey Culver – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
“Police Strength and Crime Rates”
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Department of Sociology

Aracely C. Duerkop – University of Minnesota
Major: Nursing
“Non-pharmacological Interventions for Latinos with Alzheimer’s Disease and their Family Caregivers”
Mentor: Joseph Gaugler, Department of Nursing

Victoria Y. Idowu – University of Minnesota
Major: Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences
“Ripple Perception in Musicians Compared to Non-Musicians: Effects of Bandwidth and Intensity”
Mentor: Evelyn Davies-Venn, Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences

Ana V. Lozano – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Disrupting the Effects of Parental Math Anxiety: How Parental Expectations and Involvement Matter for Children’s Mathematical Outcomes”
Mentor: Rose Vukovic, Department of Educational Psychology

Saida Mahamud – University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies
“The Effect of Citizenship Status and Nativity on Minimum Wage Coverage among Black Workers in Minnesota”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Fadumo Mohamed – University of Minnesota
Major: Elementary Education
“Insights into the Academic Language Learning of Somali Elementary Students”
Mentor: Lori Helman, Department of Curriculum & Instruction

Lydia Negussie – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology of Law
“Performing Masculinity: Examining Men’s Experiences of Gender Based Violence”
Mentor: Gabrielle Ferrales, Department of Sociology

Ryan Nguyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Medical Laboratory Science
“Vilence profiles of non-typhoidal Salmonella strains of avian, bovine and porcine origins”
Mentor: Sinisa Vidovic, Department of Veterinary Science

Dorothy O’Berry – University of Minnesota
Major: Business & Marketing Education
“The Impact of Narrative Pedagogy on Student Learning”
Mentor: Rashnē Jehangir, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development

Jackie Penaloza – University of Minnesota
Major: Mathematical Biology: Physiology
“A Mathematical Model to Simultaneously Calculate Growth and Death Rates of Cells Undergoing Oxidative Stress”
Mentor: Meri Firpo, Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology & Metabolism

Vilma Quito Fernandez – University of Minnesota
Major: Business & Marketing Education
“Money Management & Technology: Financial Practices of College Students”
Mentor: Virginia Zuiker, Department of Family Social Science

Chris Vang – University of Minnesota
Major: Youth, Holistic Health & Healing, & Leadership Studies
“Parent Participatory Action Research Curriculum Draft”
Mentors: Michele Allen, Department of Family Medicine & Community Health; Luis Ortega and Shannon Pergament, Somali, Latino and Hmong Partnership for Health and Wellness (SoLaHmo)

Kee Vang – Metropolitan State University
Major: Business Administration
“The Effect of Minority Faculty Representation on McNair Program Success Rate, 2010-2014”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Ricky Vang – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“The Relationship between Educational Attainment and Financial Management”
Mentors: Cathy Solheim & Veronica Deenanath, Department of Family Social Science

Jayson Watkins – University of Minnesota
Major: Sport Management & Psychology
“Parent Understanding of and Involvement in Organized, Out-of-School Youth Activities”
Mentor: Douglas Hartmann, Department of Sociology

Sim (Net) Youk – University of Minnesota
Major: Biology, Society, & Environment
“The Association Between U.S. Patients’ Household Income & Medication Experiences”
Mentor: Jon C. Schommer, Department of Pharmaceutical Care & Health Systems
Sahaam Abdi - University of Minnesota
Major: Linguistics
“Individual Differences in the Acquisition of the /s/ and Contrast: A Study of Adults’ Perception of Child Speech”
Mentor: Benjamin Munsion, Ph.D., Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences

Noussaiba Ayour - University of Minnesota
Major: Biology, Society and Environment
“Intimate Partner Violence and Weight Gain in Young Women”
Mentor: Susan Mason, Ph.D., School of Public Health

Karimantou Bah - University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry
“Microglia Response to Fatty Acid Binding Protein-UCP2 Axis in Facilitating Neuroinflammation”
Mentor: Tammy Butterick, Ph.D. Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition

Wendy Chu - Macalester College
Major: Psychology
“Exploring the Construct Validity of Letters of Recommendation in Graduate Admissions: The Hidden "Unknowns" Within”
Mentor: Nathan Kuncel, Ph.D., Department of Psychology

Kayla Cory - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
“Effects of Yoga on Blood Pressure, Stress and Physical Activity in Overweight, African-American Women”
Mentor: Daheia J. Barr-Anderson, Ph.D., School of Kinesiology

Bailey Galloway - St. Catherine University
Major: American Sign Language Interpreting
“American Sign Language: Monitoring Student Progress”
Mentor: Susan Rose, Ph.D., Dept. of Educational Psychology

Raúl Guzmán-Ayala - Carleton College
Major: Latin American Studies with a Certificate of Advanced Study in Spanish
“Achieving Goals: Role of Support and Structure for Latina/o Student Post-High School Goals”
Mentor: Michael C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., Dept. of Educational Psychology

Eileen Lee - University of Minnesota
Major: Health and Wellness/ICP
“A Mixed Methods Assessment of family Influence on Weight-Related Behaviors among African-Americans”
Mentor: Daheia J. Barr-Anderson, Ph.D., School of Kinesiology

Lamin Manjang - University of Minnesota
Major: Health and Wellness/ICP
“These are hard questions: An Investigation of 6th Graders’ Developmental Abilities to Answer Survey Items”
Mentor: Barbara McMorris, Ph.D., School of Nursing: Division of Pediatrics and Adolescent Health

Hamza Musse - University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science
“Growth in Black-Owned Businesses: Perceptions Versus Statistics”
Mentor: Samuel J. Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Sonia Paredes-Guaman - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Breaking Barriers in Ghana: Impact of Reproductive Health Curriculum and Cultural Activity Sessions on Adolescent Girls”
Mentor: Rose Vukovic, Ph.D., Dept. of Educational Psychology

Shanel Perez - University of Minnesota
Major: Business and Marketing Education & Human Resource Development
“Rethinking Cultural Competence”
Mentor: Jarrett Gupton, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development

Bryan Polkey - University of Minnesota
Major: Nursing
“Medical-Legal Advocacy Screening Questionnaire: Evaluating Efficacy”
Eileen Weber, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Azira Rivera - University of Minnesota
Major: Mathematics
“Characterizing Indel Mutations in Arabidopsis thaliana as a Model for Compensatory Evolution”
Mentor: Yaniv Brandvain Ph.D., Department of Plant Biology

Dave Sukharan - University of Minnesota
Major: Microbiology
“Research Centers Struggling to Communicate: Social Media as a New Pathway”
Mentor: Sarah Axtell, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Jonathon Swan - University of Minnesota
Major: Nutrition
“Beneficial Effects of Selenium on the Human Gut Microbiome”
Mentor: Joanne Slavin, Ph.D., Department of Food Science and Nutrition

Julie Vang - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Do They Think Alike? Immigrant First-Generation Students’ Decision and Parents’ Preferences for College Major and Career”
Mentors: Cathy Solheim, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science & Veronica Deenanath, Department of Family Social Science

Gaozouapa Vue - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
“Livelihood Complexities in Kenya from the Perspectives on Youth Orphans”
Mentors: Christopher Johnstone, Ph.D. International Initiatives and Relations & Nancy Pellowski Wiger, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development

Hany Wahila - University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science
“A RADical Departure? The Redevelopment of Glendale Townhomes”
Mentor: Ryan P. Allen, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Aaryn Wilson - University of Minnesota
Major: Plant Science
“Evaluation of a New Test to measure Soil Health”
Mentor: Carl Rosen, Ph.D., Department of Soil, Water and Climate
Arafat Akinlabi - Carleton College
Major: Chemistry
“Hydrothermal Synthesis of the Spinel Compound CuCo2S4”
Mentor: R. Lee Penn, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry

Nicholas Baird - University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“Measurement Matters: Effects of Measurement Error on One-Sample t-Tests”
Mentor: David Weiss, Ph.D., Department of Psychology

Luc Desroches - University of Minnesota, Duluth
Major: Mechanical Engineering
“Experimental Determination of Poisson’s Ratio for Asphalt Binder”
Mentors: Mihai Marasteanu, Ph.D. & Joa Liang Le, Ph.D., Department of Civil Engineering

Mariah Geiger - Macalester College
Major: International Studies
“Closing the Research Circle: Giving Back Results to the Community”
Mentor: Jean L. Forster, Ph.D., Department of Epidemiology

Amanda Geldert - University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Family Reminiscence Across Generations”
Mentor: Steve Yussen, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development

Amber Jones - University of Minnesota
Major: African American & African Studies
“W. Gertrude Brown: A Case of Black Women’s Activism in Minnesota, 1920-1940”
Mentor: Yuichiro Onishi, Ph.D., Department of African American Studies

Jason Jones - University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry
“One Fungus, many hosts? Symbiosis between Daldinia loculata and its many plant hosts”
Mentor: Georgiana May, Ph.D., Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior

Lawrence Karongo - University of Minnesota
Major: Applied Economics
“The Production Black Ph.Ds. in Economics at Harvard University, 1905-1955”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Jade Mathre - University of Minnesota
Major: Genetics, Cell Biology and Development & Plant Biology
“Geminivirus Delivery of CRISPR/Cas9 for Plant Genomre Engineering”
Mentor: Dan Voytas, Ph.D., Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development

Mulki Naleye - University of Minnesota
Major: Business & Marketing Education
“School choice: Factors Influencing Somali Immigrant Parents’ Choices for their Children”
Mentor: Karen Seashore, Ph.D., Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development

Evita Sanchez - University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“Acculturative Stress, Self-esteem, and Emotional Well-being among Latina Adolescents”
Mentor: Carolyn Garcia, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Ambrosia Smith - University of Minnesota
Major: Biology, Society & Environment
“Neural Mechanisms of Drug Abuse in Females”
Mentor: Paul Mermelstein, Ph.D. & Luis Martinez, Ph.D., Department of Neuroscience

Mara Stommes - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science & Communication Studies
“Mobile Health Technologies: A Critical Review of Literature”
Tai Mendenhall, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Redeat Tibebu - University of Minnesota
Major: Horticulture
“The Role of Reactive Oxygen Species following Ultraviolet-B Irradiation”
Mentor: Gary Gardner, Ph.D., Department of Horticulture

Joe Vang - University of Minnesota
Major: Biology, Society & Environment
“Evaluation of Patient Oriented Drug to Drug Interactions Information Systems”
Mentor: Terrance Adam, Ph.D., Department of Pharmaceutical Care and Health

Jaleesa Wright - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Exposure to Incarceration-Related Events in a Sample of Children with Jailed Parents”
Mentor: Rebecca Schlafer, Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics

Crystal Yang - University of Minnesota
Major: Individualized Studies
“Lao Initiative for Eating Healthy: Making the Connections between Sodium Intake and Hypertension in the Lao Community”
Mentor: Cathy Solheim, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science
Natisha Alicea – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Parenting Education and Support for Imprisoned Mothers”
Mentor: Rebecca Shlafer, Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics

Jade Beauclair – University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
“Laboratory for Justice: A Contextual Analysis of Legal Experimentation and Pedagogy at Howard University Law School, 1929-1954”
Mentor: Robert Poch, Ph.D., Department of Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

Jennie Chu – Carleton College
Major: Geology
“Evidence for Heat-Treatment of Stone Tools: Magnetic Mineralogy of Heated Chert”
Mentor: Joshua Feinberg, Ph.D., Department of Earth Sciences

Lekie Dwanen – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“The Maternal Experiences of HIV-Positive Women”
Mentor: Shonda M. Craft, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Naima Farah – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“If I Get Them, How Will I Financially Support Them: Challenges for Kinship Caregivers”
Mentor: Priscilla Gibson, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Song Her – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Underrepresentation of Ethnic Minority Groups in Advance Counseling and Psychology”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Alyssa Holmes – University of Minnesota, Crookston
Major: Equine/Animal Science
“Yield and Preference of Annual Grasses Under Horse Grazing”
Mentor: Krishna Martinson, Ph.D., Department of Animal Sciences

Kadir Hussein – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
“Considering a Bacterial Model for Ecological Nanoparticle Toxicity”
Mentor: Christy Haynes, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry

Ivan Ishkov – University of Minnesota
Major: Electrical Engineering
“Time Dependence of the Magnetic After Effect in Co/Pd Multilayer Thin Films”
Mentor: Dan Dahlberg, Ph.D., School of Physics and Astronomy

Fanny Jimbo-Llapa – University of Minnesota
Major: BIS: Family Social Science/Child Psychology/Public Health
“¡Encuentro! Teen-Parent Pilot Study- Recruitment & Retention”
Mentor: Renee Sieving, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Yonatan Kebede – University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry
“Molecular Analysis of Centrosome in Mammalian Cells: Cep 15”
Mentor: Ryoko Kuriyama, Ph.D., Department of Genetics

Anna Ma – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Essential Fine Motor Skills of Clinical Laboratory Science Professionals”
Mentor: Peggy M. Martin, Ph.D., Occupational Therapy

Coriandre Moore – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“Scandal: Checks, Constituents, and Consequences”
Mentor: Marti Hope Gonzales, Ph.D., Department of Psychology

Phitsavath Nantharath – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
“Understanding the Role of Bone Morphogenic Proteins in MAPK Phosphatase-1 (MKP-1) Regulation During Osteoclastogenesis”
Mentor: Kim Mansky, Ph.D., Department of Chemical Sciences

Tho Nguyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Business Marketing Education/Human Resource Development
“But He Loves Me: Teens’ Perspective on Unhealthy vs. Healthy Relationships”
Mentor: Sonya S. Brady, Ph.D., School of Public Health

Andrew Nauertz – University of St. Thomas
Major: Biology
“Antiviral Properties of Natural Extracts Against Feline Calici Virus, a Surrogate to Norovirus”
Mentor: Sagar M. Goyal, Ph.D., Department of Veterinary Population Medicine

Nima Odowa – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemical Engineering/Mathematics
“Synthesis and Optimization of Isopropyl Xanthic Anhydride: Reactions of Potassium Isopropyl Xanthate with Ethyl Chloroformate”
Mentor: George Barany, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry

Russel Peterson – Carleton College
Major: History, Latin American Studies
“Weaponized Art: Shining Path and Their Influences on Independent Peruvian Theater”
Mentor: Luis A. Ramos-García, Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese Studies

Keng Xiong – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Financial Strength and Challenges in Refugee Families”
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Mai Yang – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Validity of the Peg Tapping Measure of Executive Function in Early Childhood for Hmong Children”
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development
Octavia Cheatom - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
Invisible Pioneers: Exploring the Experiences of African American Female Athletes - A Digital Story
Mentor: Jennifer A. Bhalla, Ph.D., School of Kinesiology

Christopher Crump - University of Minnesota
Major: Spanish & Portuguese Studies
“Race” in Portuguese: Representations of Race in Brazilian Literature
Mentor: Ana Paula Ferreira, Ph.D., Spanish & Portuguese Studies

Gabriel De Los Rios - University of Minnesota
Major: Neuroscience
Energy Disorder & Obesity: Saturated Fatty Acid Induced Hypothalamic Neurodegeneration
Mentor: Tammy Butterick, PhD., Food Science and Nutrition

Linli Fung - University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
New Strategies to Treat Prescription Opioid Abuse
Mentor: Marco Pravetoni, Ph.D., Dept. of Medicine

Pertesia Gadson - University of Minnesota, Rochester
Major: Health Sciences
Perceptions of Healthy Partner and Relationship Characteristics among Adolescents
Mentor: Dr. Sonya Brady, Ph.D., School of Public Health

Bezaleel Gebru - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Health and Environmental Sciences
Potential Exposure to PFCs in the Hmong Community in the East Metro
Mentor: Matt Simcik, Ph.D., Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health

Teddy Gustafson - University of Minnesota
Major: Architecture
Social Sustainability: Linking Affordable Housing Design and Resident Health
Mentor: Billy Weber, Ph.D., School of Architecture

Tierra Howard - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
Youth Work as a Contested Terrain: Perspectives from Youth Workers in African American Communities - Pilot Study
Mentor: Ross VeLure Roholt, Ph.D., Youth Studies

Jeweletter Johnson - Carleton College
Major: Psychology
Implicit Bias and the Cross-Race Effect
Mentor: Eugene Borgida, Ph.D., Psychology and Law

Biftu Khalif - University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology/Child Psychology
Coming of Age: A Look at 2nd Generation and US-Born Young Adults View of their Families
Mentor: Teresa Swartz, Ph.D., Sociology and Asian American Studies

Touhue Ly - University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Major: Psychology
Intergenerational Transmission of Hopelessness in Hmong American Families
Mentor: Zha Blong Xiong, Ph.D., Dept. of Family Social Science

Caprecia Matthias - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Association of Parent Vagal Tone to Emotion Regulation During Military Reintegration: Possible Gender Differences
Mentor: Abi Gewirtz, Ph.D., Dept. of Family Social Science

Merone Melekin - University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science
The Deterrent Effect of Reverse Discrimination Litigation in Public Procurement and Contracting
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice

Amy Neguse - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Do Proximal Reasons for Homelessness Predict Observed Parenting in Shelters
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development

Gertude Ogega - University of Minnesota, Duluth
Major: Psychology
The Assessment of Ethical Behavior at Work
Mentor: John Campbell, Ph.D., Dept. of Psychology

Sigin Ojulu - University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies/Economics
Global Waste Trade; Informal Economic Practices of Southeast Asia
Mentor: Vinay Gidwani Ph.D., Dept. of Geography and the Institute of Global Studies

Kynesha Patterson - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
Culturally Relevant Pedagogy
Mentor: Katie Johnston-Goodstar, Ph.D., Youth Studies

Carlos Reyes - University of Minnesota
Major: Mentor: Business and Marketing Education
Competencies for Leaders in Education Versus other Industry Groups: Is Teresa Sullivan Right?
Louis N. Quast, Ph.D., Dept. of Organizational, Leadership, Policy, and Development

Bre Valle - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Family Communications Project: Comparing Child Behavior Outcomes in Same-Sex ART Families and Heterosexual ART
Mentor: Martha Rueter, Ph.D., Dept. of Family Social Science

Xue Xiong - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
Experiences of Hmong Youth Workers: A Pilot Study to Understand Culturally Appropriate Practice
Mentor: Michael Baizerman, Ph.D., Youth Studies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Mentor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Osman Ahmed</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Public Policy</td>
<td>The Experiences of Somali Meatpackers, the Case of Willmar, Minnesota</td>
<td>Barbara Frey, J.D., Institute for Global Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Bobo</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Child Psychology</td>
<td>Association between Early Adversity and the Timing of the Transition to Parenthood</td>
<td>W. Andrew Collins, Ph.D., Psychology</td>
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<td>Tanya Bui</td>
<td>Carleton College</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Gender Bias in Arbitration Decision-Making</td>
<td>Eugene Borgida, Ph.D., Psychology</td>
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<td>Nathaniel Gibbs</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Education Policy</td>
<td>Racial Disparities in Drowning</td>
<td>Samuel Myers, Jr., Ph.D., Roy Wilkins Center of Human Relations and Social Justice</td>
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<td>Aliya Jeylani</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Public Affairs</td>
<td>Beyond the First Year: The First Generation College Experience</td>
<td>Rashné Jehangir, Ph.D. Postsecondary Teaching and Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charissa Jones</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Minnesota Exits and Entries Project: Spatial Analysis of Reentry</td>
<td>Chris Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology</td>
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<td>Jordan Langen</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Kinesiology</td>
<td>Body Composition and Weight Changes in a 15 Week Marathon Training Program</td>
<td>Stacy Ingraham, Ph.D., Kinesiology</td>
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<td>Kiarra McCain</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Youth Studies/Policy</td>
<td>Art and Social Justice Programs: Developing Young People</td>
<td>Ross Velure Roholt, Ph.D., School of Social Work</td>
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<td>Dorianne Shelton</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Edutainment: Can Reality Television Prevent Teenage Pregnancy</td>
<td>Laurie Ouellette, Ph.D., Communication Studies</td>
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<td>Amani Stumne</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Distressing Event Nomination: Trauma in the Lives of College Students</td>
<td>Patricia Frazier, Ph.D., Psychology</td>
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<td>John Tarnowski</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Pharmacology</td>
<td>Mapping Nutrients Crucial to a Growing Population</td>
<td>John Foley, Ph.D., Institute on the Environment</td>
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<td>Yodit Tesfaye</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>Policy Effectiveness in Addressing Girls’ Inequality in Africa</td>
<td>Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D., Sociology</td>
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<td>Jessica Thompson</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Public Policy/Social Work</td>
<td>Media Arts: Sociopolitical Development of Urban Youth of Color</td>
<td>Katie Johnston-Goodstar, Ph.D., School of Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald Wilhite II</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>History/GLOBAL STUDIES</td>
<td>Global City Making in Cairo: Roots and Routes of a New Urban Politics</td>
<td>Michael Goldman, Ph.D., Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexis Yeboah</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Public Health/Psychology</td>
<td>Ethnic Identity: Narrative Differences of African Americans, Africans, and Mixed Emerging Adults</td>
<td>Moin Syed, Ph.D., Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela Ziemer</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Kinesiology</td>
<td>The Sport Experiences of African American Women Growing Up Pre-Title IX</td>
<td>Jennifer Bhalla, Ph.D., Kinesiology</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Cherese Alcorn – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
An Interactive Website to Reduce HIV/AIDS Risk Behavior Among Adolescents
Mentor: Sonya Brady, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Courtney Bell – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
The Missing Link of Environmental Justice: When Deprivation is Ignored
Mentor: David Pellow, Ph.D., Sociology

Angela Bianco – University of Minnesota
Major: Elementary Education Foundations
Evaluating Environmental Concepts in Student Drawing and Understanding Systematic Experimentation Behavior Using Technology
Mentor: Keisha Varma, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Veronica Deenanath – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science and Psychology
Hmong Pre-adolescents’ Perceptions of Their Family Environment: A Consensual Qualitative Analysis of Family Photos
Mentor: Blong Xiong, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Nathaniel Gibbs – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
The Effects of Incarceration on Health
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Lidiya Girma – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park Foreign Born: Differing Reception Based on Nationality
Mentor: Lisa Park, Ph.D., Sociology

Jessica (Verse) Holloway – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
Graduation: From Child Abuse to Serial Killers
Mentor: Carolyn Liebler, Ph.D., Sociology

Salma Hussein – University of Minnesota
Major: Inter-college program
Increasing Physical Activity in East African Adolescent Women
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Guled Ibrahim – University of Minnesota
Major: Journalism and Political Science
Minnesota’s New Immigrants: A Content Analysis of The Minneapolis Star Tribune’s Coverage of The Minnesota Somali Community
Mentor: Catherine Squires, Ph.D., School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Hafizah Jaafar-Tribbett – University of Minnesota
Major: Theatre Arts
Body, Sound and the Embodiment of Fear: Indonesian Immigrants in the United States
Mentor: R.Diyah Larasati, Ph.D., Theatre Arts and Dance

Janes (Beth) Jones – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology, Family Social Science
Minnesota Health Care Coordination Study for Individuals with Physical Disabilities
Mentor: Brian Abery, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Sheilah McGrath – University of Minnesota
Major: Anthropology
Asthma Concerns: A Comparison of Somali Mothers and Fathers with Affected Preschoolers
Mentor: Ann Garwick, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Lolla Mohammed Nur - University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science & Journalism
Corrupting Africa: International Organizations and the Making of “the Problem” of Corruption in Africa
Mentor: Raymond Duvall, Ph.D., Political Science

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Major: Family Social Science
An Outcome Evaluation of the Effects of a Parent Education Program for Lao Parents and Grandparents
Mentor: Blong Xiong, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Sarah Osman – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
African American Children’s Mental Health Issues: Are They Being Properly Addressed?
Mentor: Sonya Brady, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Schevita Persaud – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology, African American Studies
Gender Differences in the School Success of Young Homeless Children
Mentor: Ann Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development

Yuridia Ramirez – University of Minnesota
Major: History & Journalism
Sitos De Memoria: Guanajuato in the Shadow of the Bicentenario and Centenario
Mentor: Patrick McNamara, Ph.D., History

Maria De Jesús Rios – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Parent Communication and its Association to Positive Latino Youth School Outcomes
Mentor: Michael Rodriguez, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Maira Rosas-Lee – University of Minnesota
Major: Spanish and Chicano Studies
Encuentro: A Healthy Youth Development Project Formative Research - Latino Parent Perspectives
Mentor: Renee Sieving, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Ker Thao – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Parental School Choices in the Hmong Community
Mentor: Karen Cadigan, Ph.D., Center for Early Education & Development

Bai Vue – University of Minnesota
Major: Work and Human Resource Education
Managerial Behaviors Associated with Managerial Development
Mentor: Louis Quast, Ph.D., Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development
Kelli Blankenship – University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
Not All Sport Parents are “Out of Control”: The Happy Side of Youth Sports
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Michelle Bragg – Carleton College
Major: Psychology
Kinship Care in Times of Hurricanes: New Orleans Experience
Mentor: Priscilla Gibson, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Beatriz Carrillo – University of Minnesota
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I Really Wish that I Could Relate Better: Evaluating Student Responses to In-Class Materials
Mentor: Catherine Squires, Ph.D., School of Journalism

Rose Chahla – Carleton College
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Understanding Career Development in College Students
Mentor: Tabitha Grier-Reed, Ph.D., Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

John Chan – University of Minnesota
Major: Genetics, Cell Biology and Development
Ablation of Voltage-Operated Ca2+ Channel β-Subunits Reduces Praziquantel Efficacy in the Planarian Dugesia japonica
Mentor: Jonathan Marchant, Ph.D., Pharmacology

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Major: Political Science and History
On The Border of Mexico’s 1910 Centennial
Mentor: Patrick McNamara, Ph.D., History

Ciana Cullens – University of Minnesota, Morris
Major: Communication, Media, and Rhetoric
The Significance of the Black Power Movement: Learning from its Origins and Implications
Mentor: Keith Mayes, Ph.D., African American and African Studies

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Major: Biology, Society and Environment
Ethiopia’s Political Economy and Contemporary Environmental Problems
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Major: American Indian Studies and American Studies
Male and Female Circumcision: A Global Analysis of the Medical Research
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Timotheus Gordon – University of Minnesota
Major: English and Creative Writing
State of African American Literature: Contemporary Authors and Publications
Mentor: Alexs Pate, Ph.D., African American Studies

Shanicia Goston – Fisk University
Major: Psychology and Sociology
Criminal Record Questions on Employment Applications
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Chaltu Hassan – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Hidden Homelessness: Refugees and Unstable Housing in the Twin Cities
Mentor: Dave Hollister, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Sartu Hassan – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Using Remittances to Adapt to Economic Crisis: The Case of Mexican Transnational Families
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Chantel Johnson – Carleton College
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Obtaining a Job with a Criminal Record: The Importance of Personal Contact
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Anthony Kiekow – University of Minnesota
Major: Journalism
U.S. Civil Rights and African Freedom: An Intertwined Struggle of Brothers from the Past
Mentor: Keith Mayes, Ph.D., African American Studies

Sarah Lechowich – University of Minnesota
Major: Communication Studies
The Connection Between Attachment Styles and Family Communication Patterns
Mentor: Susanne Jones, Ph.D., Communication Studies

Stefanie Lightner – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology, Law, Crime and Deviance
The Effects of Educational Attainment on Job Satisfaction
Mentor: Eric Grodsky, Ph.D., Sociology

Michele Luhm Vigor – University of Minnesota
Major: Biology and Medicine
Tick-Mammal Interface of Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis
Mentor: Ulrike Munderloh, Ph.D., Entomology

Fatuma Omer – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
The Meaning of Interventions to End Female Genital Cutting
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D., Sociology

Melanie Plucinski – University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science, Spanish, and Social Justice
Mental Health Disparities Among Adolescents in the Juvenile Justice System
Mentor: Sonya Brady, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Cassey Quach – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Sibling Interaction and Behavior Study
Mentor: Martha Reuter, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Laura Roderick – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
Peer Competence as a Predictive Factor to the Sociodemographic Risks for Homeless Children
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development
Desiree Abu-Odeh - University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry/Neuroscience
Expression of the MBP Gene in virally infected E16 Mice
Mentor: Ken Barlett, Ph.D., Work and Human Resources

Devon Arkadie - University of Minnesota
Major: English/African American Studies
Building Theory, Interrogating Knowledge: An Analysis of Intersectionality
Mentor: Rose Brewer, Ph.D., African American Studies

Kenneth Coleman - Carleton College
Major: Psychology and African American Studies
Masculinities in Transition: The Effects of Masculinity on the Transition from a Corrections Facility
Mentor: Josh Page, Ph.D., Sociology

Ernest Comer - Carleton College
Major: Communication Studies
White Ball/Black Hope: Race and Sports
Mentor: Gil Rodman, Ph.D., Communications

Monica Diaz - Carleton College
Major: Sociology/Anthropology
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Catherine Gardner - Carleton College
Major: Sociology/Anthropology & Political Science
Work, Family, and Social Support: Examining the Role of Church-based Support
Mentors: Penny Edgell & Eric Tranby, Sociology

Jill Haom - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology/Exercise Science
Unequal Opportunities, Unequal Outcomes: Reducing Physical Inactivity in Populations of Ethnic Minority Girl
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Shawn James - University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
The Minnesota Juvenile Justice Transitions Project
Mentor: Josh Page, Ph.D., Sociology

Terrence Jordan - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology/African American Studies
Race Represents of Women's and Men's intercollegiate Basketball Media Coverage on ESPN.com
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Katumu Kamara - University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies/Social Justice
Effects of Foreclosure on Immigrants in Minneapolis
Mentor: Ryan Allen, Ph.D., Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Ayianna Kennerly - University of Minnesota
Major: African American Studies/Sociology
Youth Speak: Perspectives on Race, Gender, and the 2008 Presidential Primaries
Mentor: Enid Logan, Ph.D., Sociology

Ona Knoxsah - University of Minnesota
Major: American Indian Studies
Structure of Ojibwe Personal Names 1830-1920
Mentor: John Nichols, Ph.D., American Indian Studies

Fatuma Mohamed - University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry
Crystal Structure of Cytochrome C
Mentor: Carrie Wilmot, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Molecular Biology/Biophysics

Jessica Molina - University of Miami
Major: Criminology
MEEP-Minnesota Exits and Entries Project
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Sophak Mom - Metro State University
Major: Social Sciences
Exploring Official Views in Religious Teachings
Mentor: Penny Edgell, Ph.D., Sociology

Shadé Osifuye - University of Minnesota
Major: Individualized – African American Studies/Life Sciences
Research on Sickle Cell Anemia
Mentor: Robert P. Hebbel, Ph.D., Medicine

Judith Pete - University of Minnesota
Major: Economics/Women’s Studies
Learning Communities as Vehicles for Self-Authorship for the First-Generation Students
Mentor: Rashné Jehangir, Ph.D., Postsecondary Teaching & Learning

Christine Rangen - University of Minnesota
Major: Nursing
Latino Adolescents’ Perceptions of Mental Health Resources: Uncovering Potential and Actual Barriers to Care
Mentor: Carolyn Garcia, Ph.D., Nursing

Chenea Sparks - University of Minnesota
Major: Individualized – Family Studies/Psychology
Voice of African American Family-In Children’s Mental Health
Mentor: Abigail Gewirtz, Ph.D., Family Social Science
Renee Barron - University of Minnesota
Illuminating Nat Turner
Mentor: Alexs Pate, African and African American Studies

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Emerging Human Rights Crises in the Horn of Africa: A Case Study of Ethiopia and Somalia
Mentor: Barbara A. Frey, Ph.D., Global Studies and Law

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The Case of Somali Muslim Entrepreneurs in Minneapolis
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Woman's Human Rights in Argentina and Guatemala: Comparing Responses to Military Violence in the Context of Gender
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Labor Union Advocacy for Immigration Reform: Case Studies of SEIU Local 26 and UFCW Local 789
Mentor: Katherine Fennelly, Ph.D., Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Jon Jacobs - University of Minnesota
Greeting Concordia College: Developing an Environmental Baseline
Mentor: Virijita Singh, M. Arch, Center for Sustainable Building, College of Design

Pao Lor - St. Olaf College
Engineering Escherichia Coli to Express Photosynthetic Reaction Center Proteins from Rhodobacter Sphaeroides
Mentor: Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Biophysics

Blanca Martinez-Gavina - St. Olaf College
Labor Union Advocacy for Immigration Reform: Case Studies of SEIU Local 26 and UFCW Local 789
Mentor: Katherine Fennelly, Ph.D., Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Jessica Molina - University of Miami
MEEP—Military Minnesota Exits and Entries Project
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Miracle Obeta - University of Minnesota, Morris
New Jersey Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Emerging Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Ph.D., Roy Wilkins Center

Claudio Perez - University of Miami
Analysis of the Philosophy of Drug Policy
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Diana Pérez - Ripon College
English Language Learners and Specific Language Impairment: Social Development
Mentor: Lesley Craig-Unkefer, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Amber Riley - Carleton College
Promoting Success of African American College Students: The African American Student Network
Mentor: Tabitha Grier, Ph.D., Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

David Rodriguez - University of Minnesota
Manoomin (Wild Rice) and Commercial Wild Rice (Paddy): A Comparison Between Worldviews of Health
Mentor: Craig Hassel, Ph.D., Nutritional Science

Ellen Roth - St. Olaf College
Financial Management in Hmong Immigrant families: A Case Study
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Eric Stone - University of Minnesota
Subject Perception of Thermal Status and Comfort in Variations of the NASA Phase VI Glove
Mentors: Gloria Leon, Ph.D., Psychology and Victor Koscheyev, Ph.D., Biology and Biophysics

Ying Thao - St. Olaf College
Isolation of Novel Wax Ester Synthases From Marine Sediments
Mentor: Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Biophysics

Hussein Waliye - University of Minnesota
FLT3-Department Activation of RAS-Pathway
Mentor: Michael Farrar, Ph.D., Lab Medicine and Pathology

Chao Yang - University of Minnesota
Minnesota Indian Casinos: The Portrayal of Native Americans on Casino Marketing Materials
Mentor: Ken Barlett, Ph.D., Work and Human Resources
Anna Alba Hernandez
Investigating Out of School Time Experiences of Latino Youth in Minnesota
Mentor: Michael C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Yolanda M. Archibald
Investigation of the Uncoupling of Skeletal Muscle Force and AtPase Activity by Thymol
Mentor: Vincent A. Barnett, Ph.D.

Naima Bashir
Parent-School Partnerships: A Study of Somali Immigrants in Minnesota
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D.

Thuy Doan
High School Athletes: An Examination of the Impact of No Pass/No Play Policies
Mentor: Jennifer Oliphant, MPH

Keith Fox
Does Virtue Benefit the Virtuous?
Mentor: Michelle Mason, Ph.D.

Hodges Glenn
Poetry of Rap
Mentor: Alexs Pate, Ph.D.

Sylvia Gonzalez-Castro
Indigenous Social Movement* The Struggle for Democracy in Latin America
Mentor: M. Bianet Castellanos, Ph.D.

Aaron Lane
Search for New Core Treatment Analog for Overall Thermal Status of Astronauts Using a Liquid Cooling/Warm Garment
Mentors: Gloria Leon, Ph.D. and Victor Koscheyev, Ph.D.

Dung Mao
Parents’ and Adolescents’ Perceptions of Delinquency in Hmong families
Mentor: Zha Biong Xiong, Ph.D.

Sophia I. McComb
Unlicensed Child Care Providers and Promoting Early Literacy with English Language Learner Children
Mentor: Lesley Craig-Unkefer, Ph.D.

Lily Moua
Parents’ and Adolescents’ Perceptions of Delinquency in Hmong families
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Martha Ockenfels-Martinez
Creating a Guide to Successful Diversity Coalitions
Mentor: Katherine Fennelly, Ph.D.

Amy Ojibway
From Enemies to Pan-Indian Allies: Dakotas and Ojibwes in the Writings of Charles Eastman
Mentor: David Martinez, Ph.D.

Samson O. Osholowu
Studies of Yeast Mitochondrial Precursor-IDH
Mentor: Leonard Banazak, Ph.D.

Jesse Ping
Heat Extraction to Support Comfort and Enhance Performance: Cooling the Head/Hand and Thigh Regions
Mentors: Gloria Leon, Ph.D. and Victor Koscheyev, Ph.D.

April Rog
The Influence of Fire in the Development of the Big Woods of Minnesota
Mentor: Bryan Shuman, Ph.D.

Shannon Ryan
The Role of Social-Psychological Variables in the Overreporting of Voting Behavior
Mentor: Dr. Christopher Uggen

Monee Sconyers
Capturing Diversity: Understanding Kinship Care among African American and Native American Grandparents
Mentor: Priscilla Gibson, LICS

Arien H. Telles
Changes in High School Experiences and College Expectations of New Chicana/o Latina/o Freshman
Mentor: Darwin D. Hendel, Ph.D.

Lydie Theodor
School Readiness for Children in North Minneapolis
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Hoang Ton
Fiscal Disparity in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Region
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Veronica Avila
Structural Adjustment Policies in Tanzania and Peru: The Effects of Currency Devaluation, Privatization and Export Trade on Labor
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Carly Beane
Reclaiming Bdote: An Indigenous View of the Fort Snelling Historic Site
Reclaiming Bdote: Establishing an Indigenous Language Center at Fort Snelling
Mentor: Brenda Child, Ph.D.

Katherine Beane
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Angela Becker
Fermentation of Resident Starch by Colonic Bacteria
Mentor: Joanne Slavin, Ph.D.

Jennifer N. Bynes
The Determinants of Racial Disparities in Child Physical Abuse
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Ph.D.

Christopher Courneen
What’s the Big Folkin’ Deal: Folk Ethos, Popular Consumption and Rap
Mentor: Corliss W. Outley, Ph.D.

Corey Alexander Croft
African American Community Displacement: The Effects of the Initial Construction of I-94 and I-35W in the Twin Cities
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Alondra Kiawatl Espejel
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Midhasso Foge
Television and American Youth: Exposure to Unhealthy Risks
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Jessica Gonzalez
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Naomi Kraemer
Bacterial and Enzymatic Approaches to Chromate Reduction
Mentor: Larry Wackett, Ph.D.

Stacy Lawrence
Artistic Awakening in the Caribbean: Expressions of Colonial Resistance and National Pride from 1930-1950
Mentor: April A. Knutson, Ph.D.

Pa Houa Lee
Comparison of Dietary Consumption Behavior between Hmong and Caucasian Youth
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Ph.D.

LaCresha Payne
The Effect of Large Welfare Caseloads on Racial Disparities in Reported Child Neglect
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Ph.D.

Leonard A. Roy
A Tale of Two Cities: An Exploration of Community in the Twin Cities and Seattle
Mentor: Wendy Rahn, Ph.D.

Nathan Schaefer
The Cost of Herd Closure to Eliminate Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus
Mentor: Robert Morrison, Ph.D.

Annette Schliepp
The Body as Nation-State, the Nation-State as Body: Toward Cultural Understanding of Avian Influenza
Mentor: Karen-Sue Taussig, Ph.D.

Brandon Schomberg
Dance Dance Revolution: A Novel Intervention Optimizing Cardiovascular and Bone Health in Children
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Alicia Steele
Black Migration in Hennepin County: A Historical Look at Black Settlement into Brooklyn Park, Minnesota
Mentor: Keith Mayes, Ph.D.

Abdisa Taddese
The Influence of Media on Childhood Obesity: A Content Analysis of Children’s Television Programming
Mentor: Corliss W. Outley, Ph.D.

Jonathan Tischler
Middle School Learning: An Analysis of Financial Resources of Twin Cities Community-Based Initiatives
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Alfonso Correa  
Zapotec Workers: A History of Indigenous Labor Relations in Oaxaca, Mexico, 1876-1940  
Mentor: Patrick J. McNamara, Ph.D.

Anny Dang  
Determinants of Racial Disparities in Public Procurement and Contracting: The Case of the New Jersey Transit  
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Ph.D.

Rashida K. Fisher  
Empowering Youth Engaged in Self-Photography E.Y.E.S. PROJECT  
Mentor: Corliss W. Outley, Ph.D.

Yasin Garad  
Comparing Beliefs about AIDS across U.S.-Born Versus Somali-Born Individuals  
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D.

Wendy Gonzalez  
Validity of Latino Youth Development Program Evaluation  
Mentor: Michael C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Marcella Hartman  
Modeling Paleoclimatic Levels of Radiocarbon  
Mentor: R. Lawrence Edwards, Ph.D.

Keme Hawkins  
Prescribed Gender Identities in Hip-Hop Music  
Mentors: Oliver J. Williams, Ph.D. & Dawn York, Ph.D.

Leonard Matthias  
The Influences of Hip-Hop Culture on Urban Youth  
Mentor: Corliss W. Outley, Ph.D.

Tamara Moore  
Addressing Domestic Violence in the African American Community  
Mentors: Oliver J. Williams, Ph.D. & Dawn York, Ph.D.

Pamela Parmell  
Inmates and Outcasts: Incarceration and Deportation in Historical Perspective  
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D.

Yecenia E. Parrilla  
Employers’ Perspectives on High School Exit Examinations  
Mentor: John Robert Warren, Ph.D.

Victoria Pederson  
The Representation of American Indians in the Health Care Occupation  
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Ph.D.

Nelupa “Sulani” Perera  
Evaluation of Physiologically Designed Gloves for Better Protection of Astronauts during Spacewalks  
Mentors: Victor Koscheyev, Ph.D., Gloria Leon, Ph.D. & Aitor Coca

Jenny Reese  
Portrayal of Women in Popular Magazine Advertising: 1974-2004  
Mentor: Ann Meier, Ph.D.
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Christopher Pham
Determinants of Delinquency: Hmong Youth Offenders’ Perceptions of Their Delinquent Experiences and Relationships With Their Parents
Mentor: Zha Blong Xiong, Ph.D.

Anthony Rogers
Race and its Role in Child Maltreatment Reporting by Law Enforcement Agencies
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Ph.D.

Linda Solis
Assessing Performance of Sustainable Design Features Through Post Occupancy Evaluation of the Dakota County Northern Service Center
Mentor: Virajita Singh, Ph.D.

Sarah Stellern
Effortful Control, Early Experience, and Gender: Indications From a Delay of Gratification Task and Parent Report
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Chad Kramer  
Social Studies Teachers and Civic Education  
Mentors: Professor John L. Sullivan and Associate Mentor: Dr. Patricia Avery

Antoinette Lamkin  
Vertical Pursuit in Patients with Schizophrenia and the First-degree Relatives  
Mentor: Dr. William M. Grove

Tou Lee  
Home Improvement Loans: An Issue of Racial or Residential Discrimination?  
Mentor: Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Jr.

Shalia Lindsey  
A Policy Analysis of Crime in Minneapolis  
Mentor: Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Jr.

Thuan Ly  
Synthesis of Virtual Reality Research  
Mentor: Dr. Peter A. Hancock

Mai Neng Moua  
Breaking the Asian Stereotype: Intergenerational Conflict in Hmong Youth  
Mentor: Dr. Daniel Detzner

Sally Neal  
The Internal Body Clock  
Mentor: Dr. Peter A. Hancock

Lori Nyland  
Large Particle Sampler Calibration  
Mentor: Dr. Virgil A. Marple

Lydia Ong  
The Synthesis and Polymerization of N-carboxyanhydrides (NCA’s)  
Mentor: Dr. Wilmer Miller

Claire Puckett  
A Computer Graphics Approach to Minnesota Biology  
Mentor: Dr. Murray Jensen

Sophois Sokhom  
The Internationalization of Financial Capital Markets in Japan  
Mentor: Dr. Raymond Duvall

Deidre Solomon  
A Policy Analysis of Crime in Minneapolis  
Mentor: Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Jr.

Tou Xiong  
Leadership and Politics in Ethnic Communities: a study of the Hmong community  
Mentor: Dr. Daniel Kelliher
Cheryl Applegate  
The DFL Merger and Its Effects on Black Labor  
Mentors: Dr. Jeylan T. Mortimer, Dr. Ron R. Aminzade, Dr. Allan H. Spear

Gitonya Bolden  
Social Studies Teachers and the Role of Civic Education  
Mentors: Dr. Jon L. Sullivan and Dr. Patricia G. Avery

Raymond H. Dehn  
Beyond Convention  
Mentor: Dr. J. Stephen Weeks

Kevin Diaz-Lane  
The Human Perception of Planar Distance in a Virtual Environment  
Mentor: Dr. Peter A. Hancock

Tuan Tran Dinh  
Synthesis and Diffusion of Monodisperse and Surfactant-Free Polystyrene Latexes  
Mentor: Dr. Wilmer G. Miller and Mr. Clement Onyenemezu

Elvin Gutierrez  
Synthesis of a Tripeptide Prodrug to Improve Oral Absorption of L-Dopa  
Mentor: Dr. Jane P.F. Bai

Dione Hubbard  
Written Discourse in the Humanities Versus the Sciences: What is Ideal Writing?  
Mentor: Dr. Lillian S. Bridwell-Bowles

Brian P. Johnson  
Historical Approaches to Syphilis and the Implications for Approaches to AIDS  
Mentor: Dr. John M. Eyler

Hye-Suk Y. Keller  
Couples Adjustment to The Prenatal Versus Postnatal Diagnosis of Down Syndrome  
Mentor: Dr. Marcia L. Shew

Angela Lewis  
Afrocentricity in Education: Why and How Should African American Parents Increase their Involvement with their Children's Education?  
Mentor: Dr. John M. Taborn

Khanh Uyen Nguyen  
The Partition Coefficients of Peptides  
Mentor: Dr. Jane P.F. Bai

Mayra Oberto  
The Use of Tn S Transcription Fusion to Determine the Regulation of Rhizobium fredii, nodJ Gene  
Mentor: Dr. Michael J. Sadowsky

Sam Olbekson  
Low-Income Housing Study of Near-North Minneapolis  
Mentor: Dr. Garth C. Rockcastle

Mary Sullivan Reeve  
Twin Cities Neighborhoods: Status and Situation of New Immigrants and Refugees  
Mentor: Dr. Judith Martin

Sheila Rivera  
CitySongs: A Primary Program for Children and Adolescents at Risk  
Mentor: Dr. Helen Q. Kivnick

Maria Isabel Saldana  
Compliance with Medical Regimens: Issues in Patient Adherence to Health Care Regimens  
Mentors: Dr. Eugene Borgida, Dr. Marti Hope Gonzales

Marvin L. Scott  
Images in Translation: Mass Media and Popular Culture  
Mentor: Dr. Rose M. Brewer

Damon A. Tinnon  
Patterns in Black Social and Economic Improvement and Decline  
Mentor: Dr. Samuel L. Myers Jr.

Thomas N. Trinh  
Intestinal Epithelium Affecting Insulin Absorption  
Mentor: Dr. Jane P.F. Bai

Pedro Villarreal  
The Effect of Citizen Politics on the Minnesota Extension 4-H Program  
Mentor: Dr. Harry C. Boyt

Hye-Chong Yun  
Modification and Characterization of Polymer Latex Surfaces  
Mentor: Dr. Wilmer Miller

Angela Zinsli  
CitySongs: The Role of Primary Prevention in Dealing with Violence Among Children and Adolescents  
Mentor: Dr. Helen Kivnick
Rosalind Renee Buckhalton  
Law-Related Education in Alternative Settings  
Mentor: Dr. Jennifer Bloom

Beth Carr  
The Design and Manufacture of a Human-Powered, Propeller-Driven, Airfoil-Supported Hydrofoil  
Mentor: Dr. Arthur G. Erdman

Jackie Dionne  
Native American and African American Homeless Children  
Mentor: Dr. Ann Masten

Gertrude Greene  
Effects of Metabolic Modifiers on Body Composition and Physiological Response of Cull Holstein Cows  
Mentor: Dr. Brian A. Crooker

Hong Ho  
Marxism, Leninism and Stalinism in South Africa  
Mentor: Dr. August H. Nimtz, Jr.

Khanh Huynh  
Will Voters’ Political Disposition Have An Influence When Interpreting Political Statements?  
Mentor: Dr. John H. Fleming

Pamela D. Jackson  
Exploring Political Tolerance Among Adolescents  
Mentor: Dr. John L. Sullivan

John Johnson  
Determination of Physical and Chemical Properties Common to Surveyed Lakes with Infestations of Eurasian Milfoil  
Mentor: Dr. Raymond M. Newman

Kristy Johnson  
Gender Influences Involved in Teaching and Learning Science  
Mentor: Dr. Murray S. Jensen

Carol A. Lawrence  
Self and Emancipated Foster Care for Native American Adolescents in Longterm Care  
Mentor: Dr. Esther F. Wattenberg

Robin Renee Lee  
Paving the Rugged Road: Preparing African-American Adolescents In Foster Care To Become Independent Adults  
Mentor: Dr. Esther F. Wattenberg

Tim Lieder  
The Black Renaissance and Minnesota: A Preliminary Investigation  
Mentor: Dr. John S. Wright

Melody M. Martagon-Geiger  
Occupational Aspirations in Homeless Children  
Mentor: Dr. Anne S. Masten

Jeffery V. Robinson  
A Comparison of North Minneapolis, South Minneapolis and West Saint Paul  
Mentor: Dr. Judith Martin

Maria I. Saldana  
Political Accountability: A Look at Political Strategies by Members who had Overdrafts at the House Bank  
Mentors: Dr. Matha H. Gonzales, Dr. Margaret Kovera

Iris Sanchez  
Database Compilation for the Study of Speech Errors  
Mentor: Dr. Joel P. Stemberger

Gregory Sawyer  
Counseling Intervention for Men who Commit Domestic Violence  
Mentor: Dr. Tom M. Skovholt

Emmily Stokes  
Perspective Research of Minnesota’s African American Community  
Mentor: Dr. John S. Wright

Phuc Vinh Tran  
Elispot Analysis of Human B-Cell Producing Allergen-Specific Antibodies  
Mentor: Dr. Andreas Rosenberg

Ruben Velazquez  
The Role of the N-terminus of Substance P in Kainic Acid-Induced Toxicity in Rats  
Mentor: Dr. Louis Alice A. Larson

Tim Wolf  
Urban Out-Migration  
Mentor: Dr. Judith Martin

Tom Yaeger  
Early Detection of Alzheimer’s Disease Using EEG  
Mentor: Dr. James E. Holte
Keegan Bunker – University of Minnesota
Major: Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics with minors in Math, Computer Science, and Astrophysics
“Helmholtz Coil Testbed Design for Hardware-in-the-loop Testing of CubeSat Satellite Attitude Determination and Control Systems”
Mentor: Demoz Gebre-Egziabher, Dept. of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics

Yadira Damazo – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology with a minor in social justice
“Gentrification as Structural Violence: A Critical Literature Review”
Mentor: Yuichiro Onishi, Dept. of African American & African Studies

Mark Dresel – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
“Exploration of Binding Moieties of Lanthanide Complexes and Its Effects on Anion Affinity”
Mentor: Valérie C. Pierre, Dept. of Chemistry

Muzamil Ibrahim – University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
“Playing Indian: Dehumanization or development?”
Mentor: Katie Johnston-Goostar, School of Social Work

Kania Johnson – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Getting Close to Inequities: Inequality Experts’ Proximity to the Communities They Serve”
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Dept. of Sociology

Kimberly Knourek – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology with a minor in Family Social Science
“Effects of Parent Stress and Distress on Parenting Quality and Child Behavior”
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Institute of Child Development

Brianna Lundgren – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology with minors in Neuroscience and Family Social Science
“Internalizing, Externalizing, and ADHD Symptoms of Post-Institutionalized Adolescents”
Mentor: Megan Gunnar, Institute of Child Development

Abigail Z. McClendon – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology with minors in neuroscience and leadership
“Reduced Hippocampal Volume in Comorbid Alcohol Use Disorders and Major Depression”
Mentor: William G. Iacono, Dept. of Psychology

Nicolas Mendivil – University of Minnesota
Majors: Kinesiology & Psychology
“The Effect of High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) on Physical Activity Adherence on Low Active Adults”
Mentor: Beth Lewis, School of Kinesiology

Cristaly Mercado – University of Minnesota
Major: Special Education
“Commercial Card Games Improve Middle School Students’ Executive Functioning”
Mentor: Keisha Varma, Dept. of Educational Psychology

Julissa M. Molina-Vega – Macalester College
Major: Biochemistry with a minor in Chemistry
“Eicosanoid Regulation of the Nuclear Pore Complex in Breast Cancer”
Mentor: David Potter, Dept. of Medicine, Division of Hematology, Oncology, and Transplantation

Samantha Mussehl – University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
“Innervation Status in Soleus Muscle Post Hemorrhagic Stroke”
Mentor: LeAnn Snow, Dept. of Rehabilitation Medicine

Minh-Uyen Nguyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Biomedical Engineering
“Development of a Single Cell Mechanical Characterization Platform”
Mentor: David K. Wood, Dept. of Biomedical Engineering

Salma Noor – University of Minnesota
Major: Nutrition with a minor in Public Health
“The Role of Prebiotics and Probiotics in the Oral Microbiota”
Mentor: Joanne Slavin, Dept. of Food Science & Nutrition

Luis Ramirez – University of Minnesota
Major: Physiology
“Selective N-Terminal BET-Family Bromodomain Inhibitor Development by Targeting the ZA-Channel of BRD4”
Mentor: William Pomerantz, Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry

Nahrissa I. Rush – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology with a minor in comparative U.S. race and ethnicity
“Choices by Default? Opportunities and Constraints for Families of Color in Youth Activities”
Mentor: Douglas Hartmann, Dept. of Sociology

Zerbine Atosha Rypa – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology: Law & Crime Deviance
Mentor: Michael Walker, Dept. of Sociology

Sandra Taylor – Carleton College
Major: Psychology with a minor in Neuroscience
“The Effect of Texture in Surround Suppression”
Mentor: Cheryl A. Olman, Department of Psychology

Taylor Westfall-McCoy – University of Minnesota
Major: Animal Science
“Effect of 3-Hydroxy-3-methylbutyrate on Proteolysis via Ubiquitination in Equine Skeletal Muscle Cells Using Western Blot Techniques”
Mentor: Marcia R. Hathaway, Dept. of Animal Science

Salamong Xiong – Macalester College
Majors: Physics and Philosophy
“Optical Characteristic Measurements of Crystalline Silicon (c-Si)”
Mentor: Shaul Hanany, School of Physics and Astronomy
University of Minnesota McNair Scholars
2017

Firdavs Abzhabarov – University of Minnesota
Major: Life Sciences, Psychology, Communication Studies
"Creation, Transfection, and Verification of HDAC4-GFP Lentiviral Construct"
Mentor: Kim Mansky, School of Dentistry

Kamilah Amen – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry & Bioproducts Engineering
"Alteration of Oligodendrocyte Functional Mechanics By Neurodegenerative Disease"
Mentor: Patrick Alford, Dept. of Biomedical Engineering

Zack Crowley – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
The Interaction of Economic Inequality and Authoritarianism on Voter Preference During the 2016 Presidential Election
Mentor: Howard Lavine, Department of Political Science

Laura Dédé d’Almeida – University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies
"Learning and Empowerment: A Social Network Analysis of Fellowship Participants"
Mentor: Christopher Johnstone, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development

Brandon C. Hyde – University of Minnesota
Major: Statistics
"Evaluating Methods to Identify Introgressed Regions"
Mentor: Yaniv Brandvain, Dept. of Plant & Microbial Biology

Austin Leikvoll – University of Minnesota
Major: Genetics & Cell Biology and Development
"Developing a Muscle Tissue Construct Using 3D Bioprinting"
Mentor: Angela Panoskaltsis-Mortari, Dept. of Pediatrics

Kayne Lussier – University of Minnesota
Major: Early Childhood Education
"Development of IGDI Assessments for 3-Year-Olds and Review of Literacy Interventions"
Mentor: Scott McConnell, Dept. of Educational Psychology

Nicole A. Lynn – California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Major: Biotechnology
"The Effect of Saturated Fatty Acid on Immune Metabolism in Microglia"
Mentors: Tammy Butterick, Dept. of Food Science & Nutrition; Jill Adler, Dept. of Biological Sciences

Mallory Mintz – Carleton College
Major: Geology
"Tracing Sediment Source Responses to Water Infrastructure Development and Management in Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Montana"
Mentors: Amy Myrbo, Dan Maxbauer, & Mark Shaplen, Department of Earth Sciences

Nahom Mossazghi – University of Minnesota
Major: Neuroscience
"Cranial Prostheses for Chronic, Pan-Cortical Two-Photon Imaging in Behaving Mice"
Mentor: Suhasa Kodandaramaiah, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

Aarinola Esther Okelola – University of Minnesota
Major: Elementary Education Foundations
"Discipline Practices and Racial Equity in Schools: Mapping Restorative Justice in Minnesota Schools"
Mentor: Catherine Squires, Dept. of Communication Studies

Mary K. Onchiri – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science & Psychology
"The Effect of Social Conditions on Psychological Distress in Minneapolis Neighborhoods"
Mentor: Richard Lee, Department of Psychology

Susan Phetsamone – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology & Family Social Science
"Youth: Threats to Communities vs Rising Stars"
Mentor: Teresa Swartz, Department of Sociology

Tyra Reed – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
"The Effects of Skin Color on Health: Trends from the General Social Survey"
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Jr., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Santino Reynolds – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
"The Connotations of Police Reform in North Minneapolis"
Mentor: Michelle Phelps, Department of Sociology

Catherine Richards – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology & Neuroscience
"Grammatical Gender’s Effect on Inferences of Biological Sex in Spanish Speakers"
Mentor: Maria Sera, Institute of Child Development

Mallory Mintz – Carleton College
Major: Psychology
"A Tale of Two Central Graduates 20 Years Apart: A Collaborative Autoethnography on College Access"
Mentor: Na’im Madyun, Dept. of Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development

Chen Vue – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
"Influence of Parental Involvement on Hmong Children’s Academic Performance"
Mentor: Zha Blong Xiong, Dept. of Family Social Science

Taylor Westfall-McCoy – University of Minnesota
Major: Animal Science & History of Science and Technology
"Cold Plasma for Decontamination of Chicken Breast, Romaine Lettuce, & Stainless Steel Surfaces from Multi-Drug Resistant Salmonella Enterica Serovar Heidelberg"
Mentor: Sagar Goyal, College of Veterinary Medicine

Halimo Yusuf – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
"The Relationship between Stress and Academic Performance in Community College Students"
Mentor: Lisa Meredith, Department of Psychology

Fralinda Zazay – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
"Resilience in Children Experiencing Homelessness: Preschool Attendance and Later Academic Success"
Mentor: Ann Masten, Institute of Child Development
Karen Bonfil-Ruiz – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
“Healthcare Legal Partnerships Needs Assessment”
Mentor: Eileen Weber, School of Nursing

Javaris Bradford – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
“3 Strikes & Racial Disparities in Incarceration”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Sokamarint Chak – University of Minnesota
Major: Microbiology & Medical Laboratory Science
“Hydrothermal Carbonization Conversion of Agricultural Residues to Value-Added Products”
Mentor: Ken Valentas, Biotechnology Institute

Danielle B. Cotton – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Intersections of Racialized Experiences and Psychosocial Development for Black Undergraduates at a Predominately White Institution”
Mentor: Tabitha Grier-Reed, Department of Family Social Science

Corey Culver – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
“Police Strength and Crime Rates”
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Department of Sociology

Aracely C. Duerkop – University of Minnesota
Major: Nursing
“Non-pharmacological Interventions for Latinos with Alzheimer’s Disease and their Family Caregivers”
Mentor: Joseph Gaugler, School of Nursing

Victoria Y. Idowu – University of Minnesota
Major: Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences
“Ripple Perception in Musicians Compared to Non-Musicians: Effects of Bandwidth and Intensity”
Mentor: Evelyn Davies-Venn, Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences

Ana V. Lozano – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Disrupting the Effects of Parental Math Anxiety: How Parental Expectations and Involvement Matter for Children’s Mathematical Outcomes”
Mentor: Rose Vukovic, Department of Educational Psychology

Saida Mahamud – University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies
“The Effect of Citizenship Status and Nativity on Minimum Wage Coverage among Black Workers in Minnesota”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Fadumo Mohamed – University of Minnesota
Major: Elementary Education
“Insights into the Academic Language Learning of Somali Elementary Students”
Mentor: Lori Helman, Department of Curriculum & Instruction

Lydia Negussie – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology of Law
“Performing Masculinity: Examining Men’s Experiences of Gender Based Violence”
Mentor: Gabrielle Ferrales, Department of Sociology

Ryan Nguyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Medical Laboratory Science
“Virulence profiles of non-typhoidal Salmonella strains of avian, bovine and porcine origins”
Mentor: Sinisa Vidovic, Department of Veterinary Science

Dorothy O’Berry – University of Minnesota
Major: Business & Marketing Education
“The Impact of Narrative Pedagogy on Student Learning”
Mentor: Rashné Jehangir, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development

Jackie Penaloya – University of Minnesota
Major: Mathematical Biology: Physiology
“A Mathematical Model to Simultaneously Calculate Growth and Death Rates of Cells Undergoing Oxidative Stress”
Mentor: Meri Firpo, Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology & Metabolism

Vilma Quito Fernandez – University of Minnesota
Major: Business & Marketing Education
“Money Management & Technology: Financial Practices of College Students”
Mentor: Virginia Zuiker, Department of Family Social Science

Chria Vang – University of Minnesota
Major: Youth, Holistic Health & Healing, & Leadership Studies
“Parent Participatory Action Research Curriculum Draft”
Mentors: Michele Allen, Department of Family Medicine & Community Health; Luis Ortega and Shannon Pergament, Somali, Latino and Hmong Partnership for Health and Wellness (SoLaHmo)

Kee Vang – Metropolitan State University
Major: Business Administration
“The Effect of Minority Faculty Representation on McNair Program Success Rate, 2010-2014”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Ricky Vang – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“The Relationship between Educational Attainment and Financial Management”
Mentors: Cathy Solheim & Veronica Deenanath, Department of Family Social Science

Jayson Watkins – University of Minnesota
Major: Sport Management & Psychology
“Parent Understanding of and Involvement in Organized, Out-of-School Youth Activities”
Mentor: Douglas Hartmann, Department of Sociology

Sim (Net) Youk – University of Minnesota
Major: Biology, Society, & Environment
“The Association Between U.S. Patients’ Household Income & Medication Experiences”
Mentor: Jon C. Schommer, Department of Pharmaceutical Care & Health Systems
Sahaam Abdi - University of Minnesota  
Major: Linguistics  
“Individual Differences in the Acquisition of the /s/ and Contrast: A Study of Adults’ Perception of Child Speech”  
Mentor: Benjamin Munschion, Ph.D., Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences

Noussaiba Ayour - University of Minnesota  
Major: Biology, Society and Environment  
“Intimate Partner Violence and Weight Gain in Young Women”  
Mentor: Susan Mason, Ph.D., School of Public Health

Karimantou Bah - University of Minnesota  
Major: Biochemistry  
“Microglia Response to Fatty Acid Binding Protein-UCP2 Axis in Facilitating Neuroinflammation”  
Mentor: Tammy Butterick, Ph.D. Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition

Wendy Chu - Macalester College  
Major: Psychology  
“Exploring the Construct Validity of Letters of Recommendation in Graduate Admissions: The Hidden "Uknowns” Within”  
Mentor: Nathan Kuncel, Ph.D., Department of Psychology

Kayla Cory - University of Minnesota  
Major: Kinesiology  
“Effects of Yoga on Blood Pressure, Stress and Physical Activity in Overweight, African-American Women”  
Mentor: Daheia J. Barr-Anderson, Ph.D., School of Kinesiology

Bailey Galloway - St. Catherine University  
Major: American Sign Language Interpreting  
“American Sign Language: Monitoring Student Progress”  
Mentor: Susan Rose, Ph.D., Dept. of Educational Psychology

Raúl Guzmán-Ayala - Carleton College  
Major: Latin American Studies with a Certificate of Advanced Study in Spanish  
“Achieving Goals: Role of Support and Structure for Latina/o Student Post-High School Goals”  
Mentor: Michael C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., Dept. of Educational Psychology

Eileen Lee - University of Minnesota  
Major: Health and Wellness/ICP  
“A Mixed Methods Assessment of family Influence on Weight-Related Behaviors among African-Americans”  
Mentor: Daheia J. Barr-Anderson, Ph.D., School of Kinesiology

Lamin Manjang - University of Minnesota  
Major: Health and Wellness/ICP  
“These are hard questions: An Investigation of 6th Graders’ Developmental Abilities to Answer Survey Items”  
Mentor: Barbara McMorris, Ph.D., School of Nursing: Division of Pediatrics and Adolescent Health

Hamza Mussé - University of Minnesota  
Major: Political Science  
“Growth in Black-Owned Businesses: Perceptions Versus Statistics”  
Mentor: Samuel J. Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Sonia Paredes-Guaman - University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
“Breaking Barriers in Ghana: Impact of Reproductive Health Curriculum and Cultural Activity Sessions on Adolescent Girls”  
Mentor: Rose Vukovic, Ph.D., Dept. of Educational Psychology

Shanel Perez - University of Minnesota  
Major: Business and Marketing Education & Human Resource Development  
“Rethinking Cultural Competence”  
Mentor: Jarrett Gupton, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development

Bryan Polkey - University of Minnesota  
Major: Nursing  
“Medical-Legal Advocacy Screening Questionnaire: Evaluating Efficacy”  
Eileen Weber, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Azira Rivera - University of Minnesota  
Major: Mathematics  
“Characterizing Indel Mutations in Arabidopsis thaliana as a Model for Compensatory Evolution”  
Mentor: Yaniv Brandvain Ph.D., Department of Plant Biology

Dave Sukharan - University of Minnesota  
Major: Microbiology  
“Research Centers Struggling to Communicate: Social Media as a New Pathway”  
Mentor: Sarah Axtell, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Jonathon Swan - University of Minnesota  
Major: Nutrition  
“Beneficial Effects of Selenium on the Human Gut Microbiome”  
Mentor: Joanne Slavin, Ph.D., Department of Food Science and Nutrition

Julie Vang - University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
“Do They Think Alike? Immigrant First-Generation Students’ Decision and Parents’ Preferences for College Major and Career”  
Mentors: Cathy Solheim, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science & Veronica Deenanath, Department of Family Social Science

Gaozouapa Vue - University of Minnesota  
Major: Youth Studies  
“Livelihood Complexities in Kenya from the Perspectives on Youth Orphans”  
Mentors: Christopher Johnstone, Ph.D. International Initiatives and Relations & Nancy Pellowski Wiger, Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development

Hany Wahila - University of Minnesota  
Major: Political Science  
“A RADical Departure? The Redevelopment of Glendale Townhomes”  
Mentor: Ryan P. Allen, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Aaryn Wilson - University of Minnesota  
Major: Plant Science  
“Evaluation of a New Test to measure Soil Health”  
Mentor: Carl Rosen, Ph.D., Department of Soil, Water and Climate
Arafat Akinlabi - Carleton College  
Major: Chemistry  
"Hydrothermal Synthesis of the Spinel Compound CuCo2S4"  
Mentor: R. Lee Penn, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry

Nicholas Baird - University of Minnesota  
Major: Psychology  
"Measurement Matters: Effects of Measurement Error on One-Sample t-Tests"  
Mentor: David Weiss, Ph.D., Department of Psychology

Luc Desroches - University of Minnesota, Duluth  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
"Experimental Determination of Poisson's Ratio for Asphalt Binder"  
Mentors: Mihai Marasteanu, Ph.D. & Joa Liang Le, Ph.D., Department of Civil Engineering

Mariah Geiger - Macalester College  
Major: International Studies  
"Closing the Research Circle: Giving Back Results to the Community"  
Mentor: Jean L. Forster, Ph.D., Department of Epidemiology

Amanda Geldert - University of Minnesota  
Major: Child Psychology  
"Family Reminiscence Across Generations"  
Mentor: Steve Yussen, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development

Amber Jones - University of Minnesota  
Major: African American & African Studies  
"W. Gertrude Brown: A Case of Black Women's Activism in Minnesota, 1920-1940"  
Mentor: Yuichiro Onishi, Ph.D., Department of African American Studies

Jason Jones - University of Minnesota  
Major: Biochemistry  
"One Fungus, many hosts? Symbiosis between Daldinia loculata and its many plant hosts"  
Mentor: Georgiana May, Ph.D., Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior

Lawrence Karongo - University of Minnesota  
Major: Applied Economics  
"The Production Black Ph.Ds. in Economics at Harvard University, 1905-1955"  
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Jade Mathre - University of Minnesota  
Major: Genetics, Cell Biology and Development & Plant Biology  
"Geminivirus Delivery of CRISPR/Cas9 for Plant Genomre Engineering"  
Mentor: Dan Voytas, Ph.D., Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development

Mulki Naleyeh - University of Minnesota  
Major: Business & Marketing Education  
"School choice: Factors Influencing Somali Immigrant Parents’ Choices for their Children"  
Mentor: Karen Seashore, Ph.D., Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development

Evita Sanchez - University of Minnesota  
Major: Psychology  
"Acculturative Stress, Self-esteem, and Emotional Well-being among Latina Adolescents"  
Mentor: Carolyn Garcia, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Ambrosia Smith - University of Minnesota  
Major: Biology, Society & Environment  
"Neural Mechanisms of Drug Abuse in Females"  
Mentor: Paul Mermelstein, Ph.D. & Luis Martinez, Ph.D., Department of Neuroscience

Mara Stommes - University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science & Communication Studies  
"Mobile Health Technologies: A Critical Review of Literature"  
Tai Mendenhall, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Redeat Tibebu - University of Minnesota  
Major: Horticulture  
"The Role of Reactive Oxygen Species following Ultraviolet-B Irradiation"  
Mentor: Gary Gardner, Ph.D., Department of Horticulture Science

Joe Vang - University of Minnesota  
Major: Biology, Society & Environment  
"Evaluation of Patient Oriented Drug to Drug Interactions Information Systems"  
Mentor: Terrance Adam, Ph.D., Department of Pharmaceutical Care and Health

Jaleesa Wright - University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
"Exposure to Incarceration -Related Events in a Sample of Children with Jailed Parents"  
Mentor: Rebecca Schlafer, Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics

Crystal Yang - University of Minnesota  
Major: Individualized Studies  
"Lao Initiative for Eating Healthy: Making the Connections between Sodium Intake and Hypertension in the Lao Community"  
Mentor: Cathy Solheim, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science
Natisha Alicea – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Parenting Education and Support for Imprisoned Mothers”
Mentor: Rebecca Shlafer, Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics

Jade Beaclair – University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
“Laboratory for Justice: A Contextual Analysis of Legal Experimentation and Pedagogy at Howard University Law School, 1929-1954”
Mentor: Robert Poch, Ph.D., Department of Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

Jennie Chu – Carleton College
Major: Geology
“Evidence for Heat-Treatment of Stone Tools: Magnetic Mineralogy of Heated Chert”
Mentor: Joshua Feinberg, Ph.D., Department of Earth Sciences

Lekie Dwanyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“The Maternal Experiences of HIV-Positive Women”
Mentor: Shonda M. Craft, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Naima Farah – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“If I Get Them, How Will I Financially Support Them: Challenges for Kinship Caregivers”
Mentor: Priscilla Gibson, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Song Her – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Underrepresentation of Ethnic Minority Groups in Advance Counseling and Psychology”
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Alyssa Holmes – University of Minnesota, Crookston
Major: Equine/Animal Science
“Yield and Preference of Annual Grasses Under Horse Grazing”
Mentor: Krishna Martinson, Ph.D., Department of Animal Sciences

Kadir Hussein – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
“Considering a Bacterial Model for Ecological Nanoparticle Toxicity”
Mentor: Christy Haynes, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry

Ivan Ishkov – University of Minnesota
Major: Electrical Engineering
“Time Dependence of the Magnetic After Effect in Co/Pd Multilayer Thin Films”
Mentor: Dan Dahlberg, Ph.D., School of Physics and Astronomy

Fanny Jimbo-Llapa – University of Minnesota
Major: BIS: Family Social Science/Child Psychology/Public Health
“¡Encuentro! Teen-Parent Pilot Study- Recruitment & Retention”
Mentor: Renee Sieving, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Yonatan Kebede – University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry
“Molecular Analysis of Centrosome in Mammalian Cells: Cep 15”
Mentor: Ryoko Kuriyama, Ph.D., Department of Genetics

Anna Ma – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Essential Fine Motor Skills of Clinical Laboratory Science Professionals”
Mentor: Peggy M. Martin, Ph.D., Occupational Therapy

Coriandre Moore – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
“Scandal: Checks, Constituents, and Consequences”
Mentor: Marti Hope Gonzales, Ph.D., Department of Psychology

Phitsavath Nantharath – University of Minnesota
Major: Business Marketing Education/Human Resource Development
“But He Loves Me: Teens’ Perspective on Unhealthy vs. Healthy Relationships”
Mentor: Sonya S. Brady, Ph.D., School of Public Health

Andrew Nauertz – University of St. Thomas
Major: Biology
“Antiviral Properties of Natural Extracts Against Feline Calici Virus, a Surrogate to Norovirus”
Mentor: Sagar M. Goyal, Ph.D., Department of Veterinary Population Medicine

Tho Nguyen – University of Minnesota
Major: Chemical Engineering/Chemistry/Mathematics
“Synthesis and Optimization of Isopropyl Xanthic Anhydride: Reactions of Potassium Isopropyl Xanthate with Ethyl Chloroformate”
Mentor: George Barany, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry

Nima Odowa – University of Minnesota
Major: Biology/Society and Environment
“Understanding the Role of Bone Morphogenic Proteins in MAPK Phosphatase-1 (MKP-1) Regulation During Osteoclastogenesis”
Mentor: Kim Mansky, Ph.D., Department of Developmental and Surgical Sciences

Russel Peterson – Carleton College
Major: History, Latin American Studies
“Weaponized Art: Shining Path and Their Influences on Independent Peruvian Theater”
Mentor: Luis A. Ramos-García, Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese Studies

Keng Xiong – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
“Financial Strength and Challenges in Refugee Families”
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D., Department of Family Social Science

Mai Yang – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
“Validity of the Peg Tapping Measure of Executive Function in Early Childhood for Hmong Children”
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development
Octavia Cheatom - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
Invisible Pioneers: Exploring the Experiences of African American Female Athletes - A Digital Story
Mentor: Jennifer A. Bhalla, Ph.D., School of Kinesiology

Christopher Crump - University of Minnesota
Major: Spanish & Portuguese Studies
“Race” in Portuguese: Representations of Race in Brazilian Literature
Mentor: Ana Paula Ferreira, Ph.D., Spanish & Portuguese Studies

Gabriel De Los Rios - University of Minnesota
Major: Neuroscience
Energy Disorder & Obesity: Saturated Fatty Acid Induced Hypothalamic Neurodegeneration
Mentor: Tammy Butterick, PhD., Food Science and Nutrition

Linli Fung - University of Minnesota
Major: Chemistry
New Strategies to Treat Prescription Opioid Abuse
Mentor: Marco Pravetoni, Ph.D., Dept. of Medicine

Pertesia Gadson - University of Minnesota, Rochester
Major: Health Sciences
Perceptions of Healthy Partner and Relationship Characteristics among Adolescents
Mentor: Dr. Sonya Brady, Ph.D., School of Public Health

Bezaleel Gebru - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Health and Environmental Sciences
Potential Exposure to PFCs in the Hmong Community in the East Metro
Mentor: Matt Simcik, Ph.D., Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health

Teddy Gustafson - University of Minnesota
Major: Architecture
Social Sustainability: Linking Affordable Housing Design and Resident Health
Mentor: Billy Weber, Ph.D., School of Architecture

Tierra Howard - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
Youth Work as a Contested Terrain: Perspectives from Youth Workers in African American Communities - Pilot Study
Mentor: Ross VeLure Roholt, Ph.D., Youth Studies

Jeweletter Johnson - Carleton College
Major: Psychology
Implicit Bias and the Cross-Race Effect
Mentor: Eugene Borgida, Ph.D., Psychology and Law

Biftu Khalif - University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology/Child Psychology
Coming of Age: A Look at 2nd Generation and US-Born Young Adults View of their Families
Mentor: Teresa Swartz, Ph.D., Sociology and Asian American Studies

Touhue Ly - University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Major: Psychology
Intergenerational Transmission of Hopelessness in Hmong American Families
Mentor: Zha Blong Xiong, Ph.D., Dept. of Family Social Science

Caprecia Matthias - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Association of Parent Vagal Tone to Emotion Regulation During Military Reintegration: Possible Gender Differences
Mentor: Abi Gewirtz, Ph.D., Dept. of Family Social Science

Merone Melekin - University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science
The Deterrent Effect of Reverse Discrimination Litigation in Public Procurement and Contracting
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice

Amy Neguse - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Do Proximal Reasons for Homelessness Predict Observed Parenting in Shelters
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development

Gertude Ogega - University of Minnesota, Duluth
Major: Psychology
The Assessment of Ethical Behavior at Work
Mentor: John Campbell, Ph.D., Dept. of Psychology

Sigin Ojulu - University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies/Economics
Global Waste Trade; Informal Economic Practices of Southeast Asia
Mentor: Vinay Gidwani Ph.D., Dept. of Geography and the Institute of Global Studies

Kynesha Patterson - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
Culturally Relevant Pedagogy
Mentor: Katie Johnston-Goodstar, Ph.D., Youth Studies

Carlos Reyes - University of Minnesota
Major: Mentor: Business and Marketing Education
Competencies for Leaders in Education Versus other Industry Groups: Is Teresa Sullivan Right?
Louis N. Quast, Ph.D., Dept. of Organizational, Leadership, Policy, and Development

Bre Valle - University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Family Communications Project: Comparing Child Behavior Outcomes in Same-Sex ART Families and Heterosexual ART
Mentor: Martha Rueter, Ph.D., Dept. of Family Social Science

Xue Xiong - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies
Experiences of Hmong Youth Workers: A Pilot Study to Understand Culturally Appropriate Practice
Mentor: Michael Baizerman, Ph.D., Youth Studies
Osman Ahmed - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Policy
The Experiences of Somali Meatpackers, the Case of Willmar, Minnesota
Mentor: Barbara Frey, J.D., Institute for Global Studies

Morgan Bobo - University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
Association between Early Adversity and the Timing of the Transition to Parenthood
Mentor: W. Andrew Collins, Ph.D., Psychology

Tanya Bui - Carleton College
Major: Psychology
Gender Bias in Arbitration Decision-Making
Mentor: Eugene Borgida, Ph.D., Psychology

Cymone Fuller - University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
Family Strain and the Desire to be ‘Good Men’ Among Former Juvenile Offenders
Mentor: Josh Page, Ph.D., Sociology

Nathaniel Gibbs - University of Minnesota
Major: Education Policy
Racial Disparities in Drowning
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Jr., Ph.D., Roy Wilkins Center of Human Relations and Social Justice

Aliya Jeylani - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Affairs
Beyond the First Year: The First Generation College Experience
Mentor: Rashné Jehangir, Ph.D. Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

Charissa Jones - University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
Minnesota Exits and Entries Project: Spatial Analysis of Reentry
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Jordan Langen - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
Body Composition and Weight Changes in a 15 Week Marathon Training Program
Mentor: Stacy Ingraham, Ph.D., Kinesiology

Kiarra McCain - University of Minnesota
Major: Youth Studies/Policy
Art and Social Justice Programs: Developing Young People
Mentor: Ross Velure Roholt, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Ngoc Nguyen - University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
Go Back to Where You Came From:” Blatant Foreigner Discrimination
Mentor: Richard M. Lee, Ph.D., Psychology

Maira Rosas-Lee - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Health
¡Encuentro! A Healthy Youth Development Project: Perspectives of Local Latino Youth
Mentor: Renee Sieving, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Dorianne Shelton - University of Minnesota
Major: Communications
Education: Can Reality Television Prevent Teenage Pregnancy
Mentor: Laurie Ouellette, Ph.D., Communication Studies

Amani Stumne - University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
Distressing Event Nomination: Trauma in the Lives of College Students
Mentor: Patricia Frazier, Ph.D., Psychology

John Tarnowski - University of Minnesota
Major: Pharmacology
Mapping Nutrients Crucial to a Growing Population
Mentor: John Foley, Ph.D., Institute on the Environment

Yodit Tesfaye - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Health
Policy Effectiveness in Addressing Girls’ Inequality in Africa
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D., Sociology

Jessica Thompson - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Policy/ Social Work
Media Arts: Sociopolitical Development of Urban Youth of Color
Mentor: Katie Johnston-Goodstar, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Donald Wilhite II - University of Minnesota
Major: History/ Global Studies
Global City Making in Cairo: Roots and Routes of a New Urban Politics
Mentor: Michael Goldman, Ph.D., Sociology

Alexis Yeboah - University of Minnesota
Major: Public Health/Psychology
Ethnic Identity: Narrative Differences of African Americans, Africans, and Mixed Emerging Adults
Mentor: Moin Syed, Ph.D., Psychology

Angela Ziemer - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
The Sport Experiences of African American Women Growing Up Pre-Title IX
Mentor: Jennifer Bhalla, Ph.D., Kinesiology
Cherese Alcorn – University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
An Interactive Website to Reduce HIV/AIDS Risk Behavior Among Adolescents  
Mentor: Sonya Brady, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Courtney Bell – University of Minnesota  
Major: Sociology  
The Missing Link of Environmental Justice: When Deprivation is Ignored  
Mentor: David Pellow, Ph.D., Sociology

Angela Bianco – University of Minnesota  
Major: Elementary Education Foundations  
Evaluating Environmental Concepts in Student Drawing and Understanding Systematic Experimentation Behavior Using Technology  
Mentor: Keisha Varma, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Veronica Deenanath – University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science and Psychology  
Hmong Pre-adolescents’ Perceptions of Their Family Environment: A Consensual Qualitative Analysis of Family Photos  
Mentor: Blong Xiong, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Nathaniel Gibbs – University of Minnesota  
Major: Sociology  
The Effects of Incarceration on Health  
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Lidiya Girma – University of Minnesota  
Major: Sociology  
Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park Foreign Born: Differing Reception Based on Nationality  
Mentor: Lisa Park, Ph.D., Sociology

Jessica (Verse) Holloway – University of Minnesota  
Major: Sociology  
Graduation: From Child Abuse to Serial Killers  
Mentor: Carolyn Liebler, Ph.D., Sociology

Salma Hussein – University of Minnesota  
Major: Inter-college program  
Increasing Physical Activity in East African Adolescent Women  
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Guled Ibrahim – University of Minnesota  
Major: Journalism and Political Science  
Minnesota's New Immigrants: A Content Analysis of The Minneapolis Star Tribune’s Coverage of The Minnesota Somali Community  
Mentor: Catherine Squires, Ph.D., School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Hafizah Jaafar-Tribbett – University of Minnesota  
Major: Theatre Arts  
Body, Sound and the Embodiment of Fear: Indonesian Immigrants in the United States  
Mentor: R.Diyah Larasati, Ph.D., Theatre Arts and Dance

Janes (Beth) Jones – University of Minnesota  
Major: Child Psychology, Family Social Science  
Minnesota Health Care Coordination Study for Individuals with Physical Disabilities  
Mentor: Brian Abery, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Sheilah McGrath – University of Minnesota  
Major: Anthropology  
Asthma Concerns: A Comparison of Somali Mothers and Fathers with Affected Preschoolers  
Mentor: Ann Garwick, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Lolla Mohammed Nur - University of Minnesota  
Major: Political Science & Journalism  
Corrupting Africa: International Organizations and the Making of “the Problem” of Corruption in Africa”  
Mentor: Raymond Duvall, Ph.D., Political Science

Elizabeth Ongeri – University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
An Outcome Evaluation of the Effects of a Parent Education Program for Lao Parents and Grandparents”  
Mentor: Blong Xiong, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Sarah Osman – University of Minnesota  
Major: Sociology  
African American Children’s Mental Health Issues: Are They Being Properly Addressed?  
Mentor: Sonya Brady, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Schevita Persaud – University of Minnesota  
Major: Child Psychology, African American Studies  
Gender Differences in the School Success of Young Homeless Children  
Mentor: Ann Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development

Yuridia Ramirez – University of Minnesota  
Major: History & Journalism  
Sitos De Memoria: Guanajuato in the Shadow of the Bicentenario and Centenario  
Mentor: Patrick McNamara, Ph.D., History

Maria De Jesús Rios – University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
Parent Communication and its Association to Positive Latino Youth School Outcomes  
Mentor: Michael Rodriguez, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Maira Rosas-Lee – University of Minnesota  
Major: Spanish and Chicano Studies  
Encuentro: A Healthy Youth Development Project Formative Research - Latino Parent Perspectives  
Mentor: Renee Sieving, Ph.D., School of Nursing

Ker Thao – University of Minnesota  
Major: Family Social Science  
Parental School Choices in the Hmong Community  
Mentor: Karen Cadigan, Ph.D., Center for Early Education & Development

Bai Vue – University of Minnesota  
Major: Work and Human Resource Education  
Managerial Behaviors Associated with Managerial Development  
Mentor: Louis Quast, Ph.D., Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development
Kelli Blankenshp – University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology
Not All Sport Parents are “Out of Control”: The Happy Side of Youth Sports
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Michelle Bragg – Carleton College
Major: Psychology
Kinship Care in Times of Hurricanes: New Orleans Experience
Mentor: Priscilla Gibson, Ph.D, School of Social Work

Beatriz Carrillo – University of Minnesota
Major: Journalism
I Really Wish that I Could Relate Better: Evaluating Student Responses to In-Class Materials
Mentor: Catherine Squires, Ph.D., School of Journalism

Rose Chahla – Carleton College
Major: Psychology
Understanding Career Development in College Students
Mentor: Tabitha Grier-Reed, Ph.D., Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

John Chan – University of Minnesota
Major: Genetics, Cell Biology and Development
Ablation of Voltage-Operated Ca2+ Channel β-Subunits Reduces Praziquantel Efficacy in the Planarian Dugesia japonica
Mentor: Jonathan Marchant, Ph.D., Pharmacology

Robert Costilla – University of Minnesota, Duluth
Major: Political Science and History
On The Border of Mexico’s 1910 Centennial
Mentor: Patrick McNamara, Ph.D., History

Ciana Cullens – University of Minnesota, Morris
Major: Communication, Media, and Rhetoric
The Significance of the Black Power Movement: Learning from its Origins and Implications
Mentor: Keith Mayes, Ph.D., African American and African Studies

Edao Dawano – University of Minnesota
Major: Biology, Society and Environment
Ethiopia’s Political Economy and Contemporary Environmental Problems
Mentor: Abdi Samatar, Ph.D., Geography

Nicholas Ferlazzo – University of Minnesota
Major: American Indian Studies and American Studies
Male and Female Circumcision: A Global Analysis of the Medical Research
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D., Sociology

Timothy Gordon – University of Minnesota
Major: English and Creative Writing
State of African American Literature: Contemporary Authors and Publications
Mentor: Alexis Pate, Ph.D., African American Studies

Shanicia Goston – Fisk University
Major: Psychology and Sociology
Criminal Record Questions on Employment Applications
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Chaltu Hassan – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Hidden Homelessness: Refugees and Unstable Housing in the Twin Cities
Mentor: Dave Hollister, Ph.D., School of Social Work

Sartu Hassan – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Using Remittances to Adapt to Economic Crisis: The Case of Mexican Transnational Families
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Chantel Johnson – Carleton College
Major: History
Obtaining a Job with a Criminal Record: The Importance of Personal Contact
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Anthony Kiekow – University of Minnesota
Major: Journalism
U.S. Civil Rights and African Freedom: An Intertwined Struggle of Brothers from the Past
Mentor: Keith Mayes, Ph.D., African American Studies

Sarah Lechowich – University of Minnesota
Major: Communication Studies
The Connection Between Attachment Styles and Family Communication Patterns
Mentor: Susanne Jones, Ph.D., Communication Studies

Stefanie Lightner – University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology, Law, Crime and Deviance
The Effects of Educational Attainment on Job Satisfaction
Mentor: Eric Grodsky, Ph.D., Sociology

Michele Luhm Vigor – University of Minnesota
Major: Biology and Medicine
Tick-Mammal Interface of Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis
Mentor: Ulrike Munderloh, Ph.D., Entomology

Fatuma Omer – University of Minnesota
Major: Psychology
The Meaning of Interventions to End Female Genital Cutting
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D., Sociology

Melanie Plucinski – University of Minnesota
Major: Political Science, Spanish, and Social Justice
Mental Health Disparities Among Adolescents in the Juvenile Justice System
Mentor: Sonya Brady, Ph.D., Epidemiology

Cassey Quach – University of Minnesota
Major: Family Social Science
Sibling Interaction and Behavior Study
Mentor: Martha Reuter, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Laura Roderick – University of Minnesota
Major: Child Psychology
Peer Competence as a Predictive Factor to the Sociodemographic Risks for Homeless Children
Mentor: Ann S. Masten, Ph.D., Institute of Child Development
Desiree Abu-Odeh - University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry/Neuroscience
Expression of the MBP Gene in virally infected E16 Mice
Mentor: Ken Barlett, Ph.D., Work and Human Resources

Devon Arkadie - University of Minnesota
Major: English/African American Studies
Building Theory, Interrogating Knowledge: An Analysis of Intersectionality
Mentor: Rose Brewer, Ph.D., African American Studies

Kenneth Coleman - Carleton College
Major: Psychology and African American Studies
Masculinities in Transition: The Effects of Masculinity on the Transition from a Corrections Facility
Mentor: Josh Page, Ph.D., Sociology

Ernest Comer - Carleton College
Major: Communication Studies
White Ball/Black Hope: Race and Sports
Mentor: Gil Rodman, Ph.D., Communications

Monica Diaz - Carleton College
Major: Sociology/Anthropology
Mentor: Samuel Myers, Ph.D., Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Catherine Gardner - Carleton College
Major: Sociology/Anthropology & Political Science
Work, Family, and Social Support: Examining the Role of Church-based Support
Mentors: Penny Edgell & Eric Tranby, Sociology

Jill Haom - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology/Exercise Science
Unequal Opportunities, Unequal Outcomes: Reducing Physical Inactivity in Populations of Ethnic Minority Girl
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Shawn James - University of Minnesota
Major: Sociology
The Minnesota Juvenile Justice Transitions Project
Mentor: Josh Page, Ph.D., Sociology

Terrence Jordan - University of Minnesota
Major: Kinesiology/African American Studies
Race Represents of Women’s and Men’s intercollegiate Basketball Media Coverage on ESPN.com
Mentor: Nicole LaVoi, Ph.D., Kinesiology/Tucker Center

Katumu Kamara - University of Minnesota
Major: Global Studies/Social Justice
Effects of Foreclosure on Immigrants in Minneapolis
Mentor: Ryan Allen, Ph.D., Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Ayianna Kennerly - University of Minnesota
Major: African American Studies/Sociology
Youth Speak: Perspectives on Race, Gender, and the 2008 Presidential Primaries
Mentor: Enid Logan, Ph.D., Sociology

Ona Knoxsa - University of Minnesota
Major: American Indian Studies
Structure of Ojibwe Personal Names 1830-1920
Mentor: John Nichols, Ph.D., American Indian Studies

Fatuma Mohamed - University of Minnesota
Major: Biochemistry
Crystal Structure of Cytochrome C
Mentor: Carrie Wilmot, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Molecular Biology/Biophysics

Jessica Molina - University of Miami
Major: Criminology
MEEP-Minnesota Exits and Entries Project
Mentor: Chris Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Sophak Mom - Metro State University
Major: Social Sciences
Exploring Official Views in Religious Teachings
Mentor: Penny Edgell, Ph.D., Sociology

Shadé Osifuye - University of Minnesota
Major: Individualized – African American Studies/Life Sciences Research on Sickle Cell Anemia
Mentor: Robert P. Hebbel, Ph.D., Medicine

Judith Pete - University of Minnesota
Major: Economics/Women’s Studies
Learning Communities as Vehicles for Self-Authorship for the First-Generation Students
Mentor: Rashné Jehangir, Ph.D., Postsecondary Teaching & Learning

Christine Rangen - University of Minnesota
Major: Nursing
Latino Adolescents’ Perceptions of Mental Health Resources: Uncovering Potential and Actual Barriers to Care
Mentor: Carolyn Garcia, Ph.D., Nursing

Chenea Sparks - University of Minnesota
Major: Individualized – Family Studies/Psychotherapy
Voice of African American Family-In Children’s Mental Health
Mentor: Abigail Gewirtz, Ph.D., Family Social Science
Renee Barron - University of Minnesota
Illuminating Nat Turner
Mentor: Alexs Pate, African and African American Studies

Gada Beshir - University of Minnesota
Emerging Human Rights Crises in the Horn of Africa: A Case Study of Ethiopia and Somalia
Mentor: Barbara A. Frey, Ph.D., Global Studies and Law

Ifrah M. Biyoow - Carleton College
The Case of Somali Muslim Entrepreneurs in Minneapolis
Mentor: Elizabeth Boyle, Ph.D., Sociology

Brittany N. Clausel - University of Minnesota
English Language Learners: Investigation of the Effect of Mobility on Academic

Azeta Garthune - University of Minnesota
Woman's Human Rights in Argentina and Guatemala: Comparing Responses to Military Violence in the Context of Gender
Mentor: Ana Forcinto, Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese

Nicolina Hernandez - University of Minnesota
Labor Union Advocacy for Immigration Reform: Case Studies of SEIU Local 26 and UFCW Local 789
Mentor: Katherine Fennelly, Ph.D., Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Jon Jacobs - University of Minnesota
Greeting Concordia College: Developing an Environmental Baseline
Mentor: Virijita Singh, M. Arch, Center for Sustainable Building, College of Design

Pao Lor - St. Olaf College
Engineering Escherichia Coli to Express Photosynthetic Reaction Center Proteins from Rhodobacter Sphaeroides
Mentor: Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Biophysics

Blanca Martinez-Gavina - St. Olaf College
Labor Union Advocacy for Immigration Reform: Case Studies of SEIU Local 26 and UFCW Local 789
Mentor: Katherine Fennelly, Ph.D., Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Jessica Molina - University of Miami
MEEP—Military Minnesota Exits and Entries Project
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Miracle Obeta - University of Minnesota, Morris
New Jersey Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Emerging Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs
Mentor: Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Ph.D., Roy Wilkins Center

Claudio Perez - University of Miami
Analysis of the Philosophy of Drug Policy
Mentor: Christopher Uggen, Ph.D., Sociology

Diana Pérez - Ripon College
English Language Learners and Specific Language Impairment: Social Development
Mentor: Lesley Craig-Unkefer, Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Amber Riley - Carleton College
Promoting Success of African American College Students: The African American Student Network
Mentor: Tabitha Grier, Ph.D., Postsecondary Teaching and Learning

David Rodriguez - University of Minnesota
Manoomin (Wild Rice) and Commercial Wild Rice (Paddy): A Comparison Between Worldviews of Health
Mentor: Craig Hassel, Ph.D., Nutritional Science

Ellen Roth - St. Olaf College
Financial Management in Hmong Immigrant families: A Case Study
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D., Family Social Science

Eric Stone - University of Minnesota
Subject Perception of Thermal Status and Comfort in Variations of the NASA Phase VI Glove
Mentors: Gloria Leon, Ph.D., Psychology and Victor Koscheyev, Ph.D., Biology and Biophysics

Ying Thao - St. Olaf College
Isolation of Novel Wax Ester Synthases From Marine Sediments
Mentor: Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Biophysics

Hussein Waliye - University of Minnesota
FLT3-Department Activation of RAS-Pathway
Mentor: Michael Farrar, Ph.D., Lab Medicine and Pathology

Chao Yang - University of Minnesota
Minnesota Indian Casinos: The Portrayal of Native Americans on Casino Marketing Materials
Mentor: Ken Barlett, Ph.D., Work and Human Resources
Anna Alba Hernandez
Investigating Out of School Time Experiences of Latino Youth in Minnesota
Mentor: Michael C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Yolanda M. Archibald
Investigation of the Uncoupling of Skeletal Muscle Force and Atpace Activity by Thymol
Mentor: Vincent A. Barnett, Ph.D.

Naima Bashir
Parent-School Partnerships: A Study of Somali Immigrants in Minnesota
Mentor: Catherine Solheim, Ph.D.

Thuy Doan
High School Athletes: An Examination of the Impact of No Pass/No Play Policies
Mentor: Jennifer Oliphant, MPH

Keith Fox
Does Virtue Benefit the Virtuous?
Mentor: Michelle Mason, Ph.D.

Hodges Glenn
Poetry of Rap
Mentor: Alexs Pate, Ph.D.

Sylvia Gonzalez-Castro
Indigenous Social Movement: The Struggle for Democracy in Latin America
Mentor: M. Bianet Castellanos, Ph.D.

Aaron Lane
Search for New Core Treatment Analog for Overall Thermal Status of Astronauts Using a Liquid Cooling/Warm Garment
Mentors: Gloria Leon, Ph.D. and Victor Koscheyev, Ph.D.

Dung Mao
Parents’ and Adolescents’ Perceptions of Delinquency in Hmong families
Mentor: Zha Biong Xiong, Ph.D.

Sophia I. McComb
Unlicensed Child Care Providers and Promoting Early Literacy with English Language Learner Children
Mentor: Lesley Craig-Unkefer, Ph.D.

Lily Moua
Parents’ and Adolescents’ Perceptions of Delinquency in Hmong families
Mentor: Zha Biong Xiong, Ph.D.

Martha Ockenfels-Martinez
Creating a Guide to Successful Diversity Coalitions
Mentor: Katherine Fennelly, Ph.D.

Amy Ojibway
From Enemies to Pan-Indian Allies: Dakotas and Ojibwes in the Writings of Charles Eastman
Mentor: David Martinez, Ph.D.

Samson O. Osholowu
Studies of Yeast Mitochondrial Precursor-IDH
Mentor: Leonard Banazak, Ph.D.
Veronica Avila  
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