



# UROP Leaders 2019-2020



Florida State University  
Center for Undergraduate Research and Academic Engagement (CRE)  
Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program



# UROP Leaders 2019-2020

Alex Adams  
Aquesha Addison  
Autumn Aniello  
Cara Axelrod  
Caitlin Baird  
Jessica Bissey  
Elizabeth Campos  
Sergio Carlos-Tamez  
Grace Castillo  
Emma Chapman  
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Lauren Daley  
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Kemp Gonzalez-Xu  
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Hana Grubb  
Anna Hale  
Arria Hauldin  
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Anna Jara  
Kelly Kaps  
Martina Kvitkovicova  
Elias Larralde  
Marissa Latouche  
Paige Levanti  
Jose Martinez  
Emma Masters  
Meagan McLaughlin  
Morgan Morrow  
Ashley Moses  
Maegan Nation  
Selina Nevin

Adaeze Nwigwe  
Grace Nystrom  
Adrian Othon  
Jon Peterson  
Jennifer Poggio  
Isis Porta  
Hannah Primozic  
Maria Quintana  
Jason Raiti  
Jordan Rundle  
Raechel Sanger  
Caleb Stephens  
Anastasia Stichter  
Justin Stow  
Sarah Sullivan  
Mannat Thakur  
Caitlin Violette  
Zoe White  
Anna Wuest  
Kaleigh Young

Some responses have been edited for length and/or clarity.

# Alex Adams



Class of 2020  
Major: Political Science  
and Spanish

**Current Research Focus:**  
Voter attitudes and behavior, with a focus on economic mobility and the American Dream.

How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?  
UROP helped me build confidence in presenting to a group. It also encouraged me to ask big questions and to feel empowered to seek out answers. I do not know if I would have done an Honors in the Major Thesis without UROP, or if I would have been as successful with my thesis without it.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[aa16d@my.fsu.edu](mailto:aa16d@my.fsu.edu)

# Aqesha Addison



Class of 2020  
Major: Biology

**Current Research Focus:**  
The mechanism and cell biology of Zika Virus in mice and fruit flies (and eventually humans).

How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?

I hope to be a bridge between them and the numerous opportunities on campus, not just research but anything. I was very unsure on how to get involved in research as well as other parts of campus and other UROP students as well as my own UROP leaders (when I eventually got in) were a big part of helping me figure it all out. FSU has something for everyone, and I hope that I as a UROP leader can help them find that thing.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[aa17h@my.fsu.edu](mailto:aa17h@my.fsu.edu)

# Autumn Aniello



Class of 2021  
Major: Nursing

**Current Research Focus:**  
My freshman year I researched with the Autism Institute of Tallahassee through FSU's College of Medicine. I worked with the First Words Project. I recorded and analyzed data from virtual therapy sessions between graduate students and parents with children under the age of three years old who have autism.

How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?

I hope to be a mentor for my students and expand their knowledge of FSU and its research opportunities. FSU is an exceptional research institution, and I want my students to take pride in this. I hope that I spark a long term desire for my students to be curious about the world around them.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[ama16u@my.fsu.edu](mailto:ama16u@my.fsu.edu)

# Cara Axelrod



Class of 2020  
Major: Psychology  
Minor: SAS Program-  
ming & Data Analysis,  
Leadership Studies

**Current Research Focus:**  
Automatic Attitudes  
Towards Education and  
Academic Engagement  
in College Students

**How do you hope to  
affect your students as a  
UROP Leader?**

As a UROP Leader, I hope to humanize academia and research for my students. In the classroom, I try to bring forth an energy and an environment where students feel both comfortable and compelled to engage with their peers. I hope students' engagement in my UROP colloquium helps them see just how realistic it is for them to engage in high-level research and inspires them to forever stand at the front lines of the academic community.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[cma16b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:cma16b@my.fsu.edu)

# Caitlin Baird



Class of 2020  
Major: Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
I am currently working on a project studying the cognitive biases people may subconsciously use to maintain their romantic relationships. We are hoping to see how emotions such as love and jealousy affect performance in attention and memory tasks.

**How do you hope to  
affect your students as a  
UROP Leader?**

I am excited to serve as a source of both information and motivation for my students as a UROP leader. There are so many amazing research opportunities at FSU, and I want to help my students make the most out of their time here. I am honored to guide freshmen and sophomores through the program that led me to the lab I have loved working in for two years now.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[cab16d@my.fsu.edu](mailto:cab16d@my.fsu.edu)

# Jessica Bissey



Class of 2020  
Major: Economics  
Minor: International  
Affairs and Political  
Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
My current research is in the Art Education Department. We are studying why individuals dedicate their time to projects without being monetarily compensated.

**How do you hope to  
affect your students as a  
UROP Leader?**

I hope that my students gain a well rounded appreciation for Florida State University. Our University has opportunities and resources both inside and outside of the research world that can help my students reach their short term and long term goals.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[jab16f@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jab16f@my.fsu.edu)

# Elizabeth Campos



Class of 2020  
Major: Environmental Science and Creative Writing

**Current Research Focus:** I currently work at the Janie Wulff research laboratory where I study the organisms that live within sponges to analyze how the change in density of the polychaete worm affects the impact it has on the sponge. My research focus expands to the natural sciences, especially in reptiles and amphibians.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?** UROP has opened so many doors for me and has allowed me to understand the natural world in so many new aspects! My experiences in UROP developed my research presentation skills and refined the way that I communicate my research to others.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [erc16g@my.fsu.edu](mailto:erc16g@my.fsu.edu)

# Sergio Carlos-Tamez



Class of 2020  
Major: History and Classics

**Current Research Focus:** This year, I will begin work on my honors thesis, which seeks to understand the role that divination and prophetic messages portrayed in historical accounts of the Byzantine Iconoclast Period impacted the popular reception of iconoclasm in later periods.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to have a dialectical relationship with my students, learning from them as much I hope to them in the classroom. More than anything, I want to offer my students as many opportunities for success and fulfilment as I can until they find something that works for them.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [sac16g@my.fsu.edu](mailto:sac16g@my.fsu.edu)

# Grace Castillo



Class of 2021  
Major: Criminology

**Current Research Focus:** I have been working with Dr. Jones in the College of Education with his research on STEM in pre-schools. Currently our research team is working with the videos previously collected of a pre-school teacher teaching STEM focused lessons. We have transcribed the videos and are now coding for different utterances by the teacher and the students.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?** UROP has opened the world of research to me, not just on this campus but for life in general. Before this program I had never considered using my hopeful future law degree to conduct research but now I realize there are many different opportunities out there for me.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [gic17@my.fsu.edu](mailto:gic17@my.fsu.edu)

# Emma Chapman



Class of 2021  
Major: French and International Affairs

**Current Research Focus:** My current research focuses on marriage and gender expectations as portrayed by 19th century French novels and constructing a comparative analysis.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
Beginning as a Freshman at FSU, I avoided all leadership and research opportunities because I believed I would be unable to accomplish such daunting tasks. However, through my involvement with UROP, I have discovered a passion for research and the desire to be a part of the organization that helped me discover my own researching skills. Additionally, UROP exposed me to various other resources and research opportunities on FSU's campus.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:

# Shayna Cohen



Class of 2020  
Major: Economics and Actuarial Science  
Minor: English, Political Science, Business, Mathematics

**Current Research Focus:** Low-income college student graduation rates.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
I hope to give them increased professional skills and experiences that they can utilize for the rest of their college and professional careers.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
sc16e@my.fsu.edu

# Casey Copeland



Class of 2021  
Major: Dance  
Minor: English, Political Science, Business, Mathematics

**Current research focus:** My current research focus is religious and fantasy elements in classical story ballet.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?:** As a UROP leader I hope to inspire my students to see the beauty of research and what it has to offer them both on sociological and personal levels. I hope they leave their UROP experiences with a love of learning and an insatiable desire to "go and find out."

# Lauren Daley



Class of 2021  
Major: Biomedical  
Engineering

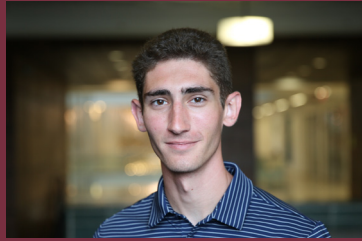
**Current Research Focus:**  
This fall, I will be starting in a lab that concentrates on imaging and signal processing, including MR spectroscopy, and the applications in current and future biomedical engineering devices/processes.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to inspire my students to pursue whatever field they are passionate about, and help in any way I can! UROP allows them to experience research and see if it is for them. If they realize it isn't, I hope they are able and willing to change paths after the program and find new opportunities to experience.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [lcd16e@my.fsu.edu](mailto:lcd16e@my.fsu.edu)

# Spencer Dechert



Class of 2021  
Major: IMS: Pre-Health  
Professions

**Current Research Focus:**  
Currently, I am involved in Autism Research through the College of Medicine.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?  
Participating in UROP** has allowed me to meet many great friends with a similar research focus and drive as well as helped me appreciate the numerous projects that are occurring at FSU that many students are not aware of.

# Caroline Deyoe



Class of 2020  
Major: Food and Nutrition  
Science  
Minor: Chemistry and  
Biology

**Current Research Focus:**  
I am currently a DIS student in the McNulty Lab in the Department of Psychology. I work on the Close Relationships Project.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

Engaging in research is extremely beneficial because it fosters curiosity and exposes students to topics they might realize they are passionate about. I hope to help my students explore questions and find new interests. Fostering this curiosity will strengthen my students' minds by opening them up to new ideas. I want to be a mentor that they can look up to and a mentor they can relate to.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [crd16c@my.fsu.edu](mailto:crd16c@my.fsu.edu)

# Valerie Ely



Class of 2020  
Major: Biology

**Current Research Focus:** I have previous research experience with the FSU college of Exercise Science studying the effects of good nutrition on patients with Diabetic foot ulcers. I have also spent a summer studying a new Medtronic Insulin Pump that has an automatic regulating system in children under 12 years old at the University of South Florida.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I really hope that I can get students to become passionate about research and find something that they truly enjoy. I think it would be amazing for my students to discover that they want to continue doing research for a career or throughout their undergraduate schooling.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [vce16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:vce16@my.fsu.edu)

# Marjorie Fitzsimmons



Class of 2021  
Major: Pre-Clinical Professions (IMS)

**Current Research Focus:** I have been involved with research in two labs at FSU. As a freshman, while I was completing UROP, I worked in the Cognitive Affective Neuroscience Lab. I assisted with studies that were using transcranial alternating current stimulation to help treat individuals with PTSD and Tourette's Syndrome.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

As a UROP leader, I hope to inspire and uplift my students. I want them to understand what an incredible opportunity they have by being able to engage in research at such a young age, and they should utilize this opportunity as much as they possibly can.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [mef16c@my.fsu.edu](mailto:mef16c@my.fsu.edu)

# Jessica Folsom



Class of 2020  
Major: Biology and Psychology

**Current Research Focus:** I currently study the connection between the olfactory system and metabolism.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

My time in UROP was very beneficial to me and helped me realize how many research opportunities are available to undergraduates at FSU. My hope is that after completing this program, my students will have the knowledge and skills they need to continue their research experience beyond UROP.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [jf16b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jf16b@my.fsu.edu)



# Morgan Gibson



Class of 2020  
Major: Criminology and Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
Not currently engaging in research, but I am interested in anything pertaining to the criminal justice system.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to foster professionalism in my students and guide them through their assistantships and the research process. I will strive to provide them with the many resources, both professional and extracurricular, that Florida State has to offer.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[meg16g@my.fsu.edu](mailto:meg16g@my.fsu.edu)

# Kiersten Goetz



Class of 2020  
Major: Communication Science and Disorders

**Current Research Focus:**  
Special Education

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to show students that research can have such a positive impact on their undergraduate experience. It opened so many doors for me and I would love to give my students the same opportunities.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[keg16b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:keg16b@my.fsu.edu)

# Kemp Gonzalez-Xu



Class of 2020  
Major: Computational Biology

**Current Research Focus:**  
I am currently in the first semester of my Honors in the Major with Dr. Karen McGinnis in the department of Biological Sciences. My project deals with the comparative elucidation of gene regulatory networks using the algorithms iRafNet and GENIE3.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP gave me my first experience interacting with researchers outside of my field. At FSU you constantly hear about the importance of diversity and inclusion and though this generally applies to social issues, the core of those values is to seek out differing perspectives in order to better yourself. For me, UROP provided a place to meet people that thought completely differently about academia and how to approach their studies.

# Emma Graumllich



Class of 2020  
Major: Anthropology

**Current Research Focus:**  
Extracting weather information from historical plantation documents.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
I hope to expose them to the world of research at FSU and teach them that research comes in many different forms. I hope that by the end of the year, each student has learned something new about research and discovered whether or not research is something for them.

# Hana Grubb



Class of 2021  
Major: Biochemistry

**Current Research Focus:**  
I have had experience conducting research within the fields of biology, polymer chemistry, and biological engineering.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
I am immensely grateful for having been a part of this program, as I consider UROP to have been my formal introduction to research. UROP provided me with the support I needed as a beginning researcher, provided me with a community of like-minded individuals, helped me determine my research interests, and informed me of several opportunities I would not have been aware of otherwise. There is so much that UROP has done for me and I am excited to see how I can serve UROP!

# Anna Hale



Class of 2020  
Major: Finance  
Minor: Economics

**Current Research Focus:**  
The mediating role of identity in the leadership-performance relationship.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP has not only helped me dive deeper into my area of study, but has provided me with a professional and academic network that goes beyond a year of research. I am grateful to have learned from the community of faculty and students driven by their passion to pursue higher knowledge and hope to facilitate that same experience for students as a UROP Leader.

# Arria Hauldin



Class of 2020  
Major: Anthropology

**Current Research Focus:** I My current research focuses on the LGBTQIA+ community here at FSU mainly focusing on dating, campus culture, acceptance and awareness, and intersectionality. I am doing an Honors in the Major project focused on Haitian and Jamaican Americans and their experiences in the Higher US education system.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope my students can feel comfortable coming to me with any questions, comments, or concerns they have about research, FSU, or student life as a whole. I hope I can be a resource to them as well as a motivator for all their successes and achievements.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [arh16b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:arh16b@my.fsu.edu)

# Christina Hayworth



Class of 2021  
Major: Psychology and Social Work

**Current Research Focus:** I am currently involved with research in the Department of Psychology with Dr. Wen Li. Our research focuses on the neural underpinnings of emotion and cognition, specifically anxiety and sensory perception and sensory gating, through EEG and fMRI neuro-imaging techniques.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

Getting involved in research during my freshman year was a really powerful experience for me, both personally and academically. As a UROP leader, I hope not only to communicate the same level of excitement about research that I have, but also to guide them as they explore what they're passionate about.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [cmh16ac@my.fsu.edu](mailto:cmh16ac@my.fsu.edu)

# Payton Howarth



Class of 2020  
Major: Criminology

**Current Research Focus:** My current research focuses on post performance routine in golfing but I plan to switch to a DIS in psychology working with incels.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP has impacted my time at FSU by teaching me to be confident in my self and to work hard for what I want to achieve. I have been able to go to three conferences and meet interesting people and make new connections. UROP has helped me learned to how to conduct research and have real hands on experience in conducting experiments.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [pjh16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:pjh16@my.fsu.edu)

# Anna Jara



Class of 2020  
Major: Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
My current research focus is computerized treatments for social anxiety. I am interested in anxiety and developmental disorders.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
I hope to help my students develop a passion for research by assisting them in finding a research project that interests them. I also hope to prepare my students to participate in and present their own undergraduate research.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[amj16c@my.fsu.edu](mailto:amj16c@my.fsu.edu)

# Kelly Kaps



Class of 2020  
Major: Exercise Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
Genetics - X Chromosome Inactivation.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
I hope to help my students grow and hopefully they are able to learn from my personal experience in undergraduate research.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[kmk16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:kmk16@my.fsu.edu)

# Martina Kvitkovicova



Class of 2020  
Major: Electrical Engineering

**Current Research Focus:**  
My research involves collaborating on the development of deterioration tests for High Temperature Superconducting (HTS) tapes and high voltage breakdown tests for superconducting power applications.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**  
I wish that I will be a positive role model for the new UROP students and they will have someone to look up to and ask questions. I hope that every class time will be a useful and engaging time where they will be able to learn and gain necessary knowledge to be a successful student. My goal is to help as many students as I can to acquire skills and help with their journey through the UROP program, other opportunities available, and beyond.

# Elias Larralde



Class of 2020  
Major: History

**Current Research Focus:** My current research focuses on the intersection between ethnomusicology and cultural history in the Americas and the Caribbean by using both areas methodologies. Currently, I am looking into how the Afro-Cuban Religion, Santeria, and its deities have been portrayed in Music and what this means to both listeners, performers, and followers.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I want to be a guide for these students both in their first time (probably) in college but more importantly in research. I want to make sure that people in the Humanities and Social Sciences know that research is attainable and available to them and show them what it can do for them.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:

# Marissa Latouche



Class of 2020  
Major: Criminology

**Current Research Focus:** My focus is to provide students with an engaging environment to discuss research and further their research opportunities.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?** UROP has had a wonderful impact on my time at FSU. I have learned so much and met so many wonderful people through UROP. UROP has shown me a completely different perspective when it comes to research. I hope to aide other students as they get to participate in one of the best opportunities on campus.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[mpl16e@my.fsu.edu](mailto:mpl16e@my.fsu.edu)

# Paige Levanti



Class of 2020  
Major: International Affairs

**Current Research Focus:** My most recent research project was conducted with FSU's Disaster Incident Response Team in Belize City, Belize. Our project focused on climate change and disaster risk perception in urban poor communities. We developed and implemented survey tools and conducted an analysis of the information using ArcGIS software.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?** UROP was my first experience with research at the university level and the connections I made through the program have helped me throughout my collegiate career. I have been able to use my experiences in UROP as a spring board for future projects and the lessons/skills learned are transferable to nearly every class I take.

# Jose Martinez



Class of 2020  
Major: Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
My current research interests have me exploring a broad range of topics in social psychology; however, I take an evolutionary approach to all of my research goals/projects.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to teach my students not only the ins-and-outs of research (e.g., finding projects, how to contact the PI's working on those projects, selecting a methodological approach from the vast dichotomy of approaches available, etc.), but how to genuinely love conducting research, hopefully, to the point where they explore and actively pursue research opportunities after UROP.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [jlm18ea@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jlm18ea@my.fsu.edu)

# Emma Masters



Class of 2021  
Major: Environmental Science and Spanish

**Current Research Focus:**  
I currently do research focused on ecology, specifically male guppy color patterns and mate selection preferences.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to share as many resources as possible with my UROP students for them to reach their dreams. I want to inspire them to do anything they dream of and give them the right connections to do so.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [elm16f@my.fsu.edu](mailto:elm16f@my.fsu.edu)

# Meagan McLaughlin



Class of 2021  
Major: International Affairs and Political Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
Integrated urban infrastructure solutions for environmentally sustainable, healthy, and livable cities under Dr. Richard Feiock in the Public Administration Department.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

As a UROP Leader I hope to impact students' time at FSU by being a mentor for them via helping them in their transition to FSU, facilitating their pursuit of research, and encouraging them to reach their fullest potential.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [mmm17@my.fsu.edu](mailto:mmm17@my.fsu.edu)

# Moran Morrow



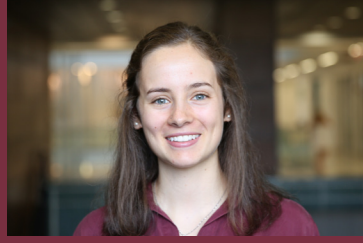
Ashley Moses

Class of 2020  
Major: Environmental  
Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
My research focuses on the effects climate change has on peatlands through analyzing parent peat plant material.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to help guide my students in finding research projects they're passionate about and get them excited about conducting research as undergraduates.



Maegan Nation

Class of 2020  
Major: Biology and Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
Currently, I study the neurological underpinnings of social behavior. My project focuses on the presence/absence of oxytocin and its effect on mice social interaction.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I think it is a goal of every teacher to have their students leave class having learned something and that is definitely a goal of mine, but a greater goal of mine is to get the students excited and enthusiastic about something. It has made me so happy to see the students grow and learn in many different areas, specifically research, this year.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [amm16r@my.fsu.edu](mailto:amm16r@my.fsu.edu)



Class of 2020  
Major: Psychology and Criminology

**Research Project:** I work in the Eating Behaviors Research Clinic on campus with Dr. Pamela Keel in the Department of Psychology.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP helped me transition into engaging in research without scaring me and helped me develop a passion for research that I do not think I would have developed without it. I have met an amazing community of like-minded individuals at FSU through UROP.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [mbn16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:mbn16@my.fsu.edu)

# Selina Nevin



Class of 2020  
Major: International Affairs, Political Science, and Middle Eastern Studies

**Current Research Focus:** During my senior year, I will be writing an Honors Thesis that looks at the disparity among women in governmental positions in the Middle East and how that disparity affects the advancement of women's rights.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

As a UROP leader, I hope to be someone my students are comfortable coming to for advice, whether it be regarding research or not. By the end of the year, my aim is to have provided my students with the tools necessary to conduct research on their own, open their eyes to the endless opportunities available to them on campus, and expand their academic experience to getting more than just a degree.

# Adaeze Nwigwe



Class of 2020  
Major: Biology and History

**Current Research Focus:** Currently I am not pursuing research but have experience in biomedical genetic editing research.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?** UROP has allowed me to grow in my professional as well as technical skills throughout my time at FSU. It allowed me to work with groundbreaking technology and aided me in meeting equally as driven students also in the program. I thoroughly enjoyed it and am looking forward to continuing the experience as a UROP leader.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [ain16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:ain16@my.fsu.edu)

# Grace Nystrom



Class of 2020  
Major: Exercise Physiology and Dietetics

**Current Research Focus:** I am currently planning on getting into a research lab for the upcoming summer and into the following semesters in the college of human sciences. The research involves the role of exercise and nutrition in disease prevention and wellness and performance.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP got me involved in research for the first time ever when I transferred to FSU as a sophomore, and although I did not stay in that lab I have gone on to become a URA, a UROP leader and am currently looking to get involved in another research lab in a different field of study than my original lab.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [gmn17@my.fsu.edu](mailto:gmn17@my.fsu.edu)



# Adrian Othon



Class of 2021  
Major: Exercise Physiology

**Current Research Focus:** Moral Psychology and Mineral Nutrition research. I work in two different labs.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?** UROP has been a vehicle that I have used to propel me into the research that takes place at FSU. It has solidified my intent to pursue research at the graduate level and possibly get a PhD along with a MD. It has taught me multiple skills, due to my lab requirement, that will be beneficial in my career.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [apo16@my.fsu.edu](mailto:apo16@my.fsu.edu)

# Jon Peterson



Class of 2021  
Major: Athletic Training

**Current Research Focus:** My current research project focuses on the correlation between home environment and health. Specifically, I am looking at the relationship of physical activity levels of preschoolers living in their grandparent's home.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to show my students that research is more than a resume builder. The skills you learn in research applicable to everyday life and the way you interact with other individuals. You learn to work on a team, be respectful and complete a task to the best of your ability.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [jmp16z@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jmp16z@my.fsu.edu)

# Jennifer Poggio



Class of 2021  
Major: Communication Science and Disorders

**Current Research Focus:** My current research focus is within the Florida Center for Reading Research. The project I am working on is currently researching the effects of the CKLA curriculum on students in K-2nd grade.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

Throughout my time in UROP, I have learned a tremendous amount about how much time and effort goes into a research project. Being able to contribute my time and energy to a research project has allowed me to learn so much about the research process and it has taught me a lot about myself too! Since being in UROP, I have been able to identify my true passion for research and choose my future career path!

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [jip17@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jip17@my.fsu.edu)

# Isis Porta



Class of 2020  
Major: Biology and Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
I researched in the Psychology department using EEG equipment to determine if thought suppression paradox was prevalent in student athletes. My current research focus is in Neuroscience.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

Without UROP I would have never added on my additional major, so I hope that I am able to influence and mentor my future students explore their own interests and find what they are passionate about. I want to be able to help my students understand that research is so much more than doing lab work; it's about the exploration and discovery of knowledge that can potentially influence the world.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [ip15d@my.fsu.edu](mailto:ip15d@my.fsu.edu)

# Hannah Primozic



Class of 2021  
Major: Criminology

**Current Research Focus:**  
Under the College of Social Work, I am focusing on the impact the Criminal Justice System has on the community and looking at different ways to decrease the consequences of that burden.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to not only introduce students to the research opportunities that are available to them, but other resources that they have access to across campus. I want to encourage their growth as an individual as well as a member of the FSU community.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [hpp16b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:hpp16b@my.fsu.edu)

# Maria Quintana



Class of 2021  
Major: Biochemistry

**Current Research Focus:**  
I just started working in a lab at the college of medicine regarding basic cancer research.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to enrich their research experience and make them see if they are interested in pursuing further research.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [mcq16b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:mcq16b@my.fsu.edu)

# Jason Raiti



Class of 2021  
Major: Computational  
Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
My current research focus is in computer science applications to biology. I am working on using computer assisted geomorphic analysis to investigate new species of snakes in Brazil.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
It has opened many doors for me and made me more aware of what I want to do in the future.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[jzr17@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jzr17@my.fsu.edu)

# Jordan Rundle



Class of 2021  
Major: Statistics and  
Actuarial Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
Research into how gay men view themselves and each other on gay dating apps (through the Department of Sociology).

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

UROP has allowed me to find a passion for research, one that I had no idea about before the program. It has allowed me to make connections to those within and outside my field in the realm of research. It has also taught me the passion for wanting to teach a UROP class and how to become an effective communicator.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[jjr16h@my.fsu.edu](mailto:jjr16h@my.fsu.edu)

# Raechel Sanger



Class of 2021  
Major: Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
My current research focuses on peoples' personal qualities that affect their romantic relationships.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

I hope to affect my students by instilling a passion for research in them.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[rks17@my.fsu.edu](mailto:rks17@my.fsu.edu)

# Caleb Stephens



Class of 2020  
Major: Economics and Marketing

**Current Research Focus:**  
Currently, I'm focusing on corruption, cronyism, and institutional transparency.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
I hope to inspire my students to apply research to more areas of their lives, as I believe that research can and should be used to better daily living. I also hope to smooth their experiences in UROP, and help them in their project choice and research interests. Further, I hope that my students inherit a love of learning new things.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[cs15aa@my.fsu.edu](mailto:cs15aa@my.fsu.edu)

# Anastasia Stichter



Class of 2020  
Major: Exercise Physiology

**Current Research Focus:**  
Sports Psychology

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
My UROP experience promoted academic and personal growth, by allowing me to engage in research as a research assistant. Now, as a UROP Leader, I have the opportunity to help students through their own experience.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!:  
[als15j@my.fsu.edu](mailto:als15j@my.fsu.edu)

# Justin Stow



Class of 2020  
Major: Meteorology and Physical Science

**Current Research Focus:**  
My current research focuses on determining the spatial distribution and size estimation of moderate to heavy rain-band gaps, or near-zero reflectivity regions, near and around the eye of hurricanes. My project attempts to deduce the probability of seeing the ocean surface between rainy areas in a hurricane.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
After working on a diurnal winds project at the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, I fell in love with the rigors of research and answering challenging research questions. Furthermore, after completing my UROP project, this research facility offered me a part-time undergraduate research position where I have continued to complete research during my junior and senior years at FSU.

# Sarah Sullivan



Class of 2020  
Major: Sarah Sullivan

**Current Research Focus:**  
Snake Head Morphology/ Developmental Biology

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP has expanded my horizon as to how easy it is to be involved in research at FSU and all the different opportunities research can provide such as traveling to go to different research conferences.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [sgs16c@my.fsu.edu](mailto:sgs16c@my.fsu.edu)

# Mannat Thakur



Class of 2021  
Major: Neuroscience

**Current Research Focus:**  
I currently research in a physical chemistry lab focused on making nanoparticles biocompatible to be used in the cellular environment inside the body. They're mainly used for bio-sensing for illness such as cancer.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP has given me a comfortable space to find what I love to research and to grow my interest in these topics. It has brought to life the concepts I learned in the classroom and has made them more tangible and enjoyable. UROP has made me believe in myself and my capabilities as an undergraduate researcher and I hope to give the same confidence to my students!

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [mt17b@my.fsu.edu](mailto:mt17b@my.fsu.edu)

# Caitlin Violette



Class of 2021  
Major: Psychology

**Current Research Focus:**  
I am currently involved in research in Psychology and Education.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**  
UROP helped me to discover my passion for research. Before UROP, I was unsure about finding a research project and getting involved in research as an undergraduate. I was thrilled to learn that FSU provides a variety of research opportunities for undergraduate students to get involved in across a variety of disciplines. With UROP, I was able to find a research project that interested me and was able to become more confident in pursuing research in the future. UROP brought me closer to a supportive community of research-oriented people and has been a highlight of my time here at FSU.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [cev16c@my.fsu.edu](mailto:cev16c@my.fsu.edu)

# Zoë White



Class of 2020  
Major: Nursing

**Current Research Focus:** I performed research in the social psychology department on campus at FSU. My research studied the ways the individual's process rejection, and how rejection from a group of peers influences a person's A) seeking out of future group affiliations and B) hormonal inflammatory responses that may be correlated.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

UROP helped me decide what kind of future I envision for myself - I now plan on going to graduate school and getting my doctorate in nursing practice and performing research within the nursing field!

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [ziw15@my.fsu.edu](mailto:ziw15@my.fsu.edu)

# Anna Wuest



Class of 2021  
Major: Biomathematics

**Current Research Focus:** My current research focus is modeling various fish species in Mo'orea, French Polynesia. I use R to create a fishery model with parameters natural mortality, harvest rates, and a scale for logistic functions. This data is compared to fishery and survey data collected over the past few years in order to approximate the rate of harvest.

**How has UROP impacted your time at FSU?**

UROP was the catalyst for my love of research. I began as a freshman, working in a wet-lab in the biology department. My research mentor, Kathleen Kaiser, not only showed me technical skills involved in a laboratory setting, but continued to mentor me after completion of UROP.

Please email me with any questions you have about UROP or my research!: [arw16d@my.fsu.edu](mailto:arw16d@my.fsu.edu)

# Kaleigh Young



Class of 2021  
Major: Political Science and Criminology

**Current Research Focus:** During my time in UROP, I worked with the College of Social Work, specifically the Institute for Justice Research and Development, on the creation of an interdisciplinary social work and law clinic. I plan on working on an honor's thesis during my senior year in Criminology.

**How do you hope to affect your students as a UROP Leader?**

UROP has shown me that undergraduates are capable of conducting upper-level research. Before UROP I had no idea of all the amazing opportunities available at FSU. UROP offers a great foundation for further academic work and involvement that is not available to you anywhere else on campus.