



California State University SAN MARCOS

Committee for Undergraduate Research (CUGR)

MINUTES

November 20, 2025 · 12:00–1:00 PM · Administration Building 2302 · <https://csusm.zoom.us/j/82869404191>

Attendees:

Charles De Leone, Deanna Schmidt, Dennis Kolosov, Elinne Becket, Ezequiel Vidal, Jane Kim, Jimmy Kezos, Kang Du, Kaitlyn Woltz, Kimmie Vanderbilt, Matt Schubert, Najid Majd, Osmar Pinto Neto, Sheila Van Metre, Robert Iafe

• Call to order

Chair Jane Kim called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm

• Approval of the Agenda

Kim invited members to propose changes to the agenda. With no revision offered, the agenda was accepted as presented.

• Approval of the Minutes

Kim asked members for any changes to the October 16, 2025 CUGR minutes. With no amendments, the Minutes were approved as distributed.

• Announcements & Events

Events:

- [Research Seminar Series 2025-26](#), Innovative Approaches to Global & Environmental Health
 - **December 2 – ACD 102:** Alhelí Calderón Villarreal
- December 4, 2025
 - [Student Poster Showcase](#)
 - [Kerri Mowen Excellence in Faculty Mentoring Award](#)

Student Funding Opportunities:

- ASI Leadership Funding includes [Student Travel Support](#)
- Student Success Funding: [CEHHS](#), [CHABSS](#), [CSTEM](#), [CoBA](#)

Goldwater Scholarship Update

- Five Nominees submitted
- Applications due on the last Monday of January
- Committee acknowledged faculty for mentoring student applicants

• Student Poster Showcase (December 4, 2025)

- Participation: 69 submissions representing 175 students
- Layout & Logistics: Posters arranged by discipline. Committee discussed pro/cons of discipline-based vs. random placement
- Student Excellence Award: 9 applicants

CUGR 2025–2026 Meeting Schedule:

Time: 12:00pm–1:00pm	2025: 9/18, 10/16, 11/20
Location: ADM 2302, Zoom	2026: 1/29, 2/19, 3/19, 4/16, 5/7

- Selection committee (essays): Jane Kim, Kaitlyn Woltz, Osmar Pinto Neto, Brandon Moore, Liz Ridder
- Winners will be announced after the event

- **Planning for 2027 CSU Statewide Student Research Competition (Hosted by CSUSM)**

Established Details

- Event dates: **April 26–27, 2027.**
- USU reserved.
- President and Provost notified and supportive.
- Ongoing coordination with Humboldt (2025 host) and San José State (2026 host).

Branding & Theme Ideas: “Innovation and Impact”, “Local Roots, Global Reach”, “Lift as You Climb” (noted reference to CSUSM’s stairs)

Website & Logo Development

- Goal: Launch event website by early summer
- Student logo design competition planned, ideas to increase participation:
 - Engage ASI, student orgs, Innovation Hub, and design-interested students
 - Public display of all submissions via social media, digital signage
 - Possible non-cash incentives: Parking pass or early registration privileges

Trophy Considerations

- Preference for simple, portable options
- Consider commissioning Indigenous artwork (AI, CICSC, or local Native artists)

Potential Funding & Assigned Time

- Concerns raised regarding workload for faculty and staff
- Funding opportunities: Exceptional Service Awards (due February 23) & IRA funding for student labor, supplies, shirts, and event support
- Subcommittee will identify course release opportunities for Fall 2026 and Spring 2027

- **Giving Day**

Kim reported CUGR will participate using a new fund instead of the endowment, allowing donations to be immediately usable for student awards and research travel

- **Acknowledgement**

The committee expressed gratitude to Jane Kim, concluding her term as Faculty Fellow and for serving as interim fellow during the Fall and guiding significant progress.

- **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 12:57 pm

CUGR 2025–2026 Meeting Schedule:

Time: 12:00pm–1:00pm	2025: 9/18, 10/16, 11/20
Location: ADM 2302, Zoom	2026: 1/29, 2/19, 3/19, 4/16, 5/7