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*2021 Civil and Environmental  
Engineering Scholarship  
Awards*

Civil and Environmental Engineering | UC Davis

# Department Citations

*Given to graduating seniors in recognition of their outstanding academic achievement and hard work that they have done while being a student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering*

# Mogan Teng

“Mogan is the kind of student we are proud and happy to have on our campus – as he excels in coursework, demonstrates generous and effective service, and is proactive but modest in taking a leadership role. As an undergraduate researcher, he helped a PhD student conduct adsorption column testing both before and during the pandemic, enabling the research to come to a successful conclusion. In terms of service, after having excelled in ECI 3 himself his first year, he then volunteered the next two years to tutor ECI 3 students. Often I would find him in the Ghausi second floor lobby patiently explaining to a dozen first year students how to use Excel or how to use Python. Congratulations!”

–Professor Jeannie Darby



# Jonathan Byers



“Jonathan was one of the very few top students in my very competitive ECI 130 class in Spring 2021, particularly under the difficult coronavirus-imposed circumstances. I am not surprised he received the well-deserved Department Citation Award and I wish him continuous success.” –Professor Yannis Dafalias

# Tony Pardini

“Tony has been a positive force in so many ways helping the construction program. He was a team leader for the competitions including teaching carpentry and construction skills to other team members, and this last year as the overall organizer for the construction competitions and point of contact with ASC. He has been something of an “old soul” for us, providing calm, steady leadership, and being a great person to interact with. I had no idea Tony was getting the department citation on top of all the rest he has done for us.

Congratulations Tony!!”

–Professor John Harvey



# Yeymi Aguilar



“Yeymi was a pleasure to have in my ECI 140A class. She’s responsible, motivated, and thoughtful. I know she will continue to be an excellent representative of UC Davis and our Civil & Environmental Engineering community. Congratulations on your well-deserved award, Yeymi!”  
–Professor Heather Bischel

# Sonia Anthoine



“Sonia is a fantastic student and researcher. She is incredibly organized and thoughtful. She conducts her work with creativity and is constantly challenging the way I think about and conduct research. I really admire her for her passion for transportation, her intelligence, and her leadership skills. I suspect Sonia will have a far-reaching and long-lasting impact on the field of transportation.” Dr. Dillon Fitch

# Julius Ratemo



"Dear Julius: Congratulations on your award! It is highly deserved! It has been a great pleasure and honor having you as a student in my class, and as a collaborator in my research group! Your work was very nice! I am proud of your accomplishments and wish you continued success in your career!"

–Professor Fabian Bombardelli

# Macey Miyahara

“Macey received an A+ in Structural Design: Metallic Elements, with the top grade in a class of 84 students. This is an outstanding accomplishment knowing that Macey was also very involved with Society of Women Engineers, Alpha Delta Pi, and a peer advisor for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Congratulations Macey on your accomplishments and ad majora!”

–Professor Michele Barbato



# Ming-Shi Joy Chu



“Joy volunteered to prepare and give a zoom PowerPoint presentation on SARS-CoV-2 RNA in wastewater to the ECI 140D students. Her presentation was extremely professional, well organized and educational, and she was able to respond to the many questions asked by the students after the presentation. Congratulations on the award!”

–Professor Jeannie Darby

# Civil Engineering Senior Scholarship

*Established in 2015 and given annually to an outstanding  
Civil Engineering Senior*

# Sergio Jimenez



“Sergio is one of the most overall outstanding students I have known. He impressed me the first quarter I met him in class, but the more I get to know him, the more grateful I am that I get to be part of his engineering journey. He emits a positive, encouraging attitude that other students naturally are drawn to. His enthusiasm for learning, environmental engineering, and helping others is evident in a range of activities from his stellar performance in classes to his thoughtful leadership in Engineers Without Borders.”

– Professor Colleen Bronner

# Amorocho Memorial Prize

*Established in 1987 as a memorial to UC Davis Professor Jaime Amorocho for a civil engineering student in the field of water resources*

# Lillian Smith-Langes



"Congratulations Lillian! Keep up the good work and I am very proud to have you in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Congratulations on receiving the Amorocho Memorial Prize Award!" –Professor Dawn Cheng

# Ruby Telfer



“Ruby is someone who I would want with me in a high-pressure situation. She always rises to the challenge. When the COVID-19 pandemic halted Engineers Without Borders (EWB) projects, she asked what could the team she co-led do to help the community in Bolivia that they had partnered with. Leading a team of students, she managed the first remote implementation trip of the UC Davis EWB chapter where the team supervised the construction of composting latrines. Her leadership and determination motivated her team to move forward.” –Professor Colleen Bronner

# Walter D. Buehler

## Scholarship

*Established by his wife, Carol, in 1986 in honor of his 60th birthday, this scholarship recognizes the founder of the Buehler, Buehler & Associates structural engineering firm. Mr. Buehler was the structural designer of Bainer Hall.*

# Brian Shinn

"Brian was one of the top students in the most recent offering of Structural Design: Concrete. The course introduces a variety of new, conceptually difficult topics regarding the behavior of concrete materials and structures. Brian's strong performance is all the more remarkable considering the restrictions of the online learning environment. Congratulations on receiving the scholarship!" –Professor John Bolander



# Chidubem Nnaji



“Chidubem is a bright and motivated student with great potential for future accomplishments. Congratulations on receiving the Walter D. Buehler Scholarship, you deserve it!” –Professor Mike Kleeman

# Teichert Scholarship

*The Teichert Foundation Scholarship was established in 1997 and their commitment with all members of the university community in support of a quality public education throughout California*

# Cham Said

“Congratulations Cham! Cham is a very bright student and did amazingly well in my ECI 130 Structural Analysis course. Keep up the good work and I am very proud to have you in our program. Congratulations on receiving the scholarship.” –Professor Dawn Cheng



# Irvin Rodriguez



“Irvin stood out from the crowd when he took my course because of his enthusiasm, maturity, and intellectual curiosity as well as his proactive nature. He was an enthusiastic participant in all aspects of the course, seeming to relish each new challenge. He asked excellent questions and, in lab, would diplomatically explain concepts to other students. He excelled in the class, but more importantly perhaps, it was clear that he is trying to go beyond mere good grades by both learning the fundamental course material but also contributing to the larger campus community through student organizations. Congratulations!”

–Professor Jeannie Darby

# Risken Environmental Engineering Award

*Established to support a single undergraduate student working on a project related to air/water/environmental quality improvement as part of the student's coursework*



# Jeremy Inducil

“Jeremy is naturally curious, sharp, and engaged, and I enjoyed our conversations this year in office hours despite having to be remote. This award is very well deserved - all the best with finding your career path in water resources!”

–Professor Jonathan Herman

# The Beaver's Charitable Trust

*Established in 2005 by the Beavers Organization. The Beaver's Charitable Trust Award supports student's interest in pursuing a career in the heavy construction industry*

# Joshua Vega

“Joshua was one of the captains for the Heavy Civil Construction Competition for ASC this year. He did an excellent job helping to organize the team in a difficult year. Congratulations on winning the Beaver’s Scholarship!” –Professor John Harvey





# Gabriel Rivera

“Gabriel was one of the captains for the ASC Commercial Construction Competition. He did a great job helping to organize the team this year. Congratulations on winning the Beaver’s Scholarship!” –Professor John Harvey

# Nathan Le



“Nathan was a member of the ASC competition team this year and did a great job. I expect to see him as a leader next year. Congratulations!”

–Professor John Harvey

# Shen Huot

“Shen was a member of the ASC competition team this year and had a great performance. He also helped organize the construction seminar this past spring. I look forward to more leadership from Shen next year. Congratulations on winning the Beaver’s Scholarship!” –Professor John Harvey



# Dutra Scholar Award

*Established by Bill Dutra and Harry Stewart of the Dutra group in 2018. The Dutra Award supports one student heading for a career in the heavy construction industry*

# Laura Turcios



“Laura was one of our Heavy Civil Construction Competition team leaders for ASC this year. She has been a solid contributor through her several years on the team. Congratulations on winning the Dutra Scholarship!” –Professor John Harvey

# Chevron Scholar Award

*Made possible by Chevron Corporation. Given to a full-time undergraduate student attending UC Davis*

# Michelle Zhang

“Just as impressive as being the recipient of the prestigious Chevron scholarship, Michelle is a member of a most exclusive club, one for those who have earned an A+ in the Fluid Mechanics class that I teach. To qualify, the student will have scored perfect grades in all coursework and exams, and presented reports on the many assigned design projects that were masterpieces in clarity, conciseness, and professionalism. Even though I administer this club, I doubt that I myself would have qualified for its membership! Well done Michelle on both triumphs. It was a pleasure having you in ECI 100, and I do hope to see you in a future class.” –Professor Bassam Younis





# Alexandra Rivas

“I am delighted to learn that Ms. Alexandra Rivas received this year’s prestigious Chevron Scholar Award. She is most deserving of this award since she was one of the best students in my ECI 142 Engineering Hydrology class, demonstrating unusual intellectual capability, maturity and professional responsibility. I congratulate Alexandra for her Chevron Scholar Award, and wish her success in her future studies.” –Professor Lev Kavvas

*Congratulations to all  
of our 2021 Award  
winners!*