EVENT PROGRAM

Opening Remarks
by Interim Dean Leila Rupp

Finalist Presentations

Q&A with All Students and Voting for People's Choice Award

People's Choice Award Announcement

Runners-Up Announcement

Grand Prize Winner Announcement

Closing Remarks

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Dr. Leila J. Rupp
Interim Anne and Michael Towbes Graduate Dean
UC Santa Barbara

2022 GRAD SLAM FINALISTS

Alexandra Birch
It's Not Just What You Say, It’s How You Say It: Investigating the Positivity Principle in Learning
PSYCHOLOGICAL & BRAIN SCIENCES

Krystal Vo
The Photochemistry of Pigments
CHEMISTRY & BIOCHEMISTRY

Alyssa Lawson
It’s Not Just What You Say, It’s How You Say It: Investigating the Positivity Principle in Learning
PSYCHOLOGICAL & BRAIN SCIENCES

Taruna Schuelke
Runaway Seaweed
ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, & MARINE BIOLOGY

Menglin Li
Sleep Chronotype: From Fruit Flies to Humans
MOLECULAR, CELLULAR, & DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY

Skyler Palatnick
Imaging Exoplanets with Metasurfaces
PHYSICS

Siena McKim
Sponges: Local Alien Apartments
ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, & MARINE BIOLOGY

Esther Showalter
Your Connection is Unstable: An Ode to Internet Improvisers
COMPUTER SCIENCE

Sophia Bailey
Fake It 'Til You Make It: Developing Chemistries to Advance Biomimetic Materials
CHEMISTRY & BIOCHEMISTRY

Geoff Meyerhof
The Early Bird Gets the Worm, but the Second Mouse Gets the Cheese: What Simple Organisms Can Teach Us about Our Daily Rhythms
BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
Presenters are allowed **three minutes** and **three slides** for their presentation and are judged based on the following criteria:

**Clarity:** Did the speaker provide adequate background knowledge to make the talk and the importance of the project understandable?

**Organization:** Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?

**Delivery:** Pace, enthusiasm, confidence, body language, eye contact, and vocal range.

**Visuals:** Did the visuals enhance the presentation and help to emphasize the primary points of the talk? If no visuals, would the presentation have been more clear and engaging if used?

**Appropriateness:** Was the topic and its significance communicated in language appropriate to an intelligent, but non-specialist audience? Did the speaker avoid discipline-specific jargon?

**Intellectual Significance:** Did the speaker explain why the project matters and its significance to the academic discipline?

**Engagement:** To what extent did the talk speak to your intellectual curiosity? Did it make you want to learn more about the topic?

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**MEET THE JUDGES**

**FINAL ROUND**

- **Dr. Niki Sandoval ‘07**
  Senior Strategic Development Manager
  WestEd

- **Dr. Alexandra Seros ‘72**
  Screenwriter & Author
  Redwing Films Ltd.

- **Rick Rosen ‘75**
  Co-Founder of Endeavor
  WME

- **Heather Hochrein ‘16**
  Founder & CEO
  EVmatch, Inc.

- **Anne Towbes H’20**
  Philanthropist & Former Educator
  UCSB Foundation Trustee

**PRELIMINARY ROUND**

**UC Santa Barbara Affiliates**

- Tamara Affifi, Professor of Communication
- Miles Ashlock, Student Affairs Chief of Staff and Executive Director, Planning & Administration
- Omer Blaes, Professor of Physics
- Amanda Brey, Director of Program Review
- Shasta Delp, Executive Director of the Academic Senate
- Kathy Foltz, Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
- Jim Frew, Associate Professor of the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management
- Tania Israel, Professor of Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology
- Chandra Krintz, Professor of Computer Science
- Laura Marques-Pascual, Language Program Director, Spanish and Portuguese
- Maria Napoli, Director of Research Development for Biological Engineering, Science, & Technology, Office of Research
- John Park, Professor of Asian American Studies
- Sumita Pennathur, Professor of Mechanical Engineering
- Joe Sabado, Executive Director of Student Information Systems & Technology
- Adam Sabra, Professor of History

**Community Partners**

- David Chow, Chief Scientific Officer (HRL Laboratories)
- Christina Knapp, Associate Researcher (Microsoft Station Q)
- Leah Macy, Research and Development Supervisor (Agilent Technologies)
- Peter Mage, Senior Staff Engineer, Advanced Technology Group (BD Biosciences)
- Jessica Sanchez, Director of Donor Relations (Santa Barbara Foundation)
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Grad Slam Team | Graduate Division

Leila Rupp | Interim Anne and Michael Towbes Graduate Dean
Amr El Abbadi | Associate Dean
Jin Sook Lee | Associate Dean
Robert Hamm | Assistant Dean
Shawn Warner | Director, Graduate Student Professional Development
Baron Haber | Assistant Director, Graduate Student Professional Development

John Loftus | Assistant Dean, Development
Walter Boggan | Admissions, Outreach, and Diversity Initiatives Director
Carlos Nash | Director, Diversity Programs
Jackie Snider | Publication Design
Misti Shilling | Development Assistant
Matthew Choi | Marketing & communications Intern
Marge Perko | Former Director, Marketing & Communications
Veronica Torres | Former Social Media & Photography Assistant

Many thanks to the following that helped along the way

Erika Snell | Senior Producer-Director
Erik Moore | Campbell Hall Technical Director
Avery Wheeler | Theater Production Specialist
Jeff Liang | Photographer
Matt Perko | Senior Web Designer, OPAC

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Shane Terenzi | Special Events Executive Producer & COVID Compliance Consultant, Arts & Lectures
Student Staff | Arts & Lectures

Prizes

Grand Champion: $5,000 and the honor of representing UCSB at the UC-Wide Grad Slam
(2) Runners-up: $2,500
(1) People’s Choice Award: $1,500
(6) Finalists: $750
Equipment cost reimbursement up to $75 for all qualifying round participants

2021 Campus Champion

Logan Kozal, our 2021 Grad Slam Champion, will help present the awards to this year’s winners. Last year, Logan won top honors in our campus competition and then went on to win People’s Choice at the UC-Wide competition with her presentation on “Hot Dads and Super Moms? Musseling up against Marine Heatwaves.”

Tune into this year’s UC-Wide Grad Slam competition on Friday May 6 where you can cheer on and vote for our 2022 UCSB campus champion: gradslam.universityofcalifornia.edu