

Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology Winter Commencement 2020

December 13, 2020

12:00 PM Noon

Place (Virtual):

<https://www.colorado.edu/mcdb/events/winter-2020-graduation>



**Winter 2020 Opening Remarks and
Commencement Address:**

Dr. Lee Niswander – MCDB Chair

Reading of Degree Conferrals by:

Dr. Jennifer Knight

Advanced Degree Recipients

The Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology department's primary missions are education, research and service to the University and community. Our graduate program is among the top Research Universities in the world and we are delighted to confer two new Doctoral degrees this fall.

Alison Ruth Gilchrist

Doctor of Philosophy Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Advisor: Dr. Sara Sawyer

Thesis: "*Flaviviruses Versus The Cell, and Evolution in the Primate Interferon Response*"

Haoxi Wu

Doctor of Philosophy Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Advisor: Dr. Gia Voeltz

Thesis: "*Factors and functions of endoplasmic reticulum-organelle membrane contact sites*"

Chancellor's Recognition Award Recipients

This award is given to the students that have achieved the highest academic record possible: a perfect 4.0 grade point average – an A in every course they have taken. This year, we are pleased to recognize:

Allison Suzanne Parker *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Bachelor Degree Recipients

MCDB is among the most demanding majors in the College of Arts and Sciences. Our graduates often go on to fill leadership positions across America and the world in research, education, health professions, government, journalism and law. Many of our students have second and third majors as well as receiving academic honors. We proudly introduce the class of Winter 2020.

Elise Corene Barteld *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Additional Majors: Neuroscience

Hannah J. Besse *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Minor(s): Geography

Benjamin D Christl *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Desare' Nicole Comstock

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Additional Majors: Sociology

Kylie Ann Conway **

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Magna cum laude Advisor: Dr. Amy Palmer

Thesis: "*Characterizing the Role of the Zinc Responsive Protein, MTF-1, in Cellular Zinc Transport and Proliferation*"

Chiara Ruelle Dart ** & *

Bachelor of Arts Ecology and Evolutionary Biology with Distinction

Additional Majors: Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Summa cum laude Advisor: Dr. William Robinson

Thesis: "*Azacitidine and MCL1 inhibitors in combination may provide novel treatment for patients with melanoma*"

Sarah Jordan Eastwood *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Additional Majors: Neuroscience

Kela Subar Fetters *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Astitwa Raj Ghimire

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Additional Majors: Neuroscience

Elisa Victoria Hobson *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Coralie Claire Huibregtse

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Cydney Patricia Jardine

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Minor(s): History

Harsha Mrunalini Kalagana *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction
Minor(s): Spanish

Jack Aiden Kane *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Sima Karimi

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Taylor Edward Kring

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Minor(s): French

Natalie Luna

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Additional Majors: Spanish

Dukehart Houston Wingfield MacMillan

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Molly Rose Madden **

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Summa cum laude Advisor: Dr. Leslie Leinwand
Thesis: *“The functional impact of an embryonic myosin mutation that causes Freeman Sheldon Syndrome”*

Megan Antonette Marsilio *

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology with Distinction

Minor(s): Business & Philosophy

Camille Lissette Merrick

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Allison Miller

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Additional Majors: Neuroscience

Minor(s): Business

Dalton Stewart North

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Chengrui Qiu

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Emily Louise Rogers

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Madeleine Katherine Underwood

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Additional Majors: Neuroscience

Justin Lorence Wang **

Bachelor of Arts Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences

Additional Majors: Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Summa cum laude Advisor: Dr. Brian Hynek

Thesis: *“Metagenomic Analysis of an Extreme Volcanic Environment and its Application to Life on Mars”*

Minor(s): Biochemistry

Chioma Brandie West

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Minor(s): Spanish

Sarah Williams

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Additional Majors: Neuroscience

Courtney Johnnae Wilson

Bachelor of Arts Neuroscience

Additional Majors: Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Jasmine Amina Wilson

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Eiseec Wong

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Augustus Shujiro Woomer

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Zhenwei Wu

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Brianna Marie Yanover

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Minor(s): Sociology

Tessa Josephina Youmans

Bachelor of Arts Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Minor(s): Business & Chinese

****Graduation with Honors is determined by the Honors Program of the college and is based on several criteria, including the quality of original scholarly work. Honors are not conferred on a graduate simply by virtue of high grades. The Departmental Honors Program is organized around a student research project undertaken in MCDB or a related department. It is not necessary to take Honors Department courses to qualify. Candidates for Departmental Honors must satisfy GPA requirements, complete a research project, prepare an Honors thesis describing the research project in a scholarly fashion and pass an oral examination.**

***Graduation with Distinction is noted by the asterisk and is achieved through 30 credit hours completed at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Students must have a GPA average of 3.75 or higher for all course work completed at the University of Colorado and have a cumulative GPA average of 3.75 or higher for all collegiate course work completed at all institutions attended.**