Congratulations to our Presenters

2017-2018
College of Education
Kristin Withey is a fourth year doctoral candidate in the Department of Educational and Clinical Studies under Drs. Tracy Spies and Cori More. Her primary research interest is the development of behavioral interventions for the youngest children with- and at-risk of emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD). Her dissertation research will utilize a single case research design to study the effects of an emotional intelligence intervention on the classroom behavior of these students. She hopes to begin a long line of research that will directly impact the lives of students with- or at-risk of EBD and lead to a shift in the focus and implementation of research in her field.
College of Liberal Arts
Michael Moncrieff is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology supervised by Dr. Pierre Lienard. His primary research focus is on how aspects of a social environment, specifically social affiliations, affect moral reasoning and behavior. Michael’s dissertation research was supported by a Fulbright research grant in the Republic of Croatia. He hopes that his research can help mitigate problems associated with the interactions of distinct populations such as extremism and ethnic violence.
College of Sciences
Sharang Chaudhry is a PhD candidate in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, supervised by Dr. Kaushik Ghosh. He focuses on the development of novel, efficient, and generalizable statistical methods to improve how nerve pathways are traced in the brain. Through his work, he hopes to provide clinicians and neuroscientists a more comprehensive picture of how the brain is “wired”, which is essential in understanding neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer’s Disease.
Surbhi Sharma is a Ph.D. candidate working in Dr. Martin R. Schiller’s laboratory at School of Life Sciences and Nevada Institute of Personalized Medicine. Her dissertation research focuses on identifying novel C-terminal minimotifs in the human proteome. Through her research, she has identified a new knowledge base or-ome called as the C-terminome (a subset of the human proteome). This knowledge base can be used by the researchers to tease out various cellular pathways and to discover potential minimotif mimetics for more specific drug designing. The current knowledge base can be accessed through C-terminome web-application, which is routinely updated.
Anthony Waddle is an MS student in the School of Life Sciences, where he is advised by Dr. Frank van Breukelen. His research centers around an emergent disease called chytridiomycosis that is wiping out amphibians worldwide. He is researching the effects of this disease on one of the rarest amphibian species in North America, the relict leopard frog. He is currently evaluating the utility of immunizations in protecting these frogs from disease. He hopes his research could set the stage for future conservation actions, allowing this and other species to return to areas where they have disappeared due to chytridiomycosis.
Greenspun College of Urban Affairs
Bree Boppre

Bree is a doctoral candidate in Criminology and Criminal Justice under Dr. Emily Salisbury. Her dissertation research examines racial differences in women’s pathways through justice-involvement and treatment needs. As women of Color are overrepresented in the justice system, she argues that it is critical to understand what is causing such disparities at the individual level. Ultimately, her research is aimed towards creating more inclusive and representative treatment programming for women from diverse backgrounds.
Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
Kazi Tamaddun is a second-year Ph.D. student in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, supervised by Dr. Sajjad Ahmad. His primary research interest is to understand how the large-scale climate variabilities in the oceanic-atmospheric systems affect various hydrologic variables (temperature, precipitation, streamflow, etc.) across the continental U.S. and in the Indian subcontinent. By applying advanced computational and numerical modeling techniques, e.g., spectral analysis, artificial intelligence, and system dynamics, he hopes to increase confidence in predicting extreme climate events and to provide sustainable solutions to future challenges in water resources management.