The School of Graduate Studies
congratulates the following 2023 Graduate Awards Ceremony awardees:

School of Medicine

Herbert S. Steuer Memorial Award for Academic Excellence in Anatomy
Alexander Borovik - Anatomy
Jeffrey Steltzner - Anatomy

Herbert S. Steuer Memorial Outstanding Anatomy Educator Award
Sara Bokhari - Anatomy
Ashley Onabiyi - Anatomy
Zeyna Samba - Anatomy
Katharine Workman - Anatomy

Charlotte E. Smith Award in Public Health Nutrition
Allison Fallon - Public Health Nutrition

Academic Excellence for the Master’s
Sofia Lemberg - Bioethics and Medical Humanities
Natali Semerad - Genetic Counseling Training Program
Vishal Senthilkumar - Bioethics and Medical Humanities

Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities Student Educator of Excellence
McKenna Horstmann - Bioethics and Medical Humanities

Arthur F.W. Hughes Award in Developmental Biology
Alicia Nicole Vagnozzi - Neurosciences

Lester O. Krampitz Award for Best Predoctoral Research
Stephanie Swedik - Molecular Biology and Microbiology
Emma Kndracik - Molecular Biology and Microbiology
Paul Berg and Harland Wood Distinguished Graduate Fellowship
Xi (Chelsea) Chen - Physiology and Biophysics

Doctoral Excellence
Mohammed Rubayyi Alzahrani - Biochemistry
Wyatt P. Bensken - Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Filipa Blasco Tavares Pereira Lopes - Systems Biology & Bioinformatics
Solomiia Boyko - Physiology & Biophysics
Jessica Adriana Castrillon - Molecular Medicine
Michaela Briana Cooley - Biomedical Engineering
Carli J. Lehr - Clinical Translational Science
Jean Moon - Pharmacology
Stephanie Swedik - Molecular Biology & Microbiology
Alicia Nicole Vagnozzi - Neurosciences
Derek Perseus Wong - Pathology
Shanshan Zhang - Genetics & Genome Sciences

College of Arts and Sciences

Friends of Art Best Paper by an MA Student
Luke Hester - Art History and Art

Friends of Art Best Paper by a PhD Student
Cecily Hughes - Art History and Art

Friends of Art Best Overall Performance by a PhD Student (Art History and Art)
Angelica Verduci - Art History and Art

Outstanding Paper Award
Jin Li - Biology
Russell Engelman - Biology (Honorable Mention)
Grant (Yu) Liu - Biology (Honorable Mention)

Joanne Westin Distinguished Graduate Student Teaching Award
Shivansh Dave - Biology
Troy Neptune - Biology (Runner Up)
Eric Prileson - Biology (Runner Up)

Adel Heinrich Award
James Aldridge - Musicology

Diversity, Culture, and Community Award
Daniella Levine - Psychological Sciences
Donald K. Freedheim Award for an Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Service
Christopher McGovern - Psychological Sciences

Ethan Schafer Assessment Award
Elisabeth Cowin - Psychological Sciences

Jane Kessler Award for Commitment to Scholarship in the Field of Disabilities
Kathleen Pait - Psychological Sciences

Joseph F. Fagan III Award for Research Excellence
Jill Laquidara - Psychological Sciences

Kim Diemert Award
Rana Damra - Communication Sciences

Marian Gallagher Award
Leah Frank - Communication Sciences

Masters Research Excellence
Jill Laquidara - Psychological Sciences

Sarah Cain Spannagel Graduate Student Award
Kathleen Pait - Psychological Sciences

Graduate Teaching Award
Heather Everson - Chemistry
David Raufman - Chemistry
Vivek Saraswat - Chemistry

Charles F. Mabery Award for Best Thesis in Chemistry
Ibrahim Alfurayj - Chemistry

Dumitru and Gheorghe D. Mateescu Graduate Student Citizenship Award
Zoey Lockwood - Chemistry
Lucia Yuan - Chemistry

Eva L. Pancoast Memorial Fellowship
Katelyn Jones - Art History and Art
Amber Kidd - English
Jess Xiao Long - Art History and Art
Susana Montanes-Lleras - Art History and Art
Clara Pinchbeck - Art History and Art
Arielle Suskin - Art History and Art
Rebekah Utian - Art History and Art
Hayley Verdi - English
Bethany Westphal - Musicology
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences

Arol Shack Dissertation Award
Emily Miller - Social Welfare

Weatherhead School of Management

Sherman Grinnell Scholarship
Melissa Cooper - Organizational Behavior
Pooja Khatija - Organizational Behavior

Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing

Marie Haug Student Award
Abolade Oladimeji - Sociology
Piper Sereno - Social Work

Center for International Affairs

Elise Lindsay International Graduate Student Award
Reema Sen - Sociology

Spirit of Service International Student Award
Pradeep Shashidharankumar - Business Administration

Unsung Champion International Student Award
Mai Rashwan - Chemistry

Case School of Engineering

Excellence in Departmental/External Service
Brennan Flannery - Biomedical Engineering
Rachel Jakes - Biomedical Engineering
Victoria Laney - Biomedical Engineering

Excellence in Graduate Teaching Assistantship
Ed Carson - Biomedical Engineering

Excellence in Mentorship Award
Thomas DeSilvio - Biomedical Engineering
Outstanding Biomedical Engineering Student
Michael Sun - Biomedical Engineering
Yuran Zhu - Biomedical Engineering
Prathyush Chirra - Biomedical Engineering

Outstanding Master's Work
Hoa Le - Biomedical Engineering

Outstanding Publication Award
Junqi Zhuo - Biomedical Engineering

Kouros Azar Neural Engineering Research Award
Prajakta Joshi - Biomedical Engineering

Outstanding Journal Article Award
Kangjin Lee - Chemical Engineering

Outstanding Presentation Award
Hairou Yu - Chemical Engineering

Outstanding Researcher Award
William Dean - Chemical Engineering
Bethany Kersten - Chemical Engineering

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
Maura Sepesy - Chemical Engineering

Service and Leadership Award
Aidan Klemm - Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering Student Leadership Award
Yusheng Jiang - Civil and Environmental Engineering

Craig J. Miller Memorial Award
Haiping Ai - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Rodrigo Teixeira Schossler - Civil and Environmental Engineering

Kenneth M. Haber Award
Zaid Alajlan - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Yidan Gao - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Tyler Richard McFarren - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Jiachun Sun - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Roy Harley Prize
Yushu Cheng - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Samuel Ojo - Civil and Environmental Engineering
Bo Xu - Civil and Environmental Engineering

Outstanding Graduate Research Award in Computer and Data Sciences
Dylan Plummer - Computer and Data Sciences

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant in Computer and Data Sciences
Zuquan Chen - Computer and Data Sciences
Qingzhe Guo - Computer and Data Sciences

Best Graduate Thesis Award
Ke (Tom) Wang - Materials Science and Engineering

Excellent Graduate Research Award in memory of Xiaoyang Zhao
Yifeng Gong - Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Utku Goreke - Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Nicholas Mejia - Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Boman Su - Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

School of Graduate Studies

Graduate Student Appreciation Award
Sara Bokhari - Anatomy
Amber Byrd - Sociology
Elisabeth Cowin - Psychological Science
Stephanie Egler - Mathematics
Vanessa Guzylak - Anatomy
Quiana Howard - Nursing
Katelyn Jones - Art History and Art
Pooja Khatija - Organizational Behavior
Makaela Mews - Nutrition
Valerie Truong - Anatomy

Cleveland Arts Prize: Kathryn Karipides Scholarship in Modern Dance
Joel Linebach - Dance
Graduate Dean's Instructional Excellence Award
Golnoush Asaeikheybari - Computer Engineering
Clayton Coonrod - Mathematics
Charlie Ericson - English
Polina Ermoshkina - Sociology
Ray Garner - Astronomy
Amber Kidd - English
Aidan Klemm - Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
Samuel Nemeth - Music
Pip Samuel Petersen - Physics
Zeyna Samba - Anatomy
Katharine Young - Art History and Art

Three Minute Thesis Competition Award
Case-Coulter Translational Research Partnership People's Choice Award
George Hoeferlin - Biomedical Engineering
Rachel Hohe - Molecular Medicine
Samuel Ojo - Civil Engineering

Three Minute Thesis Competition Award
Veale Institute for Entrepreneurship Translational Fellows Postdoc
Ila Mishra - Medicine

Three Minute Thesis Competition Award
Veale Institute for Entrepreneurship Third Place Prize
Tshiya Subayi - Management

Three Minute Thesis Competition Award
Science & Human Rights Coalition Second Place Prize
Razaq Durodoye - Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Three Minute Thesis Competition Award
Office of Interprofessional and Interdisciplinary Education & Research First Place Prize
George Hoeferlin - Biomedical Engineering

Lenore A Kola Graduate Student Community Service Award
Ray Garner - Astronomy
Vivek Saraswat - Chemistry
Ruth Barber Moon Award
Poshan Dahal - Sociology
Megan Foradori - Nursing
Emily Miller - Social Welfare
Unique Stanfield - Music

Richard A. Zdanis Research Fellowship Award
Colette Ngana - Sociology
Kari O’Donnell - Social Welfare

John S. Diekhoff Award for Faculty

John S. Diekhoff Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching
Karla Coburn, DDS, PhD - Anatomy

John S. Diekhoff Award for Excellence in Graduate Mentoring
Jason Mears, PhD - Pharmacology
Andrew Pieper, MD, PhD - Psychiatry
Xiong (Bill) Yu, PhD - Civil and Environmental Engineering

Congratulations to all of our Award Winners!