



# resilience

2017

Haas Scholars  
Undergraduate  
Research  
Conference

UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA,  
BERKELEY

JANUARY 12–13  
Conference  
Bancroft Hotel

**Photography Exhibits:**

*Iranian Saffron Farming  
in Transition*  
Helia Bidad

*Seed Sovereignty as  
Resistance and Reparation  
in Colombia*  
Juan Manuel Vélez

**January 13 Reading:**

*The Worst of the Worst and  
the Bildung of a Recidivist*  
Clint Terrell

[hsp.berkeley.edu](http://hsp.berkeley.edu)



**W**ELCOME to the 2017 Haas Scholars Undergraduate Research Conference! Our theme celebrates the many forms of resilience reflected in the scholars and their research. Of diverse ages, races and nationalities, our 2017 cohort has overcome many challenges—incarceration and need, homelessness and immigration—to thrive in UC Berkeley’s challenging setting during increasingly volatile political times. Their research explores the resilience of centuries-old yet still relevant artifacts and literature, of cells and organisms that defend themselves against attack, of the brain in its constant learning, of environments that rebound when protected, and of vulnerable communities worldwide that have found creative ways to survive, resist, and seek change.

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*The Worst of the Worst and the Bildung of a Recidivist*  
Clint Terrell

Design by Nancy Carroll

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

### Great Hall, Bancroft Hotel

8:45–9:15 **Welcome and Coffee**

9:15–10:15 **The Brain and Perception**

Chair: Mark D’Esposito, Psychology

**Ahmad Al-Zughoul** (Cognitive Science and Molecular & Cell Biology major)  
*The Role of Acetylcholine and Dopamine in Perception and Working Memory*

Faculty Sponsor: Mark D’Esposito, Psychology

**Justin Baik** (Physics major)

*Optogenetic Control in Freely Behaving Bats* (Rousettus Aegyptiacus)

Faculty Sponsor: Michael Yartsev, Neuroscience

10:30–12:00 **Buried Narratives: Piecing Together Fragments of History**

Chair: Emily Thornbury, English

**Olivia Graves** (English and Classical Civilizations major)

*Decoding the ‘Fah Flor’: Archaeological Discovery and the De-Mystification of a Lost Metaphor in Beowulf*

Faculty Sponsor: Emily Thornbury, English

**Ramón de Santiago** (Art History and Art Practice major)

*Across Three Oceans: Shipwrecks as Early Modern Globalism*

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Trever, Art History

**Clint Terrell** (English major)

*Worst of the Worst: Changing the Prison Narrative*

Faculty Sponsor: Hertha Sweet Wong, English

12:15–1:15 **Lunch, Great Hall, Bancroft Hotel**

1:30–3:00 **Revealing Realities Around the Globe**

Chair: Jake Kosek, Geography

**Helia Bidad** (Society & Environment major/Geospatial Information Science & Technology minor)

*Shifting Traditions: Perspectives of Saffron Farmers in the Khorasan Province of Iran on Climate Change and Technological Development*

Faculty Sponsor: Kate O’Neill; Environmental Science, Policy & Management

**Juan Manuel Vélez** (Geography, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Society & Environment major/Global Poverty & Practice and Food Systems minor)  
*Seeds of Reconciliation: Seed Sovereignty as a Form of Reparation for Victims of War in Colombia*

Faculty Sponsor: Jake Kosek, Geography

**Winnie Itago** (Environmental Economics & Policy major/Global Poverty & Practice minor)

*Divergent Policies, Divergent Trajectories? The Impact of Established Political Systems on Oil and Gas Institutions in Ghana and Uganda*

Faculty Sponsors: Michael Watts, Geography and Robin Marsh, ISSI

3:15–4:45 **Negotiating a Worldview Through Culture, Ideology, and Choice**

Chair: Laurie Wilkie, Anthropology

**Allyn Benintendi** (Anthropology major)

*Freezing the Future: Oocyte Cryopreservation in Northern California*

Faculty Sponsor: Laurie Wilkie, Anthropology

**Jorge David Mancillas** (Sociology major)

*Dying to Survive: Negotiating with Early Death and the Social Reproduction of Gang Violence*

Faculty Sponsor: Cristina Mora, Sociology

**Meaghan Allen** (English major/Anthropology minor)  
*The Mysteries of Criticism in Antebellum America's Sensationalistic Pop Culture*  
Faculty Sponsors: David Henkin, History and Samuel Otter, English

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

**Great Hall, Bancroft Hotel**

10:00–10:30 **Welcome and Coffee**

10:30–12:00 **Looking in the Mirror: Perceptions as a Reflection of Modern America**

Chair: **Rodolfo Mendoza-Denton**, Psychology

**Nicole Rankin** (Sociology major)  
*The Gender Wage Gap: A Moral or Economic Concern?*  
Faculty Sponsor: Laura Kray, Haas School of Business

**Kimberly Martin** (Psychology major/Dance & Performance Studies minor)  
*Perceptions of Historically Black College and University Prestige: Implications for Racial Stereotypes*  
Faculty Sponsor: Rodolfo Mendoza-Denton, Psychology

**Julián Ponce** (Public Health major/Public Policy minor)  
*Sugar-Sweetened Beverage as Well as Tap Water Consumption and Perceptions Among Latino/as in Kings County*  
Faculty Sponsor: Kristine Madsen, Public Health

12:00–1:00 **Lunch, Great Hall, Bancroft Hotel**

1:00–2:30 **It's the Little Things in Life**

Chair: **Russell Vance**, Molecular & Cell Biology

**Danny Lee** (Microbial Biology and Public Health major)  
*ATP Release by Gram-Negative Bacteria and Its Role in Cell Wall Remodeling*  
Faculty Sponsor: Sangwei Lu, Public Health

**Lucian DiPeso** (Molecular & Cell Biology major)  
*Uncoupling Pyroptosis from Cell Lysis*  
Faculty Sponsor: Russell Vance, Molecular & Cell Biology

**Victor Chen** (Microbial Biology major)  
*Metabolite Production by Interspecies Interactions in Actinomycetes and Root Nodule Bacteria*  
Faculty Sponsor: Matt Traxler, Plant & Microbial Biology

2:45–4:15 **Forgotten Places**

Chair: **Waldo Martin**, History

**Rosario Torres** (Anthropology major)  
*Using Ethnobotanical Materials to Explore Native Californian Land Practices Along the Santa Cruz Coast*  
Faculty Sponsor: Kent Lightfoot, Anthropology

**Michelaina Johnson** (History major/Conservation & Resource Studies and Spanish minor)  
*Evading Dam-Nation: Land Use History of the Lower Cosumnes River Watershed, ca. 1820–2016*  
Faculty Sponsor: Kerwin Klein, History

**Chance Grable** (History major)  
*From Steel Mills to Steel Bars: Historicizing the Carceral State in Deindustrialized Rust Belt America*  
Faculty Sponsor: Waldo Martin, History

4:30–5:15 **Author Reading** Clint Terrell reads *The Worst of the Worst and the Bildung of a Recidivist*  
Moderator: Hertha Sweet Wong, English

ROBERT & COLLEEN  
*Haas Scholars* UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY

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A SENIOR CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL MAJORS